



The Town Bugle

News and Views from the Town of Estes Park • Spring 2007 • Vol. 7 • No. 2

Be sure to attend the Safety Fair May 19

Opportunities to learn about safety, whether on a bicycle, in the yard, in your car or in the community at large, are on tap for this year's Safety Fair on May 19. Scheduled between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in and around Barn W at the Fairgrounds at Stanley Park, this year's event is expected to be bigger and better than ever.

There will be free bicycle helmets for every child, as well as free hot dogs and hamburgers.

Those attending will be able to obtain child identification disks and participate in wildfire prevention seminars, obstacle courses, education on the impairment caused by alcohol consumption, and exposure to virtually every emergency response unit in the area.

Several branches of the United States Armed Forces will provide workshops, information booths and opportunities

to make your own dog tags.

Fire trucks, snow plows, police cars and ambulances will be on display and open to kids for tours.

Prizes will be given away throughout the day, including a grand prize drawing for a new bicycle. You must be present to win.

The Estes Park Police Department began hosting a Bike Rodeo in the late 1990s to educate children and their families about pedestrian and bicycle safety. Local businesses donated to the cause, and the Town's Police Department used the money to buy bicycle helmets for local youngsters who attended the rodeo. Interest in the event grew quickly, prompting other emergency services providers to get involved.

If you have any questions, call School Resource Officer Jesse Reeves at 586-5321 ext. 3399 or Officer Rudy Solano at 586-4000. ■

Ask questions before you build or buy

The Estes Park Community Development Department invites residents to contact staff before any building project, no matter how small or large.

For example, did you know that even small sheds need to meet minimum setbacks from property lines? This is required even if a building permit is not, and it doesn't matter if your property is in town or in the "valley."

Fences are another project that should be discussed with planning staff. For example, there are some fences that cannot be built because they are dangerous to wildlife.

Finally, the Estes Valley Development Code requires a grading permit before grading in a new driveway or building site.

Staff also recommends checking in before purchasing property to make sure you understand what can or cannot be built on the property, and what requirements there are in terms of height restrictions, ridgeline protection, uses, and utility requirements.

Feel free to stop by room 210 in Town Hall, call us at 577-3721, or visit our website at <http://www.estesnet.com/ComDev/>. ■

Inside

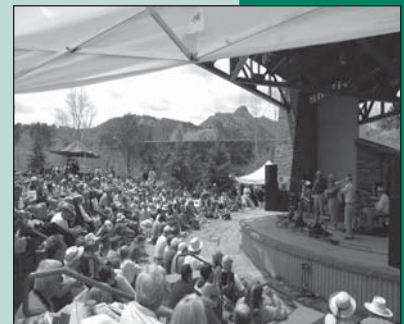
Town & Tree Board to sponsor Pine Beetle Symposium May 18

Find out just how many flowers will brighten downtown this summer

Shuttles to resume service June 30, with new, expanded routes

Community Calendar

Historical Moment: The rest of the post office story



The annual Jazz Fest and Art Walk will take place Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20 in downtown Estes Park. Call 577-9900 for the performance lineup and 586-9203 for gallery information.

The Town's Shopper Shuttle to introduce new service route in the area beginning June 30

Following its first full season of success, Town officials have approved several additions to the free Shopper Shuttle system that resumes operations on June 30.

Shuttles will operate daily through Labor Day. After Sept. 3, the shuttles will operate on Saturdays and Sundays through September, an addition of eight days over regular service in 2006.

The Town has contracted a new third route this year with the local transit operator, Rocky Mountain Transit. It will cover the southern reaches of the area including many campgrounds.

The new route travels Colorado Hwy. 7 to Peak View Drive. At Marys Lake Road, the shuttles will travel northbound to National Park Village, then west along Colorado Hwy. 66. With an intermediate stop at Rocky Mountain National Park's Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the shuttle will head for the core downtown area and the Estes Park Visitors Center.

Other minor route variations also have been made. A stop in lower Stanley Village has been added to the Big Thompson Avenue route and the shuttle operating on Elkhorn Avenue exchanges a stop in the Performance Park parking lot for one that services West Park Center.

To assist riders in knowing which shuttle to board, Town staff has named each route. The name of the route will be displayed on the exterior variable signage on the front of the shuttle. "Blue" signifies the shuttle that runs east of the Visitors Center on Big Thompson Avenue. The "Red" route travels Elkhorn Avenue and the "Brown" route is the designation for the newest loop.

Also new to the system this year will be business advertising displayed on the interior of the shuttles. Advertising sales are being managed by the Convention & Visitors Bureau.



