

JULY 2026

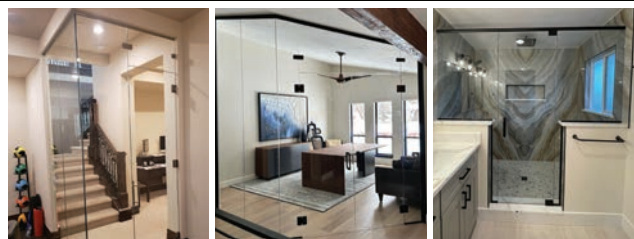
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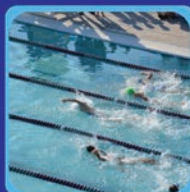
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## KIDS' TRY-ATHLON



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18**

AT  
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POOL**

AGES  
**6 TO 12  
YEARS  
OLD**

This event emphasizes fun over competition. Boys and girls of all ability levels show their skills in three events: swimming, biking and running.

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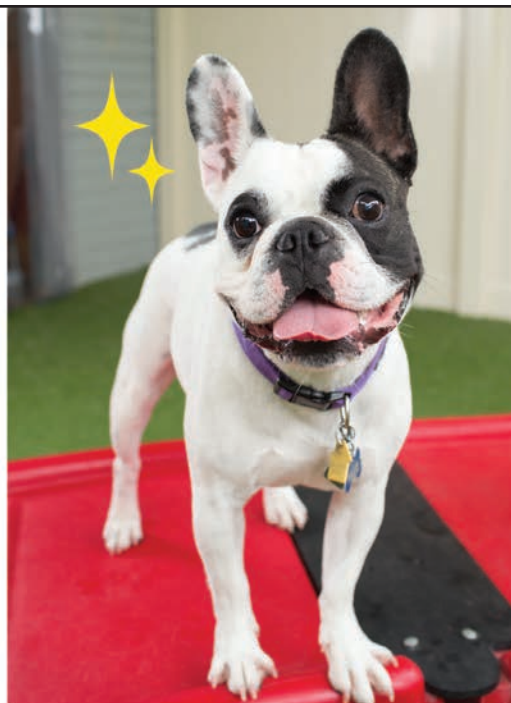
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This year is full of celebrations: 250 for our nation, 150 for our state, and 45 for our town.

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### ON THE COVER

Mainstreet Parade.



  
**TUELLER**  
PUBLISHING  
SEARCH  
**PARKER**  
Search Parker is published by  
Tueller Publishing, LLC  
**IDEAS & SUBMISSIONS**  
[contribute@tuellers.com](mailto:contribute@tuellers.com)

NO 283 | **JULY 2026**

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JULY 10 POP UP 90S-2000S CLUB NIGHT

JULY 18 BMOP MOMS NIGHT OUT

JULY 22 A NIGHT WITH THE CORONER

JULY 24 LADIES NIGHT - LEARN TO PLAY POKER

JULY 25 STAND UP COMEDY NIGHT

JULY 31 EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

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# COMING EVENTS

PHOTOS: TOWN OF PARKER



## Summer Concert Series

Thursdays | 20115 Mainstreet | 6:30 - 8:00 pm

The lineup for this year's free concert series:

June 4 - The Elegant Plums

July 2 - 101st Army Band

June 11 - The Violet Pines

July 9 - Isaac Points Jakarta Band

June 18 - Lucky Catch

July 16 - Caltucky

June 25 - Boogie Machine

July 23 - El Paso Lasso



## Independence Day Celebrations

July 4 | Salisbury Regional Park

Heads up, Parker's July 4th fireworks show will launch from a slightly new location on the northeast side of Salisbury Regional Park this year as compared to the previous location directly north of the ballfields. Keep an eye on [ParkerCO.gov/July4](http://ParkerCO.gov/July4) for updates and viewing maps.



## Kids TRY-athlon

July 18 | H2O'Brien Pool | 6:30 am

This event is about fun over competition. Boys and girls from ages 6 -12 of all ability levels show their skills in three events: swimming, biking, and running. Participants receive a commemorative t-shirt, custom race bib, finish line medal and post-race refreshment.

