

LittletonReport

June/July 2021

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What's Inside

All meetings, programs and events listed in this issue are subject to change or cancellation depending on health and safety considerations.







Council Member Announces Resignation Family Relocating to Europe



Littleton City Council Member Karina Elrod submitted a letter of resignation to the city effective May 9 as her family relocates to Europe. Elrod was elected to a four-year, at large seat on the city council in November 2017.

"I am extremely grateful to our citizens, business community, fellow council members and city staff, having entrusted me in this role for the past 3-1/2 years," Elrod said. "While my service is cut short, I am proud of the pivotal work that has been accomplished during my tenure on council from the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Master Plan to the citizen-led Arts & Culture Commission and Transportation and Mobility Board. Planting the seeds for a future Littleton is a responsibili-

ty we all have in this role. I can not only look back at what was accomplished but also look forward to what will come. A special thanks to my husband and kids for their support along the way and I look forward to a new adventure abroad as a family."

As required by the charter, within 30 days of the effective date of the resignation, the city council will appoint a resident to fill the remainder of Elrod's term which expires in November 2021. At press time, the city council is scheduling appointments with those who submitted a letter of interest and resume to the city clerk. The deadline was May 17. Appointment of the new council member is expected to take place at the June 1 council meeting.

As a council member, Elrod represented Littleton on the Denver Regional Council of Governments Board, the Arapahoe Transportation Forum, and the South Metro Chamber of Commerce.

After many years focusing on building her career in international business, Elrod recognized the value of being engaged and present in the community. She served as chair of the Planning Commission, a member of the LIFT urban renewal board, and volunteered as a curator for the Stanton Gallery at the Town Hall Arts Center. She spearheaded the effort to create the Arts & Culture Commission which recently adopted its strategic plan and led the city council to adopt Arts, Culture and Tourism as one of its goals for the next two years.

"It is with both sadness and appreciation that we say a fond farewell to Karina and her family," said City Manager Mark Relph. "Karina has given so much of her time and talent to leave Littleton a better place and for that we are grateful. We wish Karina all the best on her family's new adventure," Relph added.

Next Step in Envision Littleton: ULUC Draft on June 7



Residents, businesses, and stakeholders are invited to review and comment on the draft Unified Land Use Code (ULUC) starting June 7. The public draft will be available for review until July 30. Visit EnvisionLittleton.org to review.

It has been decades since the land use and zoning codes have been holistically updated with the last update occurring in 1976. City council identified the goal of creating a

simple, easy to use code that helps deliver the vision, goals, policies, and future land use identified in the adopted Envision Littleton Comprehensive Plan as its top priority this year.

The new code will balance city policies and the realities that residents and businesses see in the city to continue to enhance the character and quality of Littleton. The focus of the ULUC will be to show what the city and its residents and businesses want instead of what is prohibited.

Review the draft and comment on how it helps deliver quality neighborhoods, fiscal sustainability, transportation choices, and diversity of housing options. Project information, updates, and the public draft are available at EnvisionLittleton.org.

Time for a Funding Fix

The value Littleton places on small government, low taxes, and independent retail is both a blessing and a challenge. It means shoppers – both residents and visitors alike – have access to unique, locally-owned stores while paying among the lowest sales tax rates (which haven't gone up in nearly 50 years) in the metro area. But it also means that city coffers don't benefit from the large volume of sales tax revenue generated by multiple big box retailers that fund critical capital projects.

This lack of high-volume retailers and revenue diversity, in addition to rising infrastructure maintenance and repair demands, adds up to an annual estimated shortfall of \$6.5 million in the city's Capital Projects Fund – which pays for street maintenance, building repairs, intersection improvements, and equipment that touches residents every day. Without intervention, this fund is projected to be depleted by 2025.

In late April, the city launched a new community research and education initiative to explore solutions and gauge citizen support in solving this serious revenue shortage. "Littleton Funding Fix: It's Up To Us" invites citizens to learn about the problem, proposed solutions, and take part in a community dialogue throughout the spring and summer.

This initiative kicked off with polling in early May, followed by a presentation of preliminary findings to city council on May 18. The consultant team leading this work will present results and recommendations to council at a study session July 27. Ultimately, voters could have an opportunity to decide on the fix on their November ballot.

The goal is to find a sustainable and smart solution. Residents are encouraged to get involved at www.LittletonFundingFix.org, where they'll find answers to frequently asked questions, results from the polls, and dates for upcoming meetings which may include a Telephone Town Hall.



Littleton

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Littleton, CO 80120

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Littleton Featured in *Government Finance Review* Magazine



The City of Littleton was featured in the April issue of Government Finance Review. The article titled, "Public-Sector Working Space May Never be the Same" focused on how local governments do business and how the pandemic has affected facility and office needs. In the article public works director Keith Reester said, "Changes in office design don't just apply to public sector workers." The City of Littleton has been working to remodel the council chamber and other facilities, noting there has been a greater shift to digital engagement with the public. Some of the remodeling involves shifting the space where the permit center is housed and reducing the counter space. Reester emphasized

the need for flexibility long after the pandemic is over. "We're going to try stuff and see what happens, and then we'll try something else," Reester said. Read the complete story at www.gfoa.org/online-gfr-april-2021.

