

gingloveland
BE OUR COMPANY A BETTER PLACE

Fest
ES

k/foote lagoon

Loveland • EngagingLoveland.org

UMMER

Spirits At Sunset

Sunday, July 10 - 9:30am-4pm

Song of Joy: Contemporary

Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.

Master's of Magic Presents -

Luna Shimada

Beer/Wine Garden on the plaza

Kid's Sidewalk Chalk Competition

Entertainment all day

at the amphitheater

Kids Area/Interactive Booths

Classic Car Show

Official Sponsors

Frontier Herald Comcast

Perfect Square

Outlets Loveland

Clear Channel

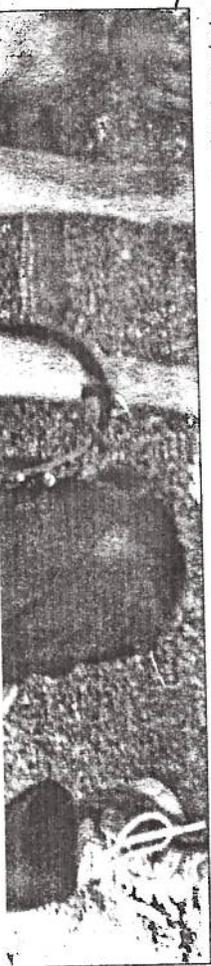
Elevations

conelli, will be on call when needed. Tacconelli encourages everyone to support the Longmont Humane Society and the NDSDF. For more information on the NDSDF visit www.searchdogfoundation.org.

Shooting landscapes through the lens of Artist of the Year, Jim Digby

Special to the Surveyor

On Wednesday, July 6 at 7 p.m. "Shooting Landscapes through the Lens of Jim Digby." Renowned local artist and Larimer County Artist of the Year, Jim Digby, joins us for this very special program on how to shoot the beautiful landscape of Devil's Backbone Open Space, located just



Courtesy photo

Joe with his handler, Linda Tacconelli.

west of Loveland off Highway 34. Jim has worked in still and motion photography since the 1950s and his award-winning images have been exhibited all over the world.

Spend an evening learning tips and tricks from a professional on how to make your photos exceptional. For more information visit Jim's website at

LARIMER COUNTY
www.jimdigby.com
smugmug.com
www.larimer.org/openlands/artist.htm



Hike rating: easy. Program is free, and no registration is required. Approximately one-hour program. Please direct questions to

Heather, at 970-679-4489. To learn more about Larimer County's parks and open spaces, visit our website at www.larimer.org/naturalresources.

Find us on Facebook - Follow us on Twitter

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

BEA THOOD SURVEYOR 6-30-11

Poudre Valley REA Co-op Connections® Card

VISIT THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR INSTANT SAVINGS

- B&J Locks, LLC**
 10% Off Invoice and 15% Off Online Purchases (Online: Enter code pveacoop) Windsor, CO 970-381-0626
- Happy Trails Pet Spa**
 5-10% Off (Depending on Service) 3590 Drait Horse Ct, Loveland
- Tortuga Bay Diving**
 10% Off Any Regular Price Item or Course 6200 W 9th St. Greeley (970) 353-DEEP(3337)
- A Desired Look Tanning**
 Buy One Tan Get One Free (Full price only, Unlimited) 2451 S College Ave, Ft Collins (970) 223-6225
- Windsor Guardian Self Storage**
 Free 1st Month Rent + Free Entry Card (Ask for details) 760 East Garden Dr., Windsor
- Wynbrier Ltd. Wildlife Gallery**
 10% Off Non-Sale Items (Excludes Tobacco, Taxidermy, Consignments) 238 E. Elkhorn Ave., Estes Park (970) 586-4074
- Pampered Pelican Boutique**
 10% Off Any One Regular Priced Item (Can't combine with other offers) 1525 Main Street, Windsor 970-674-9115
- Scrap 2 It**
 10% Off All Paper 1833 E Harmony Rd, Ft Collins 970-797-2174
- Johnstown Clothing and Embroidery**
 15% Off all Purchases 18 S. Parish Ave, Johnstown 970-204-1759
- Li'l Flower Shop**
 5% Off all Purchases 417 Main St, Windsor (970)866-2400 (888)238-8860
- Oties Liquor**
 5% Off all Purchases 4630 Royal Vista Cir, Ft. Collins (1-25 Windsor Exit) 204-1759
- Red Feather Trading Post**
 5% Off TOTAL SALE
- Americinn \$10 Off Room Rent**
 (Present card at registration) 7645 Westgate Dr, Fort Collins 970-226-1232
- Fairfield Inn & Suites**



Your Town, Our Service, Every Day.
 Poudre Valley REA
 Co-op Connections Card

County sends bills for beetle control

By **Cherry Sokoloski**
North Forty News

Some folks in Glacier View will soon receive bills from Larimer County for work on beetle-infested trees.

Dave Lentz, county forester, said 10 property owners in Glacier View failed to comply with written requests to take care of infested trees before the beetles fly again this month. Two Estes Park properties and one in Cherokee Park are also on the list.

The county has hired private contractors to do the necessary work and will bill the property owners.

One Glacier View resident owns five acres and has 190 trees that need to be cut down. Since the maximum that the county can charge a landowner for this work is \$5,000, Lentz is not sure whether all 190 trees

can be cut and treated.