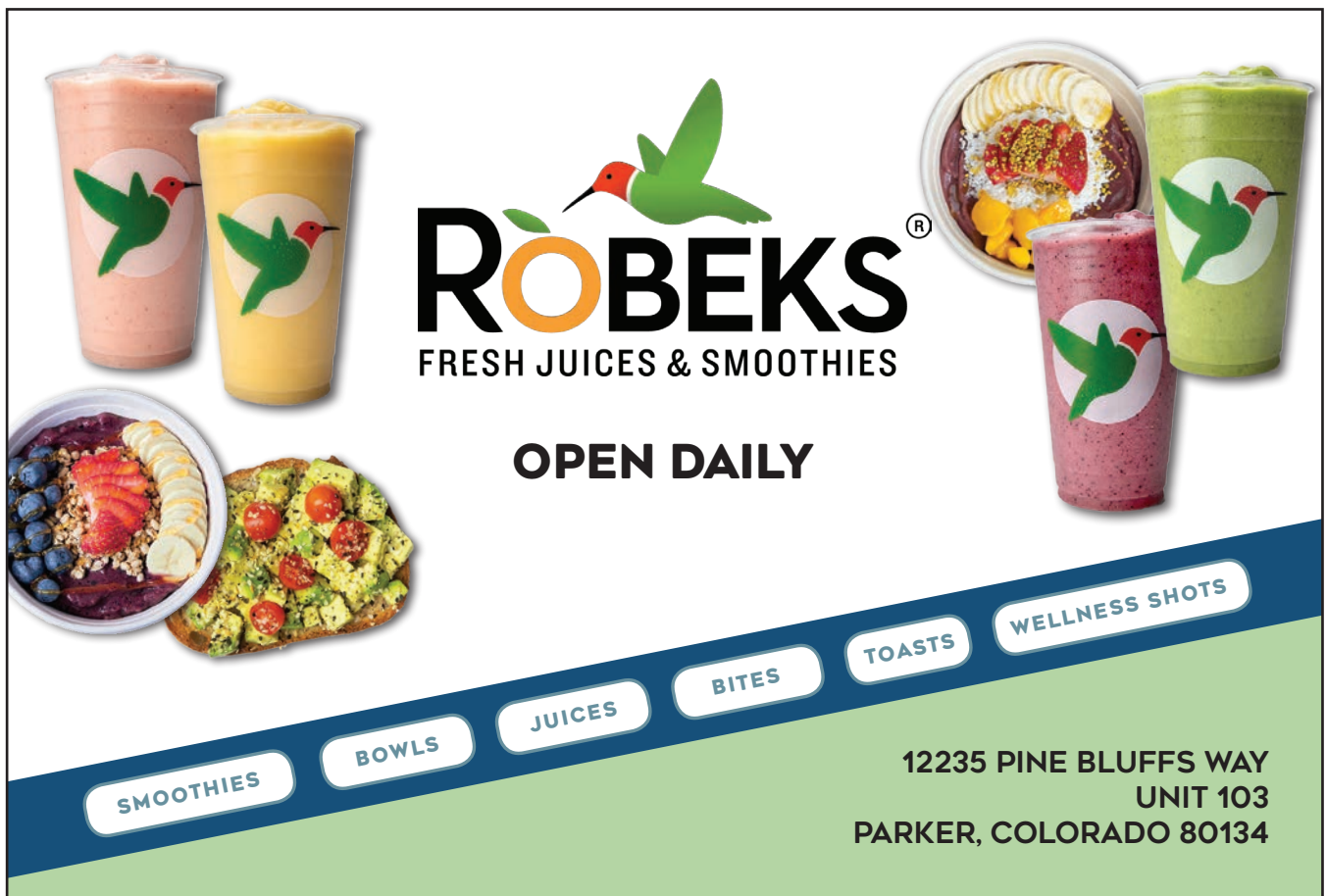


## Whimsical Wonders Outdoor Market

July 25 | 10675 Longs Way | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Browse unique craft booths, enjoy live music, games, and delicious food (including a \$10 lunch), all while supporting a great cause. Held in the Parker Senior Center parking lot, this lively market is a fundraiser for the Parker Senior Center—there's truly something for everyone!