Noise Ordinance Amended for Downtown

The Littleton City Council amended the city's noise ordinance March 2 to add flexibility for businesses along Main Street until October 31. The adjustments allow some higher noise level limits on Thursday, Friday and Saturday between noon and 10 p.m. The higher noise levels are applicable only to the Main Street Historic District.

During the spring, summer, and fall, staff will measure sound levels and work with businesses and residents along Main Street to gather feedback on the temporary change.

The ordinance will be reviewed by city council during a study session this summer, prior to the temporary ordinance sunsetting on November 1, 2021.

To provide input or be part of the research efforts this summer, email code_enforcement@littletongov.org or call 303-795-3748.

City Council Explores Formation of a Downtown Historic District



In October 2020, the Littleton City Council approved a new zone district for Downtown Littleton. The new district ensures future development is based on traditional building types, smaller scale and is sensitive to the existing historic context of downtown. As a next step, city council prioritized a Downtown Historic District to promote preservation of historic structures in the commercial core. The district would encompass properties on Main Street and Alamo Avenue, replacing the smaller-sized Main Street Historic District established in 2005.

The proposed Downtown Historic District tells the story of change and growth in Littleton from its early days as an agricultural settlement, to its expansion following the arrival of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, and through the emergence of modernist buildings following World War II. While downtown continues to change and reflect new and current trends, the purpose of the district is to preserve, protect, and rehabilitate the distinctive characteristics of the buildings and sense of place in Littleton.

Historic districts do not prevent changes from occurring, nor do they prevent new construction. In fact, the intent of historic districts is to ensure that improvements and additions to buildings are compatible and harmonious with the historic character of Downtown Littleton.

One of the great assets of being in a historic district is that property owners are eligible for a variety of incentives meant to both encourage preservation and off-set potential costs of preserving their buildings. In addition, the city's historic preservation code is being updated to streamline processes for these improvements.

An application prepared by staff and the city's Historical Preservation Board will be forwarded to city council August 4 for review and discussion. Consideration of an ordinance designating the Downtown Historic District is scheduled for public hearing October 26.

For more information on the history of Downtown Littleton, the benefits of historic designation, and the proposed Downtown District, visit littletongov.org.



Federal/Berry Pedestrian Crossing Completed

The construction of the new pedestrian signal on Federal Boulevard at the Berry Avenue intersection is complete. The signal became fully operational for pedestrian and bicyclists April 9.

The improvements included installation of new pedestrian signals, ADA-compliant ramps, and new signage. These features will help prevent conflicts between vehicles and students walking or biking to Centennial Academy of Fine Arts and Goddard Middle School, as well as citizens accessing the Mary Carter Greenway and Downtown Littleton. This project was largely funded by a Safe Routes to School Grant.

Littleton Police Officer Retires

On March 25, Littleton Police Officer Stephen "Kilo" Keliiholokai retired from the Littleton Police Department (LPD). In 1999, Officer Keliiholokai found his home, and his nickname "Kilo," at the LPD. During his tenure, Keliiholokai served as a teacher and mentor, not only officially as a Field Training Officer but also as an experienced officer with a booming voice and kind heart. Keliiholokai was always happy to lend his ear to a



fellow officer for assistance on a call, or to chat about life at home.

Officer Keliiholokai served on LPD's Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team for over ten years in addition to his assignment to both the patrol and traffic teams. Officer Keliiholokai was one of the proud members of the traffic team certified to utilize motorcycles for traffic enforcement. Officer Keliiholokai ultimately achieved the highest level of accident investigation certification. Officer Keliiholokai was a LIDAR instructor along with a defensive tactics and firearms instructor during his career.

"I've been fortunate and blessed to have worked for an incredible city such as the City of Littleton. There have been some peaks and valleys during my stint and the highs have outweighed the lows. Overall, it's been a good run, I made some lifelong friends, and I have worked with some incredible individuals that I will never forget," Keliiholokai said. "I'm so impressed with our young and upcoming officers! After all of this, my most cherished, accomplishment in my life is with my beautiful wife, Carol; we have raised three of the most beautiful, independent, successful young ladies, our daughters, Toya, Stephanie, and Andrea."

The City of Littleton sends Officer Keliiholokai off into retirement with the warmest wishes and thanks for a fruitful 22 years calling Littleton home while faithfully serving its citizens.

Rental Assistance Available

Rental assistance is still available for residents of Arapahoe County who have been adversely affected by the pandemic. The assistance program helps alleviate short-term financial stress on housing needs so families can focus on other needs. Funding is limited and applying is not a guarantee of assistance. For more information or to apply, visit arapahoegov.com. The program is managed remotely and no walk-in services are available.

