

AUGUST 2026

# SEARCH PARKER

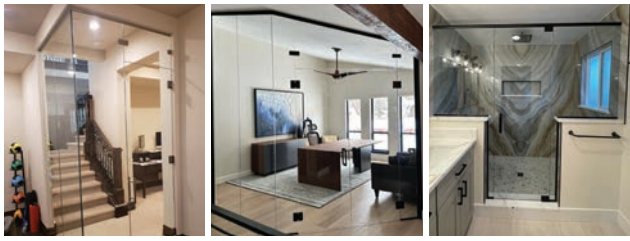


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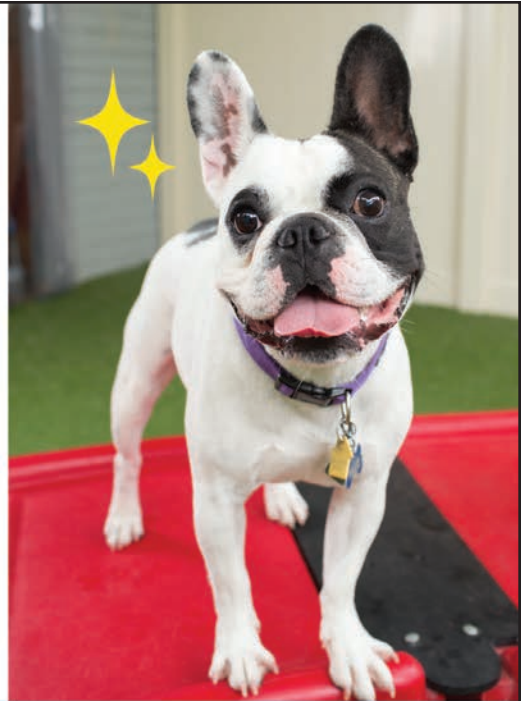
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# CONTENTS



## 12 Time Machine

See if you can match prominent local leaders with their senior photos from days gone by.

BY SEARCH PARKER STAFF

6 | CALENDAR - *Coming Events*

8 | ICYMI - *Around Town*

10 | HISTORY - *Old School*

11 | EDUCATION - *College Eating 101*

### ON THE COVER

Senior photo by Melissa Nansen.



  
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# COMING EVENTS

PHOTOS: TOWN OF PARKER



## Parker Honey Festival

August 2 | 10795 Victorian Dr | 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

The Parker Honey Festival is back! Explore booths from 20+ local vendors, beekeepers, and beekeeping organizations, all focused on raising awareness of and appreciation for the humble honeybee. This event is free, but they ask to please RSVP to attend at [parkerarts.org/event/parker-honey-festival](http://parkerarts.org/event/parker-honey-festival).



## Town Hall Grand Opening

August 12 | 20120 E. Mainstreet | 4:30 - 6:00 pm

After two years of construction, the Town invites the community to celebrate the completion of the Town Hall addition and renovation project with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception. Join Town Council and staff to celebrate this milestone.



## H2O Glow Swim

August 14 | 10795 Victorian Dr | 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Let's Glow! Light up the night with an after-hours, glow-in-the-dark pool party at H2O'Brien Pool. This pool party is lit—literally! The facility will be glowing and participants are welcome to take home glow items at the end of the event. Poo! space is limited, so register early to lock in your spot.



## Parker Car Fest

August 15 | Downtown Parker | 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

This annual event is one of the best days of the summer on Mainstreet. Around 200 vehicles, live music, food, sponsor booths, and five award plaques all in one place. Show starts with a National Anthem start and a Rumble at noon where every car revs their engine at once. You do not want to miss that.

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# AROUND TOWN

PHOTOS: TOWN OF PARKER



## Summer Concert Series Finished

The popular annual summer concert event wrapped up with record crowds attending eight Thursday evening performances, starring groups like Boogie Machine, the Jakarta Band, and El Paso Lasso. This free event has become a staple for many locals.



## Fireworks Canceled

The Town's July 4th fireworks show was canceled and rescheduled to Veterans Day, Nov. 11th. Additional details about the Veterans Day fireworks show will be announced later this summer and posted online at [ParkerCO.gov/Events](https://ParkerCO.gov/Events).