The goal is “just to kill the beetles” before they can fly and infect other trees, Lentz said. He noted that he had sent certified letters to about 90 property owners, notifying them of the need to treat infested trees, and “just a handful” failed to comply.

The largest pine beetle flight is typically in late July or early August. Infested trees, considered “brood trees,” must be cut down and treated before the flight in order to kill the beetles. Merely cutting down the trees does not kill the insects. Lentz said contractors can treat the trees in a variety of ways, including chipping, peeling the bark or taking larger trees to sawmills.

Even with the current massive pine beetle infestation, Lentz said, cutting and treating infest-

ed trees can make a difference in the epidemic’s spread. This is especially true within subdivisions that have been very proactive in treating infested trees, he noted.

“People have to realize that life goes on beyond their properties,” Lentz said.

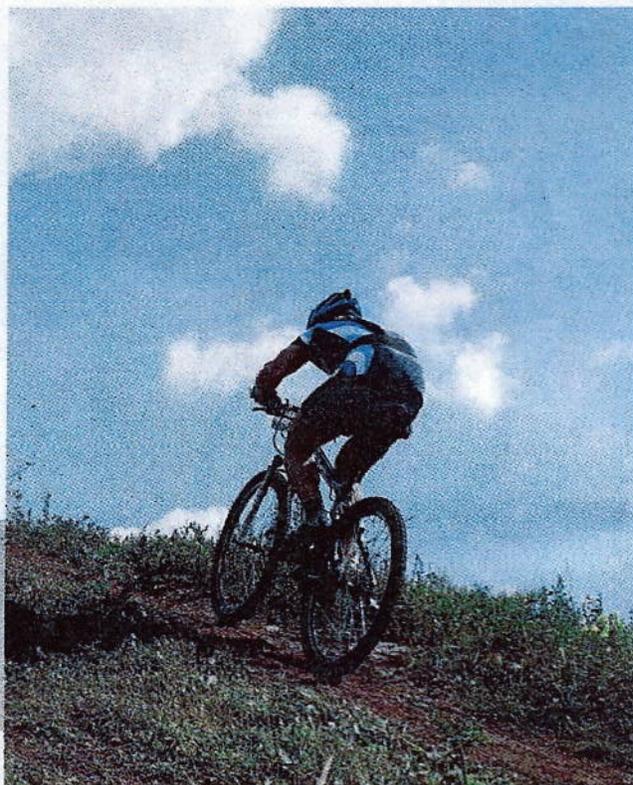
Lentz emphasized that he inspects properties on a complaint basis. Since he is the only employee in the county forester’s office, he must do all the inspections and mailings himself.

This year, it is too late to report beetle-infested properties to the county. Lentz said that people should hold complaints until late October or early November. He will then inspect the properties and notify property owners as needed to take care of trees before next year’s beetle flight.

40^{in the} FORT

New endurance mountain bike race promises a challenge

Story by Jennifer Lehman • Special Sections Reporter



Overland Mountain Bike Club is bringing an endurance race to Fort Collins on July 9, the first annual 40 in the Fort, a diverse 40-mile course through Lory State Park and Horsetooth Mountain Open Space.

Overland Mountain Bike Club wanted 40 in the Fort to be aligned with other endurance mountain bike races in the area, said Kory Swanson, the club's communications director, like the Laramie Enduro, with 70-plus miles and the Firecracker 50, a 50-mile race held every 4th of July in Breckenridge.

Endurance mountain bike races are growing in popularity said club member, John Hughes, who brought the idea for the race to the club's board of directors.

Hughes had been participating in other endurance races in Colorado and Wyoming and thought Fort Collins should have one, too.

The main concern was getting approval from the county and state which proved to be very easy, Hughes said, because of the club's long reputation for trail maintenance and their relationship with local parks.

Overland has a symbiotic relationship with the parks, Hughes said, "we need them and they need us."

Rides, education, trail maintenance and trail patrol are some of the club's main activities as a non-profit organization

focused on Northern Colorado and Southern Wyoming.

Hughes will be helping run the race and won't be participating, but he's done the course before.

"I'll be enjoying seeing the pain on people's faces as they climb Towers Trail twice," he said.

Lory State Park and Horsetooth offers everything from fast-flowing single-track racing through valleys to very difficult technical climbs through a variety of terrain, Swanson said.

"At some points you're riding through a pine forest over soft dirt, other times you're scaling and jumping rocks, going over tree roots, going down really gnarly, nasty descents, trying to pick your line as best you can so you don't go off the trail into the cactus," Hughes said.

The 40-mile course gains 7,500 feet of elevation compared to an 8,000 foot elevation gain in the 70-mile Laramie Enduro, Hughes said.

"It's going to be a great experience for all of us, Hughes said, "We know it's going to be a lung-bursting, lung-burning event that I'm sure everyone's going to remember."

The race is divided by gender into Open and Sport categories, and the third category SS (single speed) is gender combined.

Open is for racers who have placed in

a previous race, Sport is a little less competitive for people who have raced before, but not placed at the podium or in the top ten, Hughes said.

SS, (single speed) are racers on single gear bikes and those racers are significantly stronger, Hughes said, because they only have one gear to work with to get up steep hills — some on the 40 in the Fort course have grades over 20 percent, Hughes said. "These guys are animals. They just love pain."