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Get more news, more often by subscribing to the *Littleton Report Online* at **littletongov.org/news**.



Littleton City Manager Honored by Colorado City and County Management Association



Littleton City Manager Mark Relph was recognized by the Colorado City and County Management Association with an honorable mention for the 2020 City Manager of the Year award. There were a record number of nominations and four honorable mentions.

Relph was selected as Littleton's Public Works Director in 2015 after several successful careers in this position on the Western Slope and in the Seattle area. Within a year of his hiring amid significant political tur-

moil, Relph accepted the position of Acting City Manager, a position he'd never before held.

After a year-long nationwide search, Relph was appointed City Manager in mid-2017.

He took this on at one of the most difficult points in the city's history.

Relph worked hard with city council individually and as a team to develop goals and a work plan, set limits, manage expectations, require courtesy and respect, and improve communication through standardizing documents and policies. He turned Littleton into a high-functioning organization in a brief time.

At the heart of Relph's leadership is finding resources to guide council towards data-driven decision making. The city's land use and zoning codes, crafted in 1976, were overdue for updating. He focused on finding agreement among residents, businesses, and stakeholders and renewing the sense of civic leadership Littleton is known for. Updating the codes started with a community vision adopted in 2018 and Comprehensive and Transportation Master Plans adopted in 2019. The Comprehensive Plan is referenced in every council work plan and the overall strategic direction of the city. The next priority is transitioning to a Unified Land Use Code. Council has risen to Relph's challenge to provide the resources and focus to complete this daunting task by the end of 2021.

Relph's achievements include:

- COVID Response Many city employees worked remotely utilizing technology to ensure the continuity of operations. Almost \$1.1 million was distributed to businesses and non-profits utilizing CARES Act funds. With approval from the county, \$1.8 million was used to renovate the city council chamber with a new air circulation system, elimination of fixed seating, and an enlarged council dais that allows social distancing.
- Weekends on Main Over the course of 21 weekends from June to October 2020, the city received more than \$130,000 in grants along with General Fund dollars, to close Main Street to allow 14 restaurants to expand their space and liquor license into the street. Many said they wouldn't have survived without it.
- Downtown Rezone the entire downtown comprised of 2,500 properties was rezoned in 2020 from seven zone districts to one district with four character areas.
- South Metro Fire Unification the unification of Littleton Fire Rescue with South Metro Fire Rescue in 2019, included transfer of employees, equipment, and facilities.
- Visit Littleton Phase I and II The first destination marketing phase was completed in mid 2020 with development of the Visit Littleton brand. Phase II in 2021 will be building the Visit Littleton website.
- Arts & Culture Commission Strategic Plan The commission was created in early 2020 and recently finalized its Strategic Plan. Council has determined that focus on arts, culture and tourism will be one of its eight goals over the next two years.
- Transportation Master Plan The city never had a Transportation Master Plan for all modes of transportation, laying the foundation for investment in infrastructure. The city received grants of more than \$40 million. The plan was recognized in 2020 by the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association.
- Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) Littleton was one of the fastest initial implementers of PBB and developed processes to ensure its success. The staff was recognized for its mastery of the system which has been used in the budget process in increasing degrees each year.
- Santa Fe PEL/U.S. 85 Traffic congestion on South Santa Fe has exploded with no long-term plans on the horizon. The city took the lead in guiding eight jurisdictions to partner in a Planning and Environmental Linkages study (PEL) with the Colorado Department of Transportation to plan the future of this critical corridor.
- Asset Management Plan The city lacked a GIS platform to manage critical spatial data and a long-term strategic plan for infrastructure services. Relph's experience in public works helped lay the foundation.

City Council Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Congratulations to 41 citizens who were appointed March 16 to serve on Littleton's authorities, boards and commissions.

Arts & Culture Commission

- Kate Eckel
- Denise Weed
- Susan Thornton

Board of Adjustment

- Donna Goodreid
- Kathryn Holland
- Carolyn Wolvin
- Douglas Albrecht

Building Board of Appeals

- Jeff Eaby
- Dustin Hubbard
- Matt Treinen
- Alexis Barrere
- Elliott Barrere

Election Commission

• Emily McCormick Kraus

Fine Arts Board

- Joni Lieb
- Molly Blakley

Historical Preservation Board

- Laura Gabriel
- Chris Geddes
- Paige Alcorn
- Jason Henderson

Licensing Authority

- Michael Buchanan
- Jothi Ravindrin
- Pete McClintock
- Scott Primeau

Next Generation Advisory Committee

- Molli Luck
- Gregory Anderson
- Michael Steighner
- Lauren Geber
- Jace Hopper
- Hannah Kight
- Stephen Barr
- Susie Lanners

Planning Commission

- Dan Miller
- Craig Coronato
- Sherri Almond
- Behzad MirzayiDave McFadyen

South Metro Housing Options

- Kate Peterson
- Lauren Acres

Transportation Mobility Board

- Kelly Honecker
- Kent Bagley
- Stephanie Kelly

Capital Improvements Dashboard

The city has released a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Dashboard to help residents stay informed about public works construction projects happening in Littleton. The digital dashboard provides information and review of upcoming bridge, sewer, street, and transportation projects which are indicated by planned construction year. Be in the know as plans are subject to change and will be updated from time to time in coordination with partner agencies. View the CIP Dashboard at littletongov.org/cip-dashboard. For questions regarding the new dashboard email Patrick Gunn at pgunn@littletongov.org.