## Renovated Council Chambers

The first special presentation to be held in the renovated Chambers recognized the Ponderosa High School girls golf team for winning the 2026 Colorado Class 4A Girls Golf State Championship, including individual state champion Kaylee Meyering.



## Emagine Movie Theater Opens

Parker's movie theater is back! The theater features 10 screens, including two of Emagine's signature EMX auditoriums, heated leather recliners, gourmet concessions, and \$5.00 Ticket Tuesdays! Check out their website for their Secret Movie Night!

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Historical Images courtesy of Archives & Local History at DCL



# HISTORY HASHTAG

## #OLDSCHOOL

With a new school year just around the corner, we wanted to look back to the beginning of education in Parker. In the early 1870s, James Parker was the owner of the Twenty Mile House, a prosperous mercantile store and stage stop for travelers in the settlement of Pine Grove (renamed Parker in 1884). A few years later, when his daughter reached school age, James built a small school just south of the Twenty Mile House.

In 1914, the Parker Consolidated Schoolhouse was built to accommodate the growing numbers at Pine Grove School, as well as students from the Plainfield and Allison schools. One of the principal contractors for construction of the school was William H. O'Brien of Parker. This beautiful two-story building was made of brick and was a huge upgrade from the small wooden schoolhouse. It did not have electricity or bathrooms. Two outhouses were on the school property, one for boys and one for girls. In 1924, Andrew Johnson, the local bank president, purchased and donated a generator for the school to share with the Ruth Memorial Church.

To begin with, the school housed grades one through twelve. There were two elementary grades taught in each room on the first floor. An office, high school classes, and an auditorium were on the second floor. In the basement was a lab and home economic classes. The school also had a newspaper and a yearbook. School colors were green and white, and the mascot was the buffalo. High schoolers attended the schoolhouse until 1958, when they were sent to Douglas County High School.

In the 1970s, the building was purchased and used by the United Methodist Church. And in 1996, the schoolhouse, along with the neighboring Ruth Memorial Church and the old church parsonage, were purchased by the Town of Parker. The Mainstreet Center became a town cultural center and included a small history museum space with a historic classroom setup. Today, renamed as The Schoolhouse at Mainstreet, the building has been recently renovated by the Town of Parker for classes, shows, and events.

It is amazing to look at the transformation through these photos. It was a different time when horses and buggies brought children to school. Knickerbockers, hats, dresses, and laced boots were the normal attire of the day. Through the eras, the need and desire for education has remained the same. Due to the large growth of the town, there are currently three high schools and many elementary, middle, and charter schools in Parker.





# COLLEGE: Healthy Eating 101



If you are heading off to college soon you may want to take note of these nutrition tips. Listed are ideas for eating healthy in the cafeteria and in your dorm room. These points should help make healthy eating easier.

1. Keep a water bottle with you at all times. Just the sight of it will remind you to drink more water. Drink water with every meal.
2. Keep a well-stocked fruit basket on a table in your dorm room.
3. Stock a small refrigerator with vegetables, yogurt, whole grain bread, applesauce, snap peas and nuts.
4. Don't skip breakfast, but go ahead and skip some breakfast foods! Look for whole grain breads, oatmeal, fruit, fruit salad and granola. Skip the bacon, sausage, and greasy eggs.
5. Occasionally substitute that cheeseburger and fries with a bean burrito, tuna wrap or chicken sandwich.
6. Try fresh fruit, fruit salads, and fruit toppings when you want something sweet.
7. Load up on fresh veggies at the salad bar as often as you can. Go for the nonfat dressing and limit cheese, bacon bits and croutons.
8. Whenever possible choose 100% whole grain breads, tortillas, pastas and cereals.
9. Limit juice to a small glass with breakfast. Orange and grapefruit juice are high in vitamin C.
10. Don't drink soda, it's not a real food and does nothing for you nutritionally.
11. Avoid breaded and fried foods. Breaded foods are loaded with fat from cooking oils.
12. Be choosy at dinnertime; remember you don't have to try everything. You'll have another chance!
13. Ask for grilled veggies or soup in place of fries.
14. Stay away from vending machines.
15. If you stay up late you are bound to get hungry. Instead of ordering a late night pizza, try having some fruit and a granola bar instead.
16. Enjoy your baked potato or sweet potato with a small amount of cottage cheese or plain yogurt instead of loading it with butter, sour cream and bacon bits.
17. Frequently enjoy vegetable soups and limit consumption of creamy soups.
18. Enjoy salsa on your sandwich instead of mayonnaise. Tomatoes, lettuce, cucumber and peppers are also great additions.
19. Eat beans! Beans with rice, in burritos, in soups, chili and hummus. Beans are a great low-fat source of protein and keep you full for longer.
20. Have nuts on hand when you need a quick snack in-between classes. Go for the unsalted raw kind found at a health food store in the refrigerated section.
21. Allow yourself 2-3 reasonable treats per week so you don't feel deprived.