Town Trustee and Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pinkham greets the shuttle's 10,000th passenger, Jessie Pawling.

The Big Thompson and Elkhorn Avenue routes again will operate on 30-minute intervals while the Brown route makes stops in hour-long intervals. Departure times for each stop are shown on the shuttle maps as well as on shuttle bus signage at each stop. Maps showing details of the routes will be available after June 15.

The Town-sponsored shuttles remain connected to Rocky Mountain National Park's express Hiker Shuttle that transports people from the Visitors Center to the Park & Ride lot on Bear Lake Road. The first Shopper Shuttle departs from the Estes Park Visitors Center at 8 a.m. and the last shuttle of the day will arrive at the Visitors Center at 10 p.m. Riders can board the shuttles at stops designated on the map.

The express Hiker Shuttle route operates daily from June 30 through Sept. 3, and Friday and Saturday through September on an hourly schedule. The first Hiker Shuttle leaves the Estes Park Visitors Center at 6:30 a.m. and the last bus leaves the Park & Ride (inside the Park) at 8 p.m. on all scheduled days.

A park pass is required to enter Rocky Mountain National Park. Passes can be purchased at automated fee machines at the Estes Park Visitors Center and the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center. Moraine Park and Glacier Basin campers can use the route to visit Estes Park. To return to those campgrounds, the last shuttle that leaves the Estes Park Visitors Center departs daily at 7:30 pm. The route to and from Rocky Mountain National Park is the same as last year. ■

The Town
of Estes
Park



Mayor
John Baudek

Town Trustees
Bill Pinkham,
Mayor Pro Tem
Eric Blackhurst
Dorla Eisenlauer
Richard Homeier
Chuck Levine
Wayne Newsom

Town Vision

The Town of Estes Park will continue to be one of the premier mountain resort communities in the United States. This vision includes:

- Being a caring organization sensitive to the needs of our citizens, visitors, and employees.
- Having an employee team that takes pride in being recognized as a model of innovation and performance.
- Providing services which are responsive and reliable.

Town Mission

The mission of the Town of Estes Park is to plan and provide reliable, high-value services for our citizens, visitors, and employees. We take great pride ensuring and enhancing the quality of life in our community by being good stewards of public resources and our natural setting.

Contact Us

Address: P.O. Box 1200
Estes Park, CO 80517
Phone: 577-3800
Website: www.estesnet.com

Parks Department paints downtown with splashes of color

Flowers, irrigation and turf maintenance keep Parks Department employees busy

Think all those gorgeous flowers downtown just spring up every June? Think again. In addition to five full-time Parks Department employees, it will take 16 seasonal employees to plant and nurture all of the Town's snapdragons, poppies, marigolds, zinnias, and other brilliant blossoms this summer.

This spring, Parks employees will plant almost 40,000 flowering annual and perennial plants in the following areas: downtown; U.S. Hwy 34 island; U.S. Hwy 36 island and along the riverwalk. The department designs, plants and maintains 53 flower beds and 18 giant flower pots placed throughout downtown.

Parks employees maintain approximately 200,000 square feet of turf area using 30 irrigation main lines, 500 irrigation zones, and 3,500 irrigation heads.

When the snow starts blowing in the fall, the full-time Parks Department employees trade in their hoes for snow shovels to help the Street Department with snow removal. ■



Downtown flower power

The Parks Department will brighten Estes Park's downtown area with 40,000 flowers this summer.



'Save Our Trees' Symposium scheduled May 18 at Town Hall

If you've been to the western slope lately, you've doubtless seen the devastation created by pine beetles there. Acres of once-green lodgepoles and other pines now stand brown and decaying, prime fodder for forest fires. Grand, Routt, Summit, Eagle and Jackson counties have been hardest hit by the current pine beetle outbreak in Colorado. The question on many Estes Valley residents' minds is: "Are we next?"

To educate the community on the pine beetle and other issues relevant to trees in our area, the Town will host a "Save Our Trees" Symposium on May 18 in the Town Hall Board Room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Topics will include: The Basics of Mountain Pine Beetles; Forest Health; and Beetle Prevention. There will also be a panel taking questions about Mountain Pine Beetles. Booths will provide the opportunity to get information and ask questions of representatives from Rocky Mountain National Park, the Colorado State Forest Service, Larimer County, and the U.S. Forest Service.

According to the 2006 Forest Health Report produced by the Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado is currently suffering from the largest severe pine beetle outbreak on record. In 2005, 500,000 acres had been infested with pine beetles. By 2006, that number

had exploded to over 650,000 acres.