City Council Adopts Arapahoe County Hazard Mitigation Plan

During its March 16 meeting, the Littleton City Council unanimously approved the adoption of the Arapahoe County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The 2021 plan was developed in cooperation with Arapahoe County, Denver Water, the towns of Bennett, Bow Mar, Deer Trail, and Foxfield; and the cities of Littleton, Centennial, Cherry Hills Village, Englewood, Greenwood Village, Glendale and Sheridan.

The plan's purpose is to protect life and property by reducing the potential for future damage and economic loss. The plan will comply with state and federal requirements tied to local hazard mitigation planning. To learn more about the plan and to view the council meeting visit littletongov.org.

Littleton City Council



Patrick Driscoll
District I
pdriscoll@littletongov.org
303-668-7877



Karina Elrod At Large Resigned, effective May 9, 2021



Carol Fey
District III
cfey@littletongov.org
303-795-9350



Pam Grove At Large pgrove@littletongov.org 303-263-1152



Scott Melin Mayor Pro Tem, At Large smelin@littletongov.org 720-295-5382



Kelly Milliman District IV kmilliman@littletongov.org 720-468-1324



Jerry Valdes Mayor, District II jvaldes@littletongov.org 303-810-1465



Fireworks Planned for Independence Day Celebration



The cities of Littleton, Englewood, Sheridan, and Arapahoe County and South Suburban Parks and Recreation announce the return of fireworks to celebrate the nation's independence. The event is planned for Saturday, July 3 at

Cornerstone and Belleview Parks. Food trucks will arrive at 5 p.m. and fireworks will begin at 9:15 p.m. Alcohol, smoking, dogs, and personal fireworks are prohibited. The celebration will adhere to COVID-19 protocols that may be in place in July. For more information contact the City of Englewood at 303-762-2490 or email tarnoldy@englewoodco.gov.



Heritage High School Girls State Swim and Dive Champs

The Heritage High School Girls Swim and Dive Team won the 4A State Championship in March. Anna Shaw led her team by setting two new state records in both the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle. The Eagles scored 495.5 points in a dominating win to finish ahead of second-place Mullen with 322 points and third-place Niwot with 307 points.

Littleton Recognized for Financial Excellence

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the City of Littleton for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019. The report was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate others to read the report.

Littleton Public Schools Approves Location for New Elementary School

On March 30, the Littleton Public Schools Board of Education approved the location for a new elementary school. The school will combine the communities of East Elementary and Ralph Moody Elementary. The current Ralph Moody campus, located at 6390 South Windermere Street, will be the location for the new school.

Spring Water is Vital for Denver's Water Supply

Deep drifts of snow in the winter don't automatically mean full reservoirs come summer. That's especially true after last summer, one of the hottest and driest in history. Denver Water experts closely monitor weather conditions and how much melting snow is flowing down mountain creeks. This information helps determine whether additional water restrictions, beyond the regular summer watering rules, may be necessary in coming months.

The spring runoff typically starts at the end of April and peaks in the middle of June. Several factors can eat away at a healthy winter snowpack, reducing the amount of water that ultimately ends up in reservoirs. Among them:

- Winds can pick up the snow and move it around. A warm Chinook wind can melt the snow away.
- Water is always moving into the air, or evaporating. The amount of snow that disappears through evaporation increases as temperatures rise.
- Mother Nature gets first dibs on the water in the snow, with the soil soaking up moisture like a sponge.

Only when the soil is saturated does the remaining water run into streams and reservoirs. The timing of the annual spring runoff is also important. A longer, later runoff that stretches through late spring into summer delays the need for Denver Water to rely on its network of storage reservoirs to meet the needs of its customers. For more information visit denverwater.org.

Lawn Watering Times

Minutes to Water Per Zone (For lawns, based on watering three days per week.)

Watering Months	Fixed Spray Heads	Rotor Heads	Rotary Nozzles	Manual Sprinklers
January–April	Water trees/shrubs as needed.			
May	12	24	30	18
June	17	35	43	26
July	18	36	45	27
August	14	27	34	20
September	11	23	28	17
October–December	Water trees/shrubs as needed.			

These times are based on a sprinkler system running at an efficient level. Watering is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Local Partnership Funding Approved

Each year the Littleton City Council considers requests for discretionary grants, historically from nonprofit organizations who serve Littleton residents, and awards the grants to the organizations during the budget process. This is a competitive process as council always receives more requests than it has funds available.