A few members of the Overland Mountain Bike Club will be racing, Hughes said, but most will be volunteering.

Racers mostly hail from Fort Collins with participants from other Front Range cities and a few surrounding states, Hughes said.

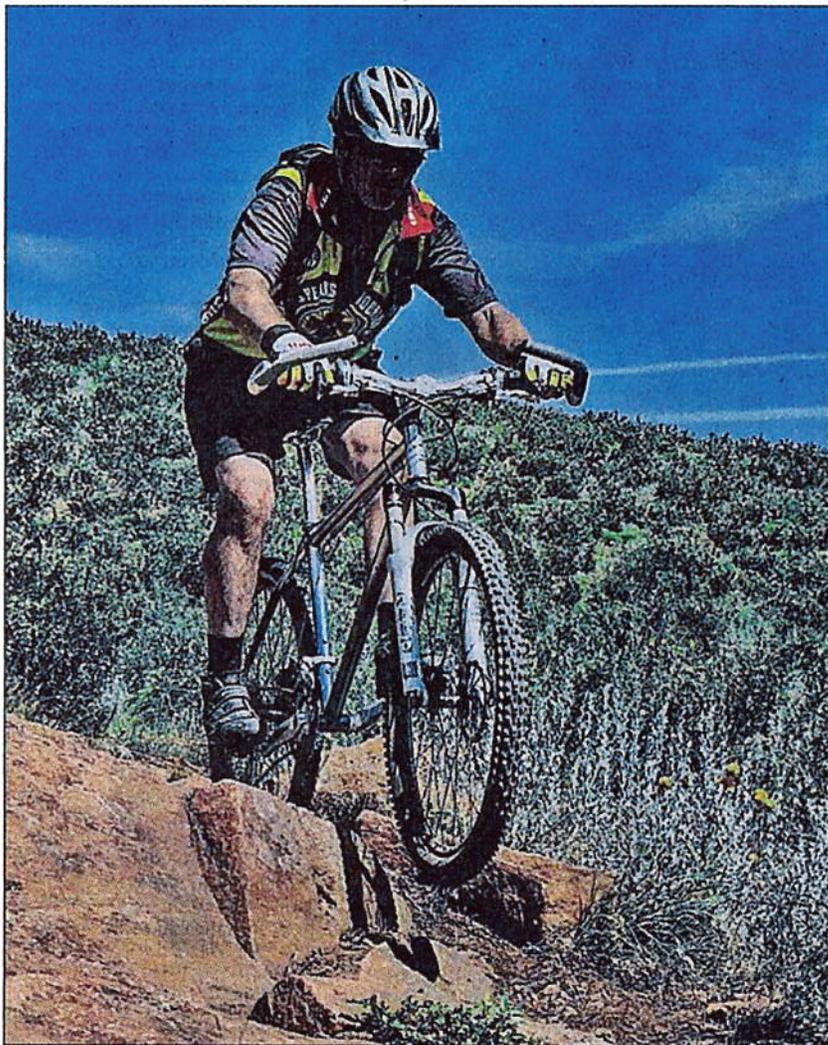
Hughes said the club hopes the race will bring recognition to Fort Collins' great parks and that people have a good time.

Registration for this year's race is closed, capped at 150 participants, but there are still plenty of volunteer opportunities from working food and aid stands to serving as a race marshal, Swanson said.

Overland Mountain Bike Club hosts bike rides for all levels, skills clinics, social gatherings and volunteer opportunities for trail maintenance.

For more information on Overland Mountain Bike Club and 40 in the Fort, go to <http://overlandmtb.org/>.

Mountain bike racing returns



Pete Skram rides over rocks at Devil's Backbone Open Space west of Loveland. There are many local trails on which to train for mountain bike races. COURTESY OF DOUG BAKER

Avid cyclist leads creation of inaugural endurance ride

By Miles Blumhardt

MilesBlumhardt@coloradoan.com

With a multitude of quality mountain bike trails so close to Fort Collins and the booming popularity of cycling in the city, it begs the question why no mountain bike races take place here?

That's what avid Fort Collins mountain biker John Hughes wondered as well while driving from his home near Horsetooth Mountain Open Space to a handful of endurance races he annually rides as some of the state's top trails faded away in his rearview mirror.

"I got tired of going to other cities to race when some of the best trails were right in my backyard," Hughes said. "So I said to the board (Overland Mountain Bike Club) that we should have a race. They noodled the idea and said 'let's do it.'"

Hughes' idea and the board's approval led to the creation of the inaugural 40 in the Fort endurance mountain bike race, which takes place 7 a.m. Saturday at Lory State Park and Horsetooth Mountain Open Space.

There have been a smattering of hit-and-miss mountain bike races held at Lory over the past decade or so, but nothing has stuck. Hughes said he found out why after talking to Larimer County Natural Resources, which manages Horsetooth Mountain Open Space, and Lory staff about his race idea.

"A dozen or so years ago, the county was left with a terrible mess from the race organizers after some races, and so they decided not to allow them anymore," said Hughes, who is an Overland Mountain Bike Club member. "The only reason they allowed this race is because of Overland's reputation. We promised the land agencies that we would take care of any damage."