# Time Machine

The complete lack of irony on our 17-year-old faces while wearing the most ridiculous clothes, proof of trends we swore we would never outgrow. Our senior year pictures become more than just a remembrance of the past, they become an experience in time travel.

Senior pictures are about celebrating a life stage. It's the last year of high school and typically the last year with the friends you grew up with. The last year at home (it will never be the same, even if they are twenty seven and living in your basement), and the last year of truly being under your parents' wings. Senior year is about being on the cusp of something great - your future, and you will never see the world the way you do right now. Documenting that with photography is one way of ensuring that you never forget who you were, right then. We thought it would be fun to look back at some of the prominent members of our community in high school. Can you match them to their current pictures?



**1**  
**ERIN KANE**  
DCSD  
SUPERINTENDENT



**2**  
**DARREN PITZ**  
LEGEND  
COACH



**3**  
**BRANDI WILKS**  
PARKER  
TOWN COUNCIL



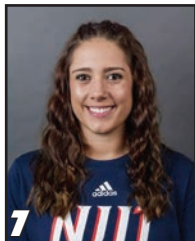
**4**  
**RYAN HOLLINGSHEAD**  
PHS PRINCIPAL



**5**  
**MANDI ZIMMERMAN**  
LHS PRINCIPAL



**6**  
**KRISTEN SHIRK**  
PONDEROSA  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



**7**  
**MADISEN BUSLER**  
LEGEND  
COACH



**8**  
**SARAH MILLER**  
PONDEROSA  
TEACHER



**9**  
**MATT PHILLIPS**  
PONDEROSA  
COACH



**10**  
**KENZIE MCMANUS**  
LEGEND  
COACH



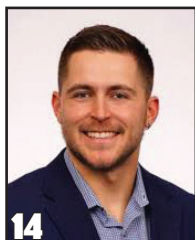
**11**  
**MAX SCHUMAN**  
PONDEROSA  
COACH



**12**  
**DAN SIMINGTON**  
LEGEND  
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



**13**  
**JARON COHEN**  
PONDEROSA  
COACH



**14**  
**QUINN O'NEILL**  
LEGEND  
COACH



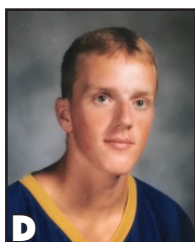
**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**



**G**



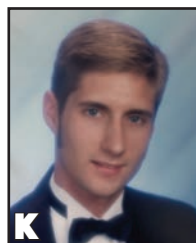
**H**



**I**



**J**



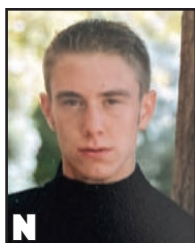
**K**



**L**



**M**

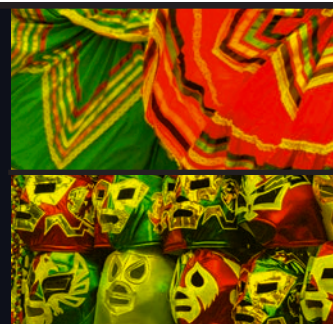


**N**

1-E, 2-D, 3-A, 4-F, 5-J, 6-H, 7-I, 8-M, 9-K, 10-G, 11-N, 12-C, 13-B, 14-L



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