For 2021, the city council awarded \$67,000 to 19 different organizations including:

Human Services

- AllHealth Network \$7,600
- Alzheimer's Association of Colorado \$2,100
- Break Bread \$6,000
- Crisis Center \$2,250
- Doctors Care \$7,650
- Family Tree, Inc. \$1,900
- GraceFull Foundation \$1,950
- Integrated Family Community Services \$8,000
- Rotary Club of Littleton \$1,800
- Littleton Family Services \$3,300
- Love in the Name of Christ \$5,600
- Nourish Meals on Wheels \$8,050

- South Metro Community Foundation In-Kind
- St. Mary Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference -\$1,300

Community Events

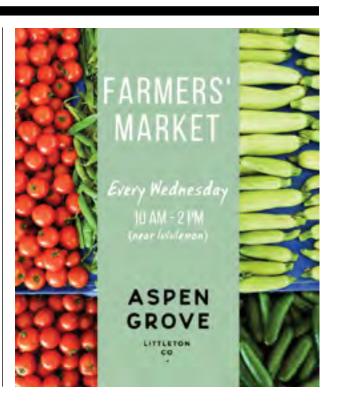
- Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum, Inc. \$800, In-Kind
- Lions Sports Booster Club In-Kind
 - Littleton Public Schools Foundation \$1,350, In-Kind
- Western Welcome Week \$2,050, In-Kind

Other

- Arapahoe Community College Foundation \$2,000
- North Littleton Promise \$3,300









CITY OF LITTLETON EVENTS



PARIS STREET MARKET

at Aspen Grove 8 am - 2 pm



STATE OF THE CITY

at the Ashley Ridge -Wedgewood Events Center 7:30 - 9 am



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FARMERS' **MARKET BEGINS**

at Aspen Grove **Every Wednesday** through September 29 10 am - 2 pm

WORLDWIDE KNIT-IN-PUBLIC DAY

at the Littleton Museum 9 am - 12 pm

FIRE MUSTER

on Main Street, Littleton Parade at 9 am



MEET GREET & EAT

at Sterne Park 4 - 6 pm



PARIS STREET MARKET

at Aspen Grove 🔬 8 am - 2 pm



FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

at Cornerstone and Belleview Parks



LITTLE JAM -Band: Raising Cain

at Harlow Park



MUTT MARKET

10 am - 2 pm Dog-Friendly Expo at Aspen Grove



14

MEET GREET & EAT

at Progress Park 4 - 6 pm



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LITTLETON TWILIGHT CRITERIUM by **Audi Denver**

on Main Street, Littleton 3 - 10:30 pm







Expanded Hours for Bemis Library and the Littleton Museum

Both the Bemis Library and the Littleton Museum have expanded their hours to better serve the community.

Littleton Museum Hours

Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with last entry at 4:30 p.m., each day

Capacity limits will rise to 150 per hour and advance reservations are not required. Group size is limited to 10 or fewer. Visitors are encouraged to wear masks, maintain at least six feet of social distancing from other visitors, and limit their time at the museum to 90 minutes. For information, call the museum at 303-795-3950.

Bemis Library Hours

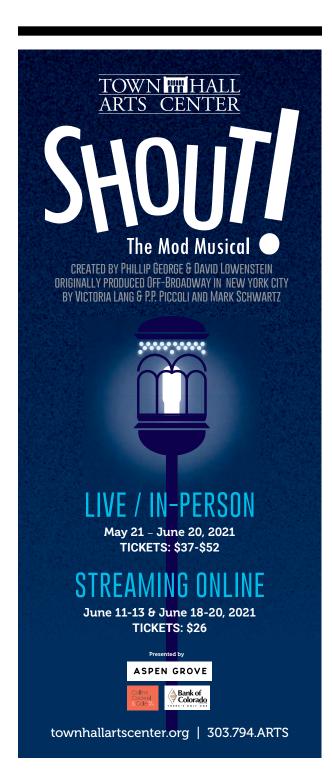
Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays and holidays

- The curbside service will continue on an as-needed basis during the library's regular hours of operation.
- Study rooms are available for up to two hours per group, per day.
- Computer sessions have been increased to two hours per person, per day.

Visitors are required to wear a mask while at the library. If someone is unable to wear a mask, they are asked to use the curbside service to pick up items or print jobs. For more information about library services, hours, and safety, visit Bemis Library's COVID Information page, or call 303-795-3961

Watch the library's event calendar at littletongov.org for expanded outdoor programming coming this summer.



Best of Show - I & We art exhibition at the Littleton Museum

The City of Littleton Fine Arts Board announces the upcoming exhibition of fine art, *Best of Show – I & We*, featuring the artwork of Ashley Allen and Olga and Aleksey Ivanov. These artists won the award "Best of Show" for competitive exhibitions in 2020; Allen for the 2020 Eye of the Camera exhibit, and the Ivanovs for the 2020 Own an Original exhibit.

