

COLUMBINEVALLEYVOICE

FALL 2024



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FROM THE MAYOR

After an active and fun summer, fall is coming to Columbine Valley. Let's take a look at our great summer events and then review what's happening this fall.

Independence Day. Clearly, the event of the summer was our 4th of July Parade & Festival. It started with a well-attended 5K followed by breakfast burritos and one of the best parades we may have ever seen in our Town. Literally hundreds of residents participated with some great patriotic carts, kids on bikes, folks walking with dogs, and our own veteran hero Retired Major Dennis Norris. Thanks to our Staff for excellent organiza-

tion, our volunteers for their help, and to all the participants in our celebration.

Concerts. Our eighth annual free Concerts in the Park had some ups and downs thanks to the weather. Fortunately, our entertainers embraced the motto of "the show must go on" and ultimately gave us three evenings of music that appealed to everyone, from those who love the songs of the '80s to those of us who are a lot closer to 80.

Safety. In our last newsletter, I highlighted the need for attention to the safety on our streets, especially for our children. (See the list of bus stops for Littleton Public Schools on the back page.) Our

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MAYOR & BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Trustee (Building)
(Term Expires April 2026)

Mail Correspondence To:
2 Middlefield Road
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

Or Email To:
BoardofTrustees@columbinevalley.org

MAYOR (continued)

Police Department presented a successful Scooter & Bike Safety Training session and continue to be available to talk with your children about safety. Just give officers a wave or stop by Town Hall if you would like an officer to have a chat.

Legal Updates. I want to highlight our legal team and some of the challenges they will be addressing this year. We are fortunate to have an excellent Town Attorney, Lee Schiller, who is a resident and has served the Town for many years. We also are served by our Municipal Judge, Tricia McCarthy, who is extremely experienced in municipal law and procedure.

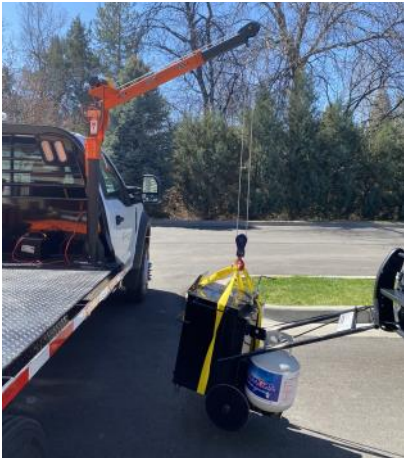
- Over the past year, the Town has transitioned from traditional personal appearances to a virtual courtroom. This is much easier for the Court, Staff, defendants, and other interested persons to participate efficiently in the process.
- In addition to prosecuting various traffic and other offenses, our Town Attorney also acts as counsel to the Board of Trustees on any legal matters that come before the Board. These include contract, zoning, personnel, and other issues. This year it appears that a good deal of time and expense will be expended dealing with unintended consequences from changes to Colorado law.
- This past year, the Colorado Legislature in its 120-day session passed in excess of 200 laws. It is now the task of each municipality in Colorado to determine which of these apply to them and how to address each of them. Fortunately, the Town is a member of the Colorado Municipal League, which is assisting in that effort.
- Several new laws will require changes to some of our zoning codes, which could potentially change the character of our Town. By way of example, HB24-1007 now prohibits local governments from having and enforcing residential occupancy limits. It could also impact our current on-street parking restrictions. HB24-1152 will require municipalities to allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) between 500 and 750 square feet in size on any residential lot. This will require changes to our zoning laws regarding land use. There are likely other statutes that will require analysis, revisions to our codes, and annual reporting to the State of Colorado.
- Obviously, these unintended legal issues highlight the importance of upcoming elections, particularly those for our State Legislature and several ballot measures.

Please be assured that as residents of the Town of Columbine Valley, your Board of Trustees, and experienced Staff are looking out for you.

—Bruce Menk, Mayor

Public Works at Work!

