

Construction springs into action on new recreation center

Commerce City broke ground on the new recreation center near E. 112th Avenue and Potomac Street on October 15, celebrating the fourth project underway in the city's voter-approved capital improvement program.

The new recreation center is planned as a 106,000-square-foot facility that includes an indoor pool, multi-court gymnasium with an elevated walking/jogging track, a nearly 10,000-square-foot gymnastics area, weights/fitness area, dance/aerobics studio, rooftop balcony, a 300-person community room and a multi-generational lounge. See the floor plans and more details online at c3gov.com/secondcreek.

The groundbreaking ceremony was live-streamed on the Commerce City Facebook page and can be viewed at facebook.com/CommerceCity. View more information about the city's capital improvement program at c3gov.com/QCL.



Local gymnasts joined members of city council to celebrate the groundbreaking of the city's new recreation center on October 15.

Own your health at the annual 9Health Fair

In the often complicated world of healthcare, the Commerce City Family 9Health Fair makes it easy and affordable to own your health. The 9Health Fair offers a wide variety of important health screenings, free flu shots, and plenty of opportunities to get your family health questions answered by medical professionals.

Free and low-cost health screenings are available for men, women and children of all ages; from blood chemistry and kidney risk assessments to vision and dental screenings. Women can receive free PAP smears and breast exams, men can take advantage of free prostate/testicular tests, and children can receive free Type 1 diabetes screenings. Free flu shots also are available for both adults and children.

No identification or insurance card is required at the 9Health Fair; everyone is welcome to take advantage of these free and low-cost services.



The annual Family 9Health Fair provides free and low-cost health screenings and health education for local residents.

**Commerce City Family 9Health Fair • Saturday, Nov. 12 • 7 a.m. – Noon
Adams City High School • 7200 Quebec Parkway**

Over 650 local residents participated in last year's event. Attendees can enjoy healthy cooking demonstrations, learn more about Affordable Care Act enrollment, and get information on available health and social services.

For more information or to volunteer, visit 9healthfair.org. Volunteers can register online through November 10. For questions about Commerce City's Family 9Health Fair, contact Glenys Trost at 303-289-3728 or gtrost@c3gov.com.

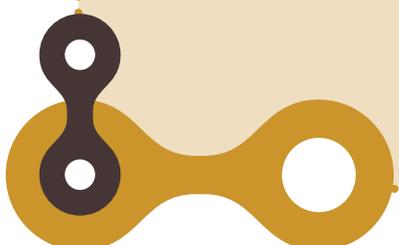
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7887 E. 60th Ave.
Commerce City, CO 80022

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NEWS BRIEFS

Election Day is November 8

Adams County Voter Service and Polling Centers are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8, but you don't have to wait until Election Day to cast your ballot. Colorado mail ballots were distributed to registered voters starting Oct. 17 and select polling centers opened on Oct. 24. Mail-in ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day and can also be returned in person at a ballot drop-off site in Adams County.

Local Voter Service and Polling Centers:

- Commerce City Recreation Center, 6060 Parkway Dr., Nov. 7-8
- Adams County Sheriff's Office Substation, 4201 E. 72nd Ave., Oct. 24 – Nov. 8
- Adams County Government Center/West Conference Ctr., 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, Oct. 24 – Nov. 8
- Reunion Recreation Center, 17910 Parkside Dr. N, Nov. 7-8

Mail ballot drop-off locations:

- Commerce City Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave.
- Adams County Motor Vehicle Office, 4201 E. 72nd Ave.
- Adams County Government Center East Entrance, 4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton

If you are not registered to vote, you can still register in-person through Election Day and cast your 2016 ballot! Visit an Adams County Voter Service and Polling Center to register and get your ballot. Online and mail voter registrations are not accepted within eight days of the election.

For more information about voting in Adams County, visit AdamsVotes.com.

Celebrate Small Business Saturday Nov. 26

Nearly 1,300 businesses call Commerce City home, and most of these are considered small businesses. These businesses embody the American entrepreneurial spirit and contribute to a thriving community. They create jobs, bring ideas and develop products that support our economy. On Saturday, November 26, get out and support the city's local small businesses during Small Business Saturday 2016.