That reputation has literally been built with sweat. The volunteer organization has helped build, maintain and patrol trails at Horsetooth as well as other

county open spaces, Lory, city of Fort Collins natural areas and the Roosevelt National Forest. The group's patrol entails helping mountain bikers ride ethically and safely.

Hughes, who regularly rides at Horsetooth and Lory, said now that he's done stressing over negotiating permission to conduct the race and planning the course, the fun begins. The grueling race will consist of two nearly 20-mile loops with 7,300 feet of vertical gain. Hughes said it will test even the toughest of riders.

"I had some sleepless nights over the details but I know we have a very good and challenging course, especially when compared to other races I've been to," he said. "It's brutal with some sections real leg-burners where you're just on fire. There also are some wicked descents where riders better be careful and some places that will be a hike-a-bike for even the best riders."

Kory Swanson, the club's communications director and avid mountain biker, said the course was only disclosed a couple of weeks so riders wouldn't overuse it and cause damage. The popularity of the ride was evident as it reached its cap of 150 riders in less than a month without much promoting, Swanson said.

"The riders who know the course know what they are in for," Swanson said. "Those just showing up and riding it will find it pretty challenging."

Swanson said thanks to Poudre Valley Health System donating \$3,000 to the race, the club will not only raise awareness about the incredible mountain biking in the area but raise money for the club as well.

Hughes hopes this year will be the beginning of sustained mountain bike races in the area.

"We hope to make a little name for our city as a great place to ride," he said. "We are fortunate to have land agencies that were willing to work with us and such great trails to show off."

40 IN THE FORT

» **When:** 7 a.m., Saturday

» **Where:** Lory State Park, 708 N. Larimer County Road 25G. Start is at North Eltuck Bay parking lot and finish at Soldier Canyon Corral Center, Lory State Park

» **Race format:** Two 20-mile loop rides

» **Course map:** Download at <http://overlandmtb.org/endurancerace>

» **Categories:** Sport men, sport women, men and women open (expert, semi-pro and pro) and single speed

» **Field:** Capped at 150

» **Purse:** \$750

» **Spectator fee:** \$6 to enter Lory State Park

» **Best places to watch race:** Start/finish, bottom of Kimmons Trail (descent) where it meets the West Valley Trail and Arthur's Rock Trailhead in Lory.

» **Note:** Lory trails will be open to other users; Horsetooth trails will not be open to other users during the race.

» **Information:** <http://overlandmtb.org/endurancerace>

Treading lightly: Trails provide a challenge but won't put life and limb at stake



Written by

Miles Blumhardt

9:40 AM, Jun. 24, 2011|

My knee cartilage is torn in some places and hit-and-miss in others. My back takes awhile to straighten my torso in the morning. And my cardio isn't as conditioned as it once was.

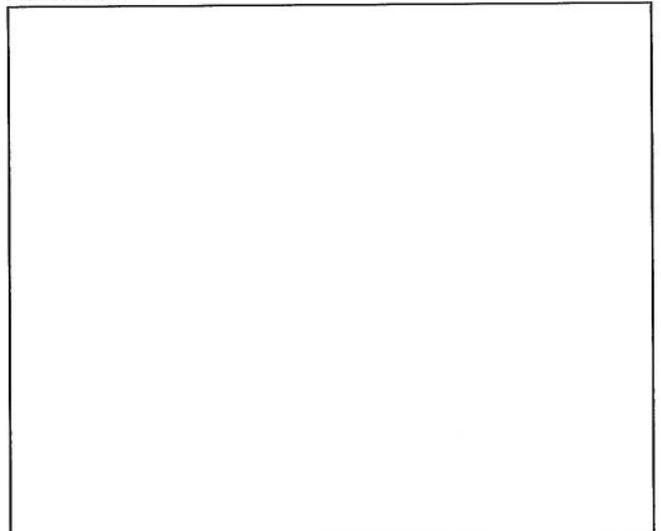
But that hasn't stopped this barely baby boomer (age 49) from continuing to enjoy the outdoors be it mountain biking or hiking. It just means I choose my trails wisely.

Thanks to the diverse options within an hour of Fort Collins, that leaves me with plenty of choices. If you have lost some of the bounce in your step but still enjoy the beauty of the outdoors, here are five trails that will treat you right.

Valley Trails

- > Distance: 5.5-mile loop
- > Difficulty: Easy
- > Elevation range: 5,600 to 5,700 feet
- > Trailhead: From Fort Collins, go north on Overland Trail Road to Bingham Hill Road (Larimer County Road 50E) in northwest Fort Collins. Take the Bingham Hill Road west to County Road 23. Turn left and go 1.4 miles to County Road 25G. Take a right on County Road 25G and drive 1.6 miles to Lory State Park. About one-eighth of a mile from the visitor center, turn into the Timber Group Picnic Area parking lot. The trail starts here.
- > Fee: \$7 daily
- > Pets: Yes, on leash
- > Information: Lory State Park, (970) 493-1623 or visit <http://parks.state.co.us/>
- > Trail details: These gentle, rolling

Advertisement



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

singletrack trails are equally rewarding whether hiking or mountain biking. The West Valley Trail takes users through mountain mahogany and wildflowers above the valley. Deer are common here. Continue on the West Valley Trail to the far southern boundary of the park. At the Arthur's Rock Trailhead, you have to options. You can hook up with the East Valley Trail that skirts the western edge of Horsetooth Reservoir and returns to the beginning of the West Valley Trail. Or you can opt for an additional 2.4 miles by taking the South Valley Loop Valley Trail to Lory's boundary with Horsetooth Mountain Park then return.