Best of Show – I & We opens to the public on Friday, May 21, and runs through July 17, 2021. The Littleton Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is closed Sundays, Mondays, and major holidays. Visitors may be asked to wait before entering the museum due to a limit of 150 visitors in the museum per hour. Limit visits to 90 minutes. Follow the Littleton Museum on Facebook and Instagram, or the visit the Littleton Museum's web page for updates.



Arapahoe County Open Space 5K Walk/Run Event

Join Arapahoe County in its 5K Trail Walk/Run Series celebrating open spaces, fitness and good health. The next event is at 17 Mile House Farm Park on June 12. Additional events at different locations will occur throughout the summer, including at the Richmil Ranch Open Space August 14, and the High Line Canal October 9. All ages are welcome and there is an option for virtual participation.

Registration is \$30 for in-person and \$20 for virtual. Registration includes a race bib, swag from race sponsors, light food and beverage, and commemorative medal. Each race is limited to 200 participants. Participants are asked to maintain six-feet of social distancing. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the Arapahoe County Fair website at arapahoecountyfair.com/5ktrailseries.

Code Enforcement: Sidewalks and Weeds

Sidewalk and Street Clearances

The city has regulations to promote and protect the safety and beauty of the city's sidewalks and streets. Property owners are responsible for the maintenance of all vegetation on their property and within rights-of-way adjacent to their property. Trees, shrubs and other vegetation should be routinely pruned to keep sidewalks and streets clear, and to maintain proper visibility of traffic signs and oncoming vehicles at intersections. Trim vegetation to the edge of the sidewalk to a minimum height of ten feet above the sidewalk, and 14 feet above the street. Ensure there are no other right-of-way obstructions, such as trash containers or basketball hoops.

Weed Season Is Here

This is the time of year when weeds and grass grow fast and need to be cut and removed on a regular schedule. The City of Littleton code states, "It shall be unlawful for any owner of real property to fail to cut or cause to be cut, all weeds growing thereon or to fail to take reasonable steps to control noxious vegetation in the city. Weed is defined as: weeds, grass, or brush which has grown to maturity or is in excess of eight inches in height."

Contact code enforcement for more information or to report a violation at 303-795-3708 or 303-795-3831. Email code_enforcement@littletongov.org or visit littletongov.org/see-click-fix to report a violation.



South Suburban Parks and Recreation District News

Register Now for the Annual Pancake Stampede 5K

Work up an appetite for a deluxe breakfast at the Pancake Stampede 5K August 15. Runners and walkers of all ages are invited to participate in the race, which takes place on the Mary Carter Greenway along the South Platte River. Registration is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children ages 14 and under. The race is part of Littleton's Western Welcome Week celebration, and registration for the race includes entry to the Western Welcome Week Pancake Breakfast. The event kicks off at The Hudson Gardens & Event Center at 8 a.m. Learn more and register at ssprd.org/raceseries.

Annual Maintenance Closures at Buck

Each year South Suburban Parks and Recreation (SSPR) closes its recreation centers to deep clean and make improvements. The Buck Recreation Center will be closed from August 16 to 20, with the pool closed August 14 to 22. Improvements will include refinishing the wood floors, re-plastering of lap and therapy pools, and a facility paint touch-up. Passes and punches are eligible to be used at any of the South Suburban facilities during the weekly closures.



JAMMIN' July Fitness Challenge at Buck

JAMMIN' July is back, and SSPR is inviting all to make this the 2021 fitness challenge the best yet. Everyone ages ten and older can participate by picking up a JAMMIN' July card from a fitness staff member or the front desk at the Buck Recreation Center. The challenge runs through the entire month of July. Earn stamps each time a fitness class or personal training session are completed. Return JAMMIN' July cards by August 3 for a chance to win gold medal prizes, like a South Suburban gift card, personal training sessions or a massage. Learn more at ssprd.org.

Harlow Pool Opened Memorial Day Weekend

Franklin, Harlow and Holly pools were completely rebuilt in 2020 and are ready to show off their new looks this summer. All pools opened Memorial Day weekend. Improvements include wading pools with play features, new spray ground elements, and 140-foot water slides.

BEYOND BOOKS... WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BEMIS LIBRARY?

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | Web Catalog: bemis.marmot.org

EXPANDED HOURS

Bemis Library is now open 55 hours per week: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. ● Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Sundays and holidays

- Curbside service is available on an as-needed basis during the library's regular hours.
- Study rooms are available by reservation for up to two hours per day, maximum of two people.
- Computers are available for up to two hours per person per day.

For more information visit bemis.marmot.org or call 303-795-3961.

NEW! Culture Pass

Bemis is partnering with Museo de las Americas to offer a free, same day Culture Pass to the Museo. Located in the Art District on Santa Fe, Museo de las



Americas is the premier Latin American art museum in the Rocky Mountain region. Patrons may check out the pass at the Circulation Desk. The Culture Pass is good for free admission for up to four people. Once checked out, patrons will need to visit www.museo.org to time their visit due to COVID-19 capacity limits.