Columbine Valley's Public Works employees are busy year-round, but especially in spring and summer. This year saw Staff tackling late snows and the ensuing potholes, handling setup and teardown for Town events, planting flowers and pulling weeds, and maintaining Town Hall and the fleet. Plus, Staff tackled the following projects:



Crane. Mounted a crane on the F-450 pickup, to quickly and efficiently clear large items (such as trees), replace damaged signs, and transport heavy equipment.

Wind. Cleaned up the aftermath of a massive windstorm in May, including downed trees, branches, and smaller limbs.



Paving. Completed the Town-wide paving project, which was halted last fall due to early snows.



Wild Plum. Worked with Wild Plum on repairing/replacing gutter pans and the playground foundation as needed.

Repair. Coordinated the replacement of a broken sewer main running under Dutch Creek.

If you have any questions about the Town's Public Works department and responsibilities, visit ColumbineValley.org > Public Works.

Paw Patrol

We love our furry friends in Columbine Valley, especially when you walk them on a leash and pick up after them! A few quick reminders:



- Dogs are not allowed to run free in any neighborhood.
- Dog walking is not allowed on the golf course.
- Pet waste bags are available on the northeast corner of the Town Hall parking lot and at the entrance of Wild Plum.

For more information on dog ownership, visit ColumbineValley.org > Community > Dogs: Leash Law, Licensing & Limit.

Hudson Gardens Update

South Suburban Parks & Recreation has signed a contract with a consultant to create a new master plan for Hudson Gardens. Planning will begin soon with opportunities for public input in January. Stay tuned!



GET READY TO DECLUTTER!

The Town of Columbine Valley makes it easy to safely dispose of items that are cluttering up your house. Don't miss these events:

- **Haz-Mat & Electronics Roundup:** Sept. 14 & 21:
- **Shred Event:** Oct. 12
- **Prescription Drug Take-Back Day:** Oct. 26

For details on what to take where and when, visit ColumbineValley.org > Community > Events & Services.

SAFETY: 2024 LPS BUS STOPS

Watch out for kids at school bus stops for Wilder, Goddard, and Heritage! Everything on wheels—cars, golf carts, bikes, and scooters—must stop for buses with flashing lights. Please call the Police Dispatch number if you witness unsafe driving: 303-795-4711. For details on specific bus stops and times, visit LittletonPublicSchools.net and search for the “Bus Route Locator.” The following stops are current as of August 2024.

Brookhaven Lane & Brookhaven Trail

Doral Lane & Cypress Point Way (SW corner)

Doral Lane & Spyglass Drive (NE corner)

Fairway Lane & Wedge Way (NW corner)

Hunter Run Lane & Thoroughbred Run (SE corner)

Hunter Run Lane & Wild Plum Lane (at the walking path right before the intersection on the S side of the street)



Middlefield Road & Augusta Drive (NW corner)

Middlefield Road & Village Drive (NW corner)



TOWN CALENDAR

Sept. 2	Town Hall Closed for Labor Day
Sept. 14 & 21	Haz-Mat & Electronics Roundup
Sept. 17	Board of Trustees Meeting
Oct. 7	Flu Shot Clinic
Oct. 12	Fall Shred Event
Oct. 15	Board of Trustees Meeting
Oct. 26	Prescription Drug Take-Back Day
Nov. 19	Board of Trustees Meeting
Nov. 28–29	Town Hall Closed for Thanksgiving

TOWN STAFF

J.D. McCrumb
Town Administrator

Bret Cottrell
Chief of Police

Dana Struthers
Support Services Manager

Bonnie Zapata-Diaz
Building Dept. Coordinator

Hobbes Hayden
Public Works Manager

Dinae Dreessen
Public Works Associate

Kelly Anton
Communications

Lee Schiller
Town Attorney

Diane Rodriguez
Finance Director

Brent Kaslon
Town Planner

Jim Thelen
Chief Building Inspector

Troy Carmann
Town Engineer

Joanna Czarnecka
Sr. Construction Manager