Cub Lake Trail

- > Distance: 5.7-mile loop
- > Difficulty: Easy
- > Elevation range: 8,080 to 8,325 feet
- > Trailhead: From the main Beaver Meadows Entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park, go 0.2 of a mile on U.S. Highway 36 to the Bear Lake Road. Follow the Bear Lake Road south for 1.2 miles to the Moraine Park Museum. Turn right and take the road toward the Moraine Park Campground for 2.2 miles to the parking lot.
- > Fees: \$20 for a seven-day pass
- > Pets: No
- > Information: Rocky Mountain National

Park, (970) 586-1206 or visit www.nps.gov/romo/

> Trail details: This hiking-only trail at the west edge of Moraine Park is very scenic with open aspen and dark coniferous forests, abundant wildflowers, pond lilies blooming in July and August, rock formations, The Pool and wildlife viewing from elk to songbirds. The Big Thompson River is your companion.

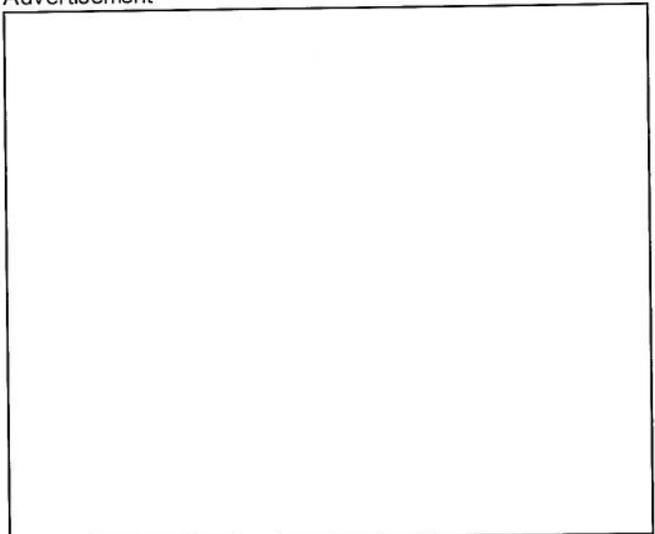
Red Mountain/Soapstone

> Distance: Hiking-only Bent Rock Trail is 2.3 miles and Cheyenne Rim Trail is 7.6 miles

> Difficulty: Bent Rock is easy; Cheyenne is moderate.

> Trailhead: For Bent Rock Trail, take Colorado Highway 1 (Terry Lake Road) to Larimer County Road 15 (Waverly turnoff). Go left on County Road 15 to County Road

Advertisement



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

78. Go left on County Road 78 to County Road 17. Go right on County Road 17 to County Road 80. Go left on County Road 80 to County Road 19. Go right on County Road 19 to County Road 21. Go left on County Road 21 for about seven miles to the trailhead parking area.

For the Cheyenne Rim Trail, from Fort Collins, take Colorado Highway 1/ Terry Lake Road to Larimer County Road 15 (Waverly turnoff). Take County Road 15 north to Rawhide Flats Road and continue north to the entrance station.

> Hours: Dawn to dusk daily both sites

> Fees: Free

> Pets: Not allowed at either site

> Information: www.co.larimer.co.us/naturalresources or www.fcgov.com/naturalareas

> Trail details The Bent Rock Trail is an easy loop trail with little elevation gain. It meanders through a beautiful small canyon dotted with wildflowers and other vegetation that is watered by trickling Boxelder and Sand creeks. If you are more ambitious, ride or hike the 7.6-mile one-way Cheyenne Rim Trail for the best views of the Big Hole, which is a spectacular redrock formation. The ride/hike is a grinding gradual uphill from the start and quick descent from the top back to the parking lot with little technical riding.

Blue Sky Trail

> Distance: 17.5 miles one way with plenty of shorter options

> Difficulty: Easy

> Trailhead: From Fort Collins, at Harmony and Taft Hill roads, go west on County Road 38E about 6 miles to its intersection with Shoreline Drive. The parking lot is located by the Field of Dreams play area.

> Hours: Daily dawn to dusk

> Fee: \$7

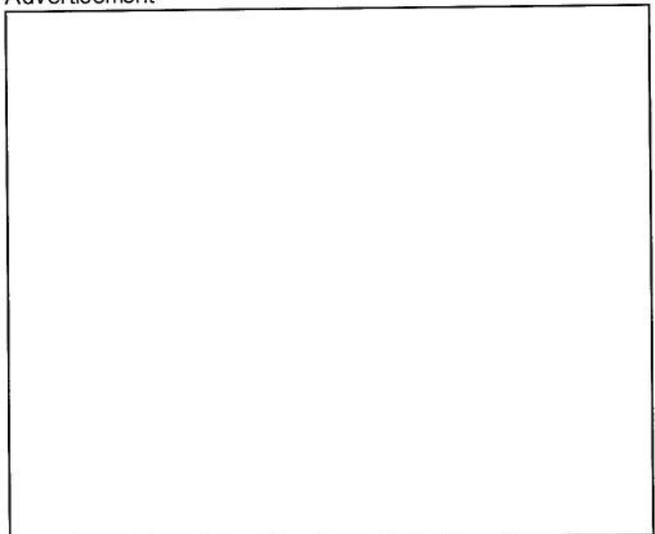
> Pets: No dogs on Rimrock Open Space or Coyote Ridge Natural Area but allowed on all other areas on leash