CDOT, Adams County construction impacting roads

The following road construction projects are being managed by governmental organizations other than the city, but they will affect driving conditions in the city in the weeks and months to come:

- **Interstate 76 and Highway 85 Interchange**
CDOT is working to improve safety and traffic flow of the westbound I-76 curve where the interstate joins southbound US 85. Long-term lane closures and reduced speed limits will be in place until late 2017 or early 2018. Full overnight closures of I-76 may occasionally be required.
More info: codot.gov/projects/i-76-at-us-85-reconstruction
- **Kenwood-Dahlia Outfall Drainage Project**
This Adams County project will address drainage problems in the Dupont neighborhood, completing the outfall system to the South Platte River with storm sewer and roadway improvements. Residents should expect long-term, full closures of E. 77th Avenue, Kenwood Street and E. 76th Avenue in the area just east of US 6/85 lasting into next spring.
More info: 1-844-253-3185 option 1 or KenwoodDahliainfo@gmail.com

TAKE A STEP TOWARD BETTER HEALTH THIS FALL

NOV. 12

7 A.M. - NOON



Family Health Fair

OWN YOUR HEALTH – A FAMILY AFFAIR

20+ FREE health screenings, including:

- Blood pressure screenings
- Children's and teen's vision screenings
- Free type 1 diabetes screenings for children
- Health resource centers
- Kidney
- Free flu shots for low-income & uninsured
- Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) Enrollment
- And more health services!

LOW-COST SCREENINGS AVAILABLE:

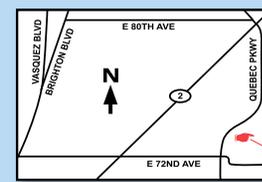
- Blood Chemistry Screening
- Blood Count Screening
- InsureFIT Colon Cancer Take-Home Kits
- Testosterone Screening
- Hemoglobin A1C
- Vitamin D Screening

* You must be 18 years or older for blood tests. No fasting is required.

FREE WOMEN'S WELLNESS AREA:

- PAP's
 - Breast exams
- *Come early. Limited appointments.

ID IS NOT REQUIRED



FREE MEN'S WELLNESS AREA:

- General health
- PSA Prostate/ Testicular Screening
- Colon cancer information

Adams City High School
7200 QUEBEC PARKWAY
COMMERCE CITY, CO 80022

FOR INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER

REGISTER ONLINE AT: WWW.9HEALTHFAIR.ORG

TOLL FREE: 800.332.3078
303.698.4455

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



We continually look for ways to improve communication with the community and enjoy hearing what you would like to see. Contact Commerce City Connected Editor Travis Huntington at thuntington@c3gov.com or 303-227-8775 with questions or comments.

STAY IN-THE-KNOW

City Council adopts laws, ordinances, resolutions and rules consistent with the city charter. Some upcoming meeting topics include:

- Presentations regarding the capital improvement program update and staff's third quarter work results.
- Public hearings to close the budget process.

Agendas are frequently updated and subject to change, so be sure to check online for the most recent council agenda at c3gov.com/council. Council meetings, both regular meetings (first and third Monday nights) and study sessions (second and fourth Monday nights) are open to the public, although public comment is only taken during regular meetings.

COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Mayor Sean Ford
Cell: 303-720-9106
sford@c3gov.com
Term expires 2019



Mayor ProTem René Bullock
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Council At-Large Jason McEldowney
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jmceldowney@c3gov.com
Term expires 2017

Come by the Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., or watch us live on Comcast Channel 8 or www.c3gov.com on the first and third Monday night.

Reserve a place of honor at Veterans Memorial Park



Commerce City's Veterans Memorial Park is located next to the recreation center

Each November 11, the nation takes time to recognize all those who have served in the United States military with the observance of Veterans Day. For those seeking a special way to honor those who have served, Commerce City's Veterans Memorial Park offers custom-etched pavers for purchase to permanently recognize our military heroes. Pavers are placed annually in advance of the city's Memorial Day parade and those individuals are recognized during a special wreath-laying ceremony at the park.

Individuals can purchase brick paver options starting at \$100. Service logos can be included for an additional \$50. Proof of military service of the veteran or active duty papers should be provided. All pavers are dark grey in color and feature white inscriptions. The deadline for purchasing pavers in advance of the 2017 Memorial Day parade is Feb. 15, 2017.

Orders can be placed at the Commerce City Recreation Center (6060 E. Parkway Dr.). Cash, money orders and credit cards are accepted. Samples of brick pavers are available to view at the recreation center or at Veterans Memorial Park (6015 Forest Dr.). For more information on the paver program, download an application online at c3gov.com or contact the parks and recreation registration office at 303-289-3789.

Construction begins on Highway 2 widening project

Construction is getting underway on the Highway 2 widening project following a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the occasion on October 26. The project will greatly reduce traffic congestion and make the highway safer, expanding it from two to four full lanes between E. 72nd Avenue and I-76. Other features include dedicated bicycle lanes, a raised and landscaped median, LED street lighting, in-pavement light reflectors, improved drainage, and a multi-use trail.