This epidemic started in Colorado's high country in the mid-1990s and has been fueled by years of drought and warm weather.

Warm winters have helped beetle larvae survive, and warm summers have stressed trees. These weakened trees have been prime targets for beetles, which focus their attacks on trees under stress from warmth, drought, old age, crowding, fire, root disease and other causes.

The symposium is being sponsored by the Town Parks Department and the Estes Park Tree Board. ■

Calendar of Community Events

The following information is only a sampling of events and activities. For complete information, check the calendar at www.EstesParkCVB.com. For information on events call the Estes Park Convention & Visitors Bureau: 970-577-9900.

May

19-20: **Jazz Fest & Art Walk.** Performance Park. Noon-5 p.m.
Memorial Day Weekend: Antiques & Collectibles Show. Saturday & Sunday. Fairgrounds at Stanley Park.
Art Market. Saturday, Sunday & Monday. Bond Park.

June

2: **Fishing Derby.** Lake Estes Marina.
16-17: **Wool Market** fiber festival. Fairgrounds at

Stanley Park. Admission is free; small fee for parking.
30-July 1: **Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.** Bond Park.
30-July 4: **Arabian Horse Show.** Fairgrounds at Stanley Park. Free.

July

4: **Coollest Car Show.** Bond Park in the center of downtown.
Independence Day Fireworks. Lake Estes. 9:30 p.m.
10: **Rooftop Rodeo Parade.** Elkhorn Avenue. 10:30 a.m.
10-15: **Rooftop Rodeo** PRCA performances. Fairgrounds. 7:30 p.m. Pre-show at 6:30.
25-Aug. 11: **Copper Penny & Silver Dollar Horse Shows.** Fairgrounds at Stanley Park. Free.

Summer Music Series Begin in June

- **Cowboy Sing-A-Longs.** Bond Park. Sunday & Monday, 7 p.m.
- **Riverside Rhythms** concerts, Mondays, Tuesday Wednesdays, Riverside Plaza. 3 p.m.
- **Wednesday Night at Performance Park** concerts. Performance Park. 7 p.m.
- **Thursday Night Live** concerts. Performance Park. 7 p.m.
- **Summerfest** concerts. YMCA.

Committee and Town Board Meetings are held regularly at Town Hall. Citizens are encouraged to attend. Go to www.estesnet.com/TownClerk for dates and times. The Town Trustees and Mayor are available to speak at clubs and meetings. For more information, contact Town Clerk Jackie Williamson at 577-3702.

Check our complete listing of community events and more at www.estesnet.com



Take a Historical Moment

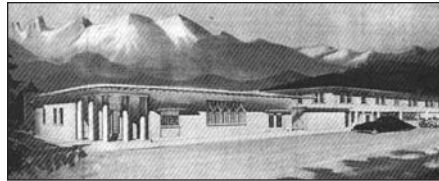
Early Estes Park post office compared well with those in much larger cities

Estes Park's first post office was not located at the corner of Elkhorn and Moraine as reported in the fall issue of the Town Bugle. Nor did the facility move to its current location on Riverside Drive in 1941.

The first official post office was actually designated in 1875 at MacGregor Ranch and Clara MacGregor was the Town's first postmistress.

From that point, the post office moved several times - usually to the residence or business of the current postmaster. The first permanent post office location was in a small building in Bond Park.

It was in 1941 that the post office moved into what the Estes Park Trail called "one



This is an artist's rendering of the Moraine Avenue post office which was first occupied on Dec. 14, 1941. The pillared entrance was quite impressive.

of the most modern buildings of its type in the entire country." In its issue dated April 24, 1942, the Trail went on to say: "Located very close to the geographical center of the Village, just south of the Jay Building on Moraine Drive, Estes Park's new post office building compares favorably with those found in cities

three or four times the size of Estes Park."

The pillared entrance to the facility was actually where the Malt Shop is now located. J.B. Sella was the postmaster at that time.

The article also reported that 957,451 pieces of mail were sent from the local post office in 1941, an increase of 52,642 pieces from the year before.

Then in the 1960s the post office relocated to its current site on Riverside Drive.

We owe special thanks to local historian Harriet Burgess for helping us to get the facts straight. The Bugle staff always welcomes comments and corrections from its readership. ■



P.O. Box 1200
Estes Park, Colorado 80517



Q: Beginning June 30, what time of day will the first Shopper Shuttle leave the Visitors Center this summer?

A: a) 7 a.m. b) 8 a.m. c) 9 a.m. d) Noon

See Page 2 for the answer!

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