> Information: www.larimer.org/naturalresources/bluesky.htm

> Trail details: Whether mountain biking or hiking, this is an excellent trail to experience

the foothills from Horsetooth Open Space

Advertisement



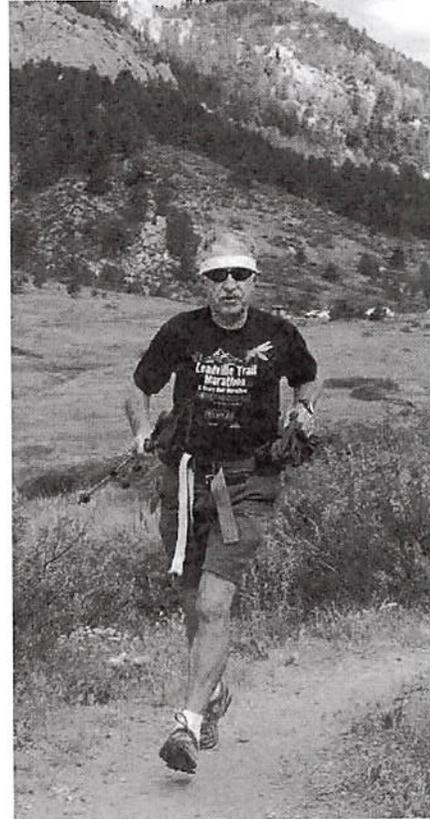
Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

west of Fort Collins to Devil's Backbone Open Space west of Loveland. The trail is mostly easy rolling singletrack that parallels the hogback and winds through mountain mahogany. Wildflowers dot the landscape and wildlife such as deer are common as are songbirds and raptors. If you want to keep it easy, avoid the stretches up the rocky, steep hogback.

Pawnee Buttes Trail

- > Distance: 1.5 miles one way
- > Difficulty: Easy
- > Trailhead: Located 70 miles from Fort Collins. From Interstate 25 and Colorado 14, go east 52.5 miles to County Road 103. Take a left and go north 5 miles to the three-way conjunction of county roads 103, 390 and 98½ and what's left of the town of Keota. From here, follow the signs another 12 miles to the buttes.
- > Hours: 24-7 daily
- > Fee: Free
- > Pets: Allowed on leash
- > Information: (970) 346-5000 or visit www.fs.fed.us/r2/arnf/
- > Trail details: This often-overlooked trail is worth the little more than hour road trip to the Pawnee National Grasslands. The trail takes you through some interesting rock formations, steppe dotted with wildflowers and windmills to the base of the two 300-foot tall buttes. Keep an

eye out for rattlesnakes, pronghorn antelope, raptors and our state bird, the larkbunting.

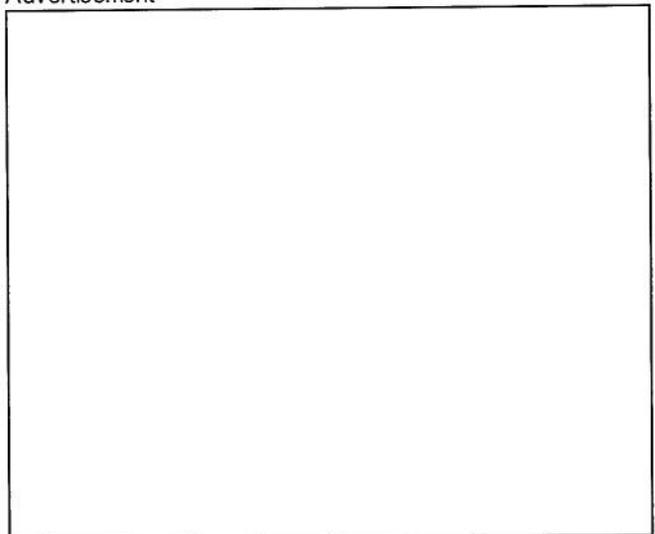


Purchase Image

Zoom

Henry Kiel, 73, of Fort Collins runs the East Valley Trail at
 State Park on Tuesday, June 14, 2011. Photo by
 Coloradoan

Advertisement



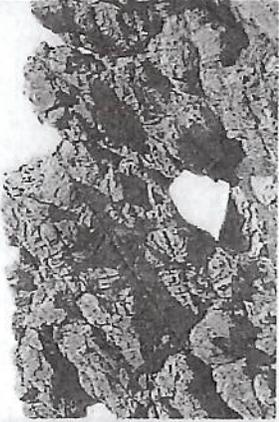
Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

JULY 7, 2011

OUTPOST

NICE TO KNOW

There have been no confirmed sightings of grizzly bears in Colorado in more than 20 years.