The Studio provides makers and creators the space, technology and resources to dive into creative projects. Host a live stream, start a podcast, 3D print, create with Cricut and more! Reserve the space for projects or keep a lookout for Studio workshops to help get a project started.

Sign Up for Tails and Tales Summer Reading Program

Bemis has a summer reading program for every reader: adults, teens, children, even infants. Registration in-



formation is available online at bemis.marmot.org. Be sure to sign up for a chance to win prizes. Summer reading runs through July 31.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Children from birth through kids entering 5th grade in the fall may pick up a summer reading log at the library or sign up online to track summer reading progress and collect prizes along the way. Prizes include free books and merchant certificates. Visit bemis.marmot.org for more information.

June Family Entertainment—Tuesdays at 11 a.m.

Programs for families with children three years and up.

- June 1—Wag That Tale
- Kick off a summer of fun programs with Denise Gard and her border collies Joey and Kira.
- June 8—Stories, Songs and a Boing, Boing Thing Musician Mike Anderson, The Dulcimer Guy.
- June 15—Conservation Kids
- Mad Science of Colorado will focus on animal conservation and endangered species.
- June 22—Flying Debris Show
 Enjoy funnyman and juggler Richard Holmgren.
- June 29—Suitcase Fairytales
 Birgitta DePree and Millibo Art Theatre present adaptations of Hans Christian Andersen's best-loved fairy tales.

June School Age Programs—Thursdays at 2 p.m. For Kids Entering Grades 1–5*

- June 3—Bandana-rama*
- Make a colorful tie-dye inspired bandana.
- June 10—K-9 Meet and Greet*
 Meet a K-9 team from the Littleton Police Department and discover what it takes to build a strong partnership between officer and dog.
- June 17—Tails and Tales*
- Make a wearable animal tail for pretend play.
- June 24—Cartooning for Kids*
 Learn to draw furry and feathered animals on Zoom with cartoonist Rick Stromoski.

July Family Entertainment—Tuesdays at 11 a.m.

Programs for families with children three years and up.

- July 6—HawkQuest presents Birds of Prey

 Observe live birds of prey like the owl, eagle, falcon and hawk in this interactive show.
- July 13—Tails and Tales Magic Library Show
 Comedian Chad Wonder, a Nickelodeon Entertainer of
 the Year, performs kid-friendly magic.
- July 20-Cool Science

This Super Cold Show features demonstrations and experiments with dry ice and liquid nitrogen.

 July 27—Animal Olympics: A Visit from the Downtown Aquarium

Meet a variety of non-fish animal ambassadors in this fun and educational animal show.

July School Age Programs-Thursdays at 2 p.m. For Kids Entering Grades 1-5**

- July 8—Pet Rocks*
 - Create a pet rock along with its custom home.
- July 15—Awesome Animal Aluminum Art*

 Create faux stained-glass artwork using Arctic designs from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- July 22—Play-Dough Workshop*
- July 29—All About Birds*
- Make a bird treat and play Bird Bingo.
- **Reservations required one week in advance for Thursday School Age Programs.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Tails and Tales—Teen Summer Reading Events*

Attending the following events enters teens into the current week's prize drawings and the grand prize drawings at the end of July.



- Pet Rocks—June 1, 4-5 p.m.*
- Ultimate Werewolf—June 8, 4-5 p.m.*
- Cosplay Tails—June 15, 4-5 p.m.*
- Weird Wildlife Trivia—June 22, 4-5 p.m.*
- Artist Hour—June 29, 4–5 p.m.*

 Create unique art and learn about the upcoming community art program.
- D&D: Curse of the Chimera-July 6, 4-6:30 p.m.*
- Tiny Tale Micro Books—July 13, 4-5 p.m.*
 Bind your own itty-bitty book, journal or diary.
- Borkin' Bingo-July 20, 4-5 p.m.*
- Small World Shrinkydinks—July 27, 4-5 p.m.*

GENERAL PROGRAMS

Mundo Mistico

Chile & Colombia: June 4 and 18, 9 a.m.* Costa Rica, Cuba & Dominican Republic: July 2, 16 and 30, 9 a.m.*

Creative and engaging classes offered in partnership with Museo de las Americas promote learning Spanish language and culture through the unique lens of different countries. Each class will explore one of 20 countries worldwide that claim Spanish as their official language. Sessions will introduce vocabulary and gentle language practice and explore the culture, art and heritage of each country.

Do the Side Hustle with Canvas Credit Union—June 8, 6 p.m.* Earning extra cash outside of a 9-to-5 job is called a side hustle. Learn about side hustle options for the short term or possibly a new business venture.

Good4u Nutrition 101 with Natural Grocers—June 10, 2 p.m.* Find out how good nutrition promotes total body health.