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# AROUND TOWN

PHOTOS: TOWN OF PARKER



## Bike To Work Day

More than 300 cyclists stopped by the Parker station to fuel up with pancakes from Flippin' Flapjacks and other goodies, and 250 commuters received free T-shirts to help kick off the first of Parker's 250-150-45 community event celebrations.



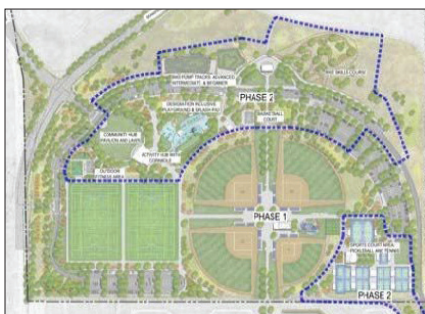
## Dash Across the Dam Dad 5K

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Dash Across the Dam Dad 5K. From first-time runners to seasoned racers, you helped make this year's event a memorable morning at Rueter-Hess Reservoir. To see the race photos go to [www.facebook.com/ParkerRec](http://www.facebook.com/ParkerRec).



## Parker Days

With a record number of tickets being sold, the festival proved to be one of the largest draws in the state. The biggest draw this year was voting on whether pineapple belongs on pizza. With thousands of votes cast at our booth, residents voted yes - 54%!



## SALISBURY PARK PHASE 2

Visit [ParkerCO.gov/Development](http://ParkerCO.gov/Development) to find the latest information about projects under review, active development under construction, annexations, site plans, subdivisions and zoning within the Town of Parker.

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# *O Say, Does That Star-Spangled Banner Yet Wave*

by BRET TUELLER

We hadn't lived here long. Anxious to get engrained into the community, my wife and I sat patiently with our six kids along a parade route. As the procession started, the American Flag came into view. As our family stood, I couldn't help but notice the number of people who remained seated and all together ignored our country banner.

I came to realize that day how it had become "popular" to show disdain for our country. Somehow people took pride in pointing out our nation's flaws and mistakes. What a great country that we live in that allows us the freedom to disrespect the very thing that gives us the right to do it.

I know this probably isn't politically correct with some of you. but I don't care. I love this country. So at the risk of drawing the Karen's ire, here are the perscribed guidelines to show our respect for the flag of our country.

The guidelines for showing respect to the flag are outlined in the U.S. Flag Code, a federal law that serves as a guide for voluntary patriotic conduct. According to federal statute these specific gestures and postures are meant to be rendered at the exact moment the flag passes.

When the flag is passing by, such as in an event or parade, you should adhere to the following steps as it approaches:

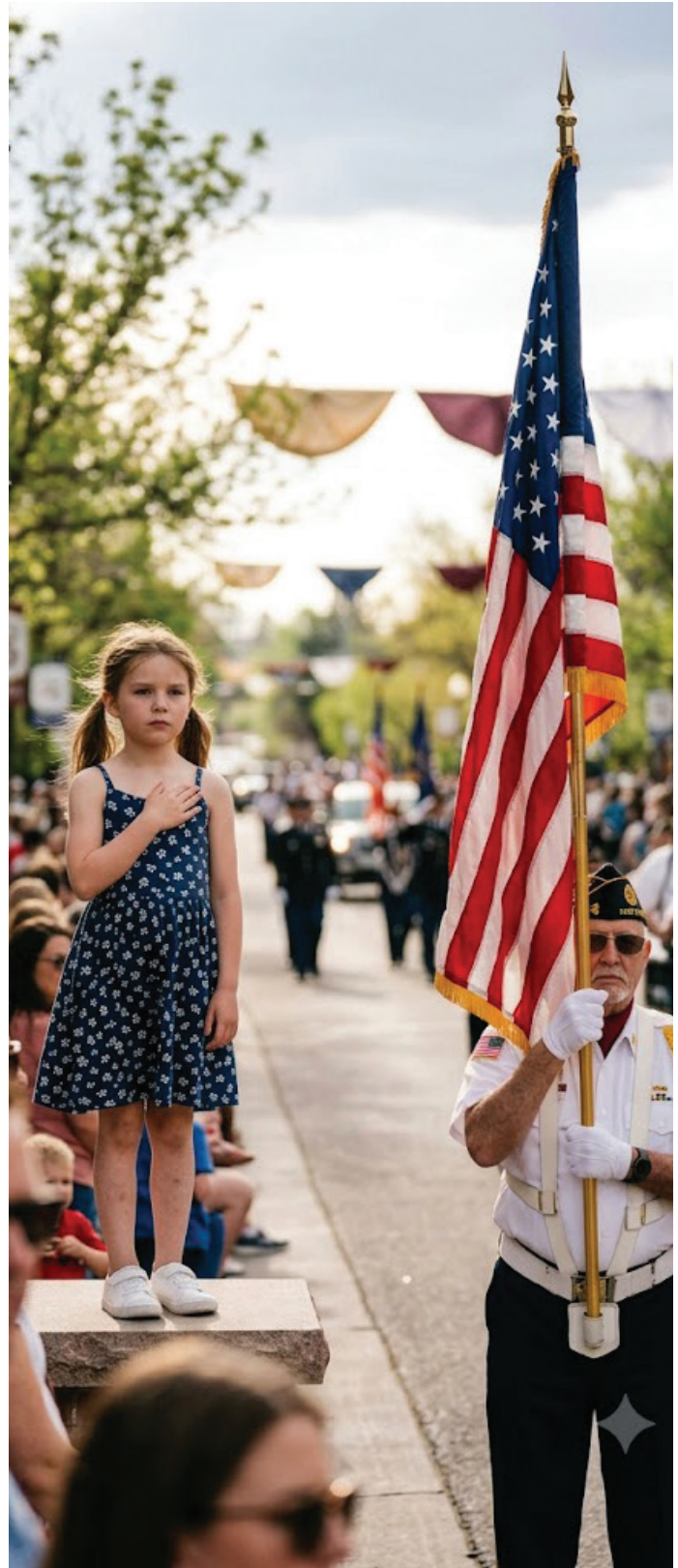
Face the flag: Stop walking and turn to face the direction the flag is traveling.

Stand at attention: Stand up straight with your shoulders back

Place your hand over your heart: Civilians place their right hand (palm open) over their left breast.

Remove your hat: If you are wearing a hat, remove it with your right hand and hold it at your left shoulder, ensuring your hand is still over your heart.

Military and Veterans: Members of the Armed Forces and veterans (even if out of uniform) may render a military salute instead of placing a hand over the heart.





# Red, White, and True

by AMBER TUELLER

I find myself thoughtful and reflective when considering the two and a half centuries of our great nation!

It is momentous to be commemorating our 250th year along with Colorado's statehood and the Town of Parker's original charter. Looking back through history, where do we fit in?

During the Revolutionary War, Colorado was a very different setting, far from the conflict in both distance and lifestyle. The Front Range was home to several Native American tribes. Colorado would not become part of the country for a number of decades. In the mid 1800s, when more settlers came to Colorado for the gold rush on Pike's Peak, the foundation of

Denver began. By 1876, in the 100th year of our nation, Colorado became part of the Union. Soon before, Parker was established as a stagecoach stop in the mid 1860s, just 20 miles south of Denver. More than a hundred years later and 45 years ago, Parker was incorporated in 1981, being a mostly agricultural town at the time. It has grown to be an extraordinary spot for family and community.

As we celebrate these significant anniversaries, I want to look back at the beginnings of this holiday. Early America celebrated the first anniversary of the 4th of July, even while the Revolutionary War continued. They set the tone and tradition for the culture that we still enjoy today.

On July 3rd, 1776, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, that Independence Day, "...ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

The July 5, 1777, issue of the Pennsylvania Evening Post reported, "Yesterday the 4th of July, being the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, was celebrated in this city with demonstrations of joy and festivity. About noon all the armed ships and galleys in the river were drawn up before the city, dressed in the gayest manner, with the colors of the United States and streamers displayed. At one o'clock ... they began the celebration of the day by a discharge of thirteen cannon from each of the ships... in honor of the Thirteen United States ... The evening was closed with the ringing of bells, and at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks ... on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated."