Reporter-Herald photos/STEVE STONER

Above, yoga instructor Alexandria Carlson-Tooler leads a yoga class Saturday morning at Horsetooth Reservoir. The Larimer County Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with Raintree Athletic Club in Fort Collins, is offering free yoga on the beach 8-9 a.m. every Saturday this summer at Horsetooth Reservoir's South Bay swim beach. While the yoga class is free, a daily or annual Larimer County entrance permit is required to enter the park. Below, Fort Collins resident Karyn Mayott performs a pose.

Lake John fishing limits lifted

Colorado Parks and Wildlife has temporarily lifted all bag and possession limits at Lake John, northwest of Walden as the agency prepares for a reclamation project there.

Through Aug. 8, anglers with a current fishing license can keep as many fish as they can catch using hook, line and conventional tackle at the North Park lake. The project will include repairs of a fish screen placed at an inlet. Damage to the screen in the early 1990s allowed white suckers to enter the lake. Recent fish surveys indicate suckers now make up 72 percent of all fish in the lake and are negatively affecting the trout population.

The lake will be closed Aug. 8, and treatment to remove all fish will occur on Aug. 9. The lake is expected to reopen to anglers in early September.

Kurt Davies, aquatic biologist for the northeast region, said the project should take only a few weeks, and the lake will be restocked with catchable-size and large brood fish.

During the reclamation effort, camping and use of the Lake John Resort will continue, as will opportunities to fish at other North Park waters.

— Reporter-Herald staff

CATCH OF THE WEEK



Beach yoga stretches out

Sessions at Horsetooth Reservoir will be held Saturdays through Labor Day weekend

By PAMELA DICKMAN
Reporter-Herald Staff Writer

A cool breeze rustles off the water at Horsetooth Reservoir.

Red rocks jut toward a blue sky.

Clean air fills your lungs.

It's a quiet Saturday morning at the reservoir west of Fort Collins, the calm before a typical afternoon of boats, picnics and pealing laughter as residents escape the workweek.

The voice of Alexandra Carlson-Tooker blends with the outdoor serenity.

Find your heart space,

directs the yoga instructor

Be good to yourself.

Let your worries go.

And, while you're at it,

stretch, balance and pretzel your body.

The beauty and benefits of

If You Go

What: Yoga on the Beach.

When: 8-9 a.m. Saturdays.

Where: Horsetooth Reservoir. Take Harmony Road west of Fort Collins to the reservoir, then loop around to the swim beach area.

Cost: \$7 per car entrance fee into Horsetooth, but the class is free.

yoga transfer well from the studio or gym to the beach.

A crowd of nearly 30 men and women shared the quiet of Yoga on the Beach on a recent Saturday morning.

They kicked off the weekend with moves that stretch from beginners to experts, that refresh and challenge the body, that revive and calm the spirit.

Carlson-Tooker, an instructor at Raintree Athletic Club, has partnered with the

Larimer County Department of Natural Resources to offer an hour of nearly free yoga every Saturday morning through Labor Day weekend.

Participants must pay the \$7-per-vehicle park entrance fee — which means they can stay all day — but the class itself is free.

Billed as Yoga on the Beach, the moves actually occur on the pavement of a large picnic area that overlooks Horsetooth's swimming area. The ground is hard so bring a

SEE YOGA, PAGE B3



Special to the Reporter-Herald

Chance Hill was 4½ years old when he caught his first fish, a rainbow trout, last July at Ranger Lakes. He was fishing with his dad, Ron Hill, and cousins from Loveland (Jake, Josh and Lucas Mielke) and cousins and uncle from Florida while on a family camping outing with grandparents, aunts and uncles and many cousins in the Jack Creek area.

Hiker photographs rare grizzly

SEATTLE — Joe Seville was hiking high in the mountains of the North Cascades last fall when he came across exactly what he'd hoped to see: a bear.

The 26-year-old small-equipment mechanic and mountaineer had hiked the same crowded trail the weekend before and spied a few black bears in the distance. So he came back on a quiet week day, Oct. 21, and saw another bear munching vegetation in a meadow.

He watched and photographed the creature as it gobbled up calories in preparation for winter.

On July 1, federal biologists confirmed that Seville had captured the first photograph of a live grizzly bear in the North Cascades in about half a century.

"It's been a long while since we've had solid evidence that the bears were still on the U.S. side of the Cascades," said Wayne Kasworm, a grizzly-bear recovery expert with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Montana.

— McClatchy Tribune

Gyllenhaal joins 'Man vs. Wild'

Bear Grylls kicks off the new season of "Man vs. Wild" by putting Tala Gyllenhaal

July wildflowers are a family affair

July celebrates the passing of

Kevin J.

are slow and turn their heads if

store the pleasure and

reporterherald.com

Publish Date: 6/17/2011

Berthoud awarded nearly \$1 million for open space

By Pamela Dickman

© 2011 Loveland Reporter-Herald

Berthoud was a big winner in the most recent round of lottery grants.

The town will receive two Great Outdoors Colorado awards totaling more than \$1 million — \$950,000 for its first open space, Heron Lakes, and \$95,577 to refurbish the town swimming pool.

Heron Lakes will be 40 acres of open space, open to the public, amid development near McNeil, Lonetree and Welch reservoirs.

“It is just drop-dead gorgeous,” said Kerri Rollins, Larimer County’s open lands manager, whose department is helping Berthoud with its first-ever public open space.

“It’s got beautiful views.”