Summer Safety Series with South Metro Fire Rescue— June 15, 22 and 29, and July 13 and 20, 2 p.m.*

AFETY FIRS

- June 15: Pedestrian and Community Safety
- June 22: Fall Prevention
- June 29: Fire Safety
- July 13: Senior Health and Successful Aging
- July 20: Aging in Place

How to Train Your Dog-June 19, 2 p.m.*

Join volunteers, both human and canine, from the Humane Society of the South Platte Valley for this introduction to working safely and effectively with your dog. For families with kids ages 3 and up. For kids ages 3–8 who might lose interest, we will have a balloon dog training class. Please note: Do not bring your dog to this program. The class is for humans so they can go home and teach their dogs.

The Future of Bees—June 21, 2 p.m.*

Bees are vital pollinators, making possible much of the food humans eat. In recent years however, crucial bee species have experienced significant loss. Active Minds will examine factors that are affecting these important species.

Make & Shake Music with Think 360 Arts—June 24, 2 p.m.* Join an all-ages outdoor program and make some musical noise. Participants will make a maraca from recycled and found materials. Presented by Katherine Dines, teaching artist with Think 360 Arts.

Avoid Identity Theft and Scams with Canvas Credit Union—July 6, 6 p.m.*

There are ways to minimize the risk of identity theft. Find out what data breaches mean, how to spot email scams, set secure passwords, peg phony phone calls, stay safe online and more.

RTD Travel Training Field Trip to Union Station—July 7 and 21, 10 a.m.*

Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council is offering this in-person training to help individuals learn how to use the RTD system. Participants will meet at the Littleton Downtown Light Rail Station, take a complimentary train ride to Union Station and see other transit options available from that central hub.

Art Workshop with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art—Thursday, July 8, 2 p.m.*

Join BMoCA Educator Melinda Laz for a hands-on workshop about BMoCA's new exhibition, *The Stubborn Influence of Painting*, and create a piece of art inspired by the show. Registered participants will be provided with art supplies to create their own project.

The Olympics with Active Minds—July 19, 2 p.m.*

Active Minds will explore the rich and sometimes confrontational history of the Olympic Games.

*To register, participate, or join any of these programs go to the Virtual Events Calendar from the Bemis home page at bemis.marmot.org.





COMMUNITY BUSINESS

SPOTLIGHT

Come in We're OPEN



PokeCo

There is a new restaurant in Littleton that is bringing a fun experience for sushi lovers. PokeCo is located at 91 West Mineral Avenue and is open from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. The Hawiian-inspired poke bowls are a fresh take on traditional sushi. PokeCo uses only premium quality sashimi-grade fish and the freshest ingredients. It offers a variety of bowls to suit any diet preference. It also offers a fun twist to traditional ice cream for those with a sweet tooth. Check out the made-to-order, hand-churned Thai ice cream in a variety of flavors. Stop by, call 303-798-2202, or visitpokeco8.com.

HDLM & LBC Take Over "Weekends on Main"

Last Summer's "Weekends on Main" will continue under the event management of Historic Downtown Littleton Merchants Association (HDLM) and the Littleton Business Chamber (LBC).

With the success of this program from last year and continued recovery from COVID restrictions, HDLM has committed to keeping this program in place through Oct. 30, 2021. This program has helped over 200 local businesses since it was launched last year.

Weekends on Main opens at 5 p.m. on Fridays and goes through Saturdays at 10 p.m.

Main Street will be closed Friday at 4 p.m. through Saturday at 11 p.m. from Rio Grande West to Rapp/Santa Fe; Prince and Curtice Streets will remain open north and south; Nevada will be open south of Main Street and north of the alley located behind Reinke Brothers; Alamo and all side streets will remain open.

Visit downtownlittleton.com for more information.

ElseWear Collective

LITTLETON REPORT

Downtown Littleton has a new clothing boutique featuring fun and unique items. ElseWear Collective is located at 2690 West Main Street. Founder Kelsey Johnson says, "Studio to storefront is the concept behind my boutique." Johnson designs and creates luxury handmade knitwear, apparel, and accessories all in-house. Each item is individually created with all-natural materials on a limited and domestic scale. ElseWear Collective is dedicated to providing apparel that exudes wearability and effortless style devoted to quality over quantity. The shop also features jewelry, art, and home décor made by local artisans. Stop by, call 720-364-3031, or visit elsewearcollective.com for more information.





The Olive Branch

The Olive Branch is a new shop located at 2370 West Main Street in Downtown Littleton. This new store features home décor, paper goods, fun items for little ones, and a variety of products to pamper in bath and beauty. The Olive Branch aims to be much more than just a store, with a goal of sharing and inspiring the beauty found in the ordinary. The store has made a commitment to source thoughtfully-made, beautiful goods for the home. Stop by or visit olivebranchshop.co.

The Shack Celebrates 28 Years in Littleton

The Shack, a sports bar and family-owned restaurant, is celebrating 28 years in Littleton. The restaurant opened in 1993 and is known for big screen televisions, live entertainment, karaoke nights, and great food. It features happy hour seven days a week, and a large patio that is the perfect place to watch a game. The Shack is located in the Southbridge Shopping Center at 151 West Mineral Avenue. Stop by for a snack or a meal, visit their website at shackrest.com, or call 303-795-7241.