When George Washington was about to step down from his presidency, he was one of the first men in all of history to show a peaceful transfer of power from one leader to the next, outside of assuming a throne through inheritance. After his second term in office, despite many wanting him to stay for a third, he handed the presidency over to John Adams, exemplifying Republican ideals and denouncing the notion of one man leading for life. After giving so much of his life and love to his country, in his farewell address to the nation in the fall of 1796, the father of our nation talked about patriotism. He said, "Citizens by birth or choice of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations."

More important than being a Coloradan, or a Texan, from Parker or Castle Rock, our love for our great nation should rise above and unite us all! Joy, loyalty, and reverence for what we are part of should be seen in our actions and celebrations. So many have sacrificed to create this land of liberty from the very beginning until today. Whenever I see the American flag passing by at a parade with spectators standing to put their hand over their heart, I am moved. It has been so intriguing and heartwarming to see people from other countries visiting our cities this summer for the World Cup. Their love of and fascination with so many things that are everyday norms to us makes me think that we need to renew our gratitude for this special place. We are not a perfect nation, but the first of our kind and certainly one to be loved and honored! I am so proud and grateful to be an American.



*Photo from the May 14, 1981, Douglas County News-Press. Caption: BIRTH OF THE TOWN OF PARKER - The town's first mayor and winners of board seats are shown with Judge Richard Turelli, who administered the oaths of office. Left to right are: Judge Turelli, attorney Cheryl Torpey, Mayor Dean Salisbury, Gerald Baumgartner, Dale Brinker, Charlie O'Brien, Tino Mendez and Jean Martin (Trustee Bill Witthans absent). (Staff photo by William Peyton)*

## ***From 48 Votes to 45 Years***

*by SEARCH PARKER STAFF | photos provided by TOWN OF PARKER*



*Current Mayor and Town Council  
Brandi Wilks, Todd Hendreks, Mayor Joshua Rivero,  
Erik Frandsen, Laura Hefta, John Diak, Anne Barrington*

If you happened to stand on Mainstreet in the spring of 1981, you would have seen a very different Parker, Colorado. It was a modest, quiet stretch of land spanning just about one square mile, home to a tight-knit group of only 285 residents. Eager to protect their distinct community identity, those passionate neighbors headed to the ballot box and narrowly voted to approve incorporation with 48 votes in support and 38 votes in opposition. On May 5, 1981, the Town of Parker was officially born.

Fast forward 45 years to 2026, and that tiny frontier enclave has blossomed into a premier Colorado destination of over 72,000 residents. But Parker isn't the only one blowing out candles this year. We celebrate Parker's 45th birthday as part of a larger initiative recognizing additional milestone birthdays for the United States (250th) and State of Colorado (150th).

This historic celebration highlights a shared legacy of grit and community. Long before Parker incorporated in '81, or Colorado gained statehood in 1876, our local area was already vital to the Colorado story. The historic 20-Mile House served as a crucial haven for weary travelers navigating the Cherokee Trail, meaning Parker was fostering the legendary Colorado spirit well before the lines were officially drawn on the map.

Today, Parker masterfully mirrors the broader success of the Centennial State (nicknamed because it officially joined the Union as the 38th state on August 1, 1876 - exactly 100 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence) and Nation. Just as Colorado has evolved into a global hub for innovation and outdoor recreation, Parker has grown into a bustling municipality without losing its small-town soul.

Throughout this year, our town is celebrating its birthday with a nostalgic "Back to Our Roots" theme. Ask any local what makes Parker special at 45, and they won't point to the infrastructure or the demographics. They'll point to the feeling.

Modern-day Parker serves as a masterclass in civic design. Residents enjoy world-class amenities like the PACE Center, balanced beautifully by miles of pristine open spaces and winding paths along the Cherry Creek Trail. Every Sunday at the bustling Farmers Market, the undeniable energy of neighbors connecting echoes through the crowd.

Forty-five years ago, a handful of citizens took a gamble on self-governance because they believed Parker was a special place worth protecting. And now, celebrating these three anniversaries remind us of a shared legacy. They tell a story of resilience, community, and an enduring love for our home. Happy Birthday, Parker, Happy Sesquicentennial, Colorado, and God Bless America!



*Photos of Parker in the 80's*

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