The property also has an active osprey nest and an adjacent heron rookery.

Larimer County voters in 1995 approved a sales tax that kicked in the following year for open space. The money is shared between Larimer County and the cities within the county and has been used to preserve many acres of land, including the Devil’s Backbone.

Berthoud, which receives about \$118,000 per year of that tax, has been waiting and saving. Now, town officials plan to pair that money with grants to preserve 40 acres of open space.

Great Outdoors Colorado announced Thursday the \$950,000 grant, and the town is applying additional grants for the two-phase project, expected to begin this year.

When complete, Heron Lakes will include a trail as well as parking for cars and boat trailers and a picnic area.

Eventually, it will connect Loveland to the Front Range Trail — a planned multiuse path extending from New Mexico to Wyoming.

In 2001, Larimer County included the Heron Lakes area in its master plan as a prime area to preserve.

Instead, Berthoud annexed the land, and it was platted for development.

“We had written it off as done, gone, out of our reach,” said Rollins.

Ten years later, a second chance has arisen, and the county is helping Berthoud preserve a portion of that land.

Berthoud’s second Great Outdoors Colorado grant will help upgrade the town pool with a new floor surface, heater and filtration system.

The city of Fort Collins also received a lottery grant for \$85,000 toward the construction of an 18-hole disc golf course at Colorado State University’s Hughes Stadium.

Museum Celebrates New Event Garden And First Pioneer Award Recipient Frank Hix

On Friday, June 3, 2011, the Estes Park Museum hosted an event garden and Pioneer Award ceremony. Derek Fortini, Museum Manager/Curator of Exhibits introduced Mayor Pinkham and Estes Park Museum Friends & Foundation, Inc. (EPMF&F) President Mike



Frank Hix, Mayor Bill Pinkham and Alma Hix

EP NEWS/ Nathanael Romig

Oline. Approximately 50 people attended. Below are some notes:

Mayor Pinkham thanked the Town of Estes Park, the Estes Park Museum Friends & Foundation, Inc., Larimer County and the Estes Park Urban Renewal Authority (EPURA) who all contributed resources to hardscape and xeriscape space behind the Museum to serve as a reception area for exhibit openings, educational programs and special events.

Mike Oline thanked the EPMF&F for their contributions of \$17,000 to pur-

chase plants, top soil, a concrete walkway, a flagstone patio and improve the building's back facade.

Larimer County awarded EPMF&F a Larimer County 2010 Open Lands Small Grant for \$840 for xeriscaping. Larimer County Commissioner Tom Donnelly was in atten-

dance. EPURA, dissolved in 2010 and awarded EPMF&F \$900 to improve the Museum's back facade and resurface the shed through EPURA's Facade Improvement Program. The Town of Estes Park Public Works Department provided extensive expertise and labor to make this project a reality for the Museum. Parks staff designed the garden, prepared the site, built the retaining wall, selected and ordered the xeriscape plants, built the irrigation system and completed the xeriscaping. Mike thanked Rocky Ridge Music Center for allowing the Museum

to recycle dozens of boulders from their facility.

The Mayor and Mike presented the first annual Pioneer Award. The EPMF&F Board established the "Pioneer Award" to be given to an individual who, over the years, has made a substantial contribution to



The new garden area.

preserving, sharing and otherwise enriching our understanding and appreciation of the history of the Estes valley. Nominations were solicited and then voted on. This year's recipient was Franklin C. Hix who was present for the award.

Larimer County approves nine new campsites at Horstooth Reservoir

Several residents oppose more camping near their homes, but demand for sites is high

Posted:08/16/2011 02:00:31 PM MDT

FORT COLLINS -- The Larimer County commissioners chose to meet campers' demand for more sites at Horsetooth Reservoir over nearby residents' worries about ruined views.

The elected board voted Tuesday to allow the Department of Natural Resources to build a nine-site loop just across from the South Bay campground at Horsetooth Reservoir.

All three commissioners acknowledged the concerns of neighbors -- added noise, ruined views and overcrowding -- but said the campsites are managed well and will be buffered with trees and landscaping.

"There's a huge demand for sites," said Commissioner Steve Johnson, who lives near the county property. "It's their park, too."

The South Bay campground already has 72 campsites, and the new loop would expand camping south toward County Road 38E with nine new sites. They would provide full hook-ups for large recreational vehicles.

Those nine more would just further overcrowd and already overcrowded area, said Brent Acott, whose home overlooks the new campground.

"I think it's just saturated," said Acott. "I would like to see no more campsites. Keep it exclusive for the campers and residents."

County staff viewed the proposed camping area from Acott's porch and from other concerned residents' homes. While two of the nine sites could be visible, Natural Resources Director Gary Buffington assured residents and elected officials that they would plant trees in specially chosen sites to create a buffer.

The project will cost \$240,000. Half of that, Buffington said, will come from the Bureau of Reclamation, which owns the reservoir, and the other half from a combination of grants and county money that can only be spent on parks and natural areas.

The county will apply next week for a Great Outdoors Colorado grant that, if approved, will cover at least \$60,000 of the price.

Once built, the new sites are expected to bring in another \$50,000 per year in fees.

Pamela Dickman can be reached at 669-5050, ext. 526, or pdickman@reporter-herald.com

[Close Window](#) [Send To Printer](#)