Funding for the \$20.3 million project was made available through a Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) grant and Commerce City funds. The project is expected to be complete in spring 2018.

A public meeting will be held on November 2 from 5-7 p.m. at the Lester Arnold High School gymnasium (6500 E. 72nd Ave.) to provide more information about the project. This meeting replaces the September 28 meeting that was cancelled due to an emergency lockdown at the school.

Visit c3gov.com/highway2 for more information.

DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Commerce City is one of the fastest growing cities in Colorado

Here are some of the new projects that were either under construction or near completion during the month of September:

- Belle Creek apartments at E. 105th Place and Belle Creek Boulevard
- Popeye's restaurant on E. 104th Avenue east of Chambers Road
- Vasquez Land Associates #101 on Vasquez Boulevard north of E. 53rd Avenue
- Intsel Steel warehouse on Ulster Street south of E. 86th Avenue
- Suttrak warehouse on Newport Street north of E. 49th Avenue
- South Adams County Fire District administrative building at Syracuse Street and E. 60th Avenue
- Belle Creek Salon #103 on Belle Creek Boulevard north of E. 104th Avenue

The city's monthly development report can be found online at c3gov.com/devreport. By selecting "Get City Alerts" on the website, you can sign up to receive the report directly to your inbox.

CALENDAR

- Nov. 1 Planning Commission, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-9 p.m.
- Nov. 2 Highway 2 Widening Project Open House, Lester Arnold High School, 6500 E. 72nd Ave., 5-7 p.m.
- Nov. 3 Youth Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6:30-8 p.m.
- Nov. 4 Cops vs. Kids – Dodgeball (ages 9-17), Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 4-6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 5 Green Yard Waste Drop-Off Event, former Mile High Greyhound Park site, intersection of E. 62nd Ave. and Parkway Dr., 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Nov. 5 Horseback Riding, meet at Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Nov. 7 City Council Regular Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-10 p.m.
- Nov. 8 Election Day
- Nov. 8 Cultural Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-10 p.m.
- Nov. 9 Board of Adjustment, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- Nov. 9 Police Neighborhood Meeting, Stuart Middle School, 15955 E. 101st Way, 6-7 p.m.
- Nov. 9 CIP CAC Regular Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 11 Civic Center, Municipal Services Center closed in observance of Veterans Day
- Nov. 12 9HealthFair, Adams City High School, 7200 Quebec Pkwy., 7 a.m. – Noon
- Nov. 12 Horseback Riding, meet at Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Nov. 12 Middle School Madness, Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 7-10 p.m.
- Nov. 14 City Council Study Session, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-10 p.m.
- Nov. 15 Derby Review Board, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 5:30-8 p.m.
- Nov. 15 Quality Community Foundation meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16 Dept. of Justice Community Listening Session, Yellow Rose Event Center, 6490 E. 72nd Pl., 6-8 p.m.
- Nov. 17 Police Neighborhood Meeting, Belle Creek Rec Center, 10693 Belle Creek Blvd., 6-7 p.m.
- Nov. 17 Youth Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6:30-8 p.m.
- Nov. 19 Horseback Riding, meet at Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Nov. 21 Mom/Daughter Craft Night, Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 5:30-8 p.m.
- Nov. 21 City Council Regular Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-10 p.m.
- Nov. 24 All city facilities closed in observance of Thanksgiving
- Nov. 25 Civic Center, Municipal Services Center closed in observance of Thanksgiving
- Nov. 28 City Council Study Session, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6 – 10 p.m.
- Dec. 1 Youth Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6:30-8 p.m.
- Dec. 3 Horseback Riding, meet at Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Dec. 5 City Council Regular Meeting, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-10 p.m.
- Dec. 6 Planning Commission, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-9 p.m.
- Dec. 10 Horseback Riding, meet at Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Dec. 10 Middle School Madness, Recreation Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr., 7-10 p.m.
- Dec. 12 City Council Study Session, Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave., 6-10 p.m.

18th Annual Winterfest in Commerce City

Pajamas, Pancakes and Santa
Santa will arrive by special delivery on the South Adams Fire District Fire Truck

Saturday, December 3 * 9:30 a.m.-Noon * FREE
 Adams City High School • E. 72nd Ave. and Quebec St.

Enjoy these free & fun activities:
 Pictures with Santa • Storytelling by the Sugar Plum Fairy • Holiday Crafts • Hot Chocolate & Cider • Holiday Tree • Children's Pajama Parade*

**Pajamas are optional, but a lot more fun!*




Holiday safety tips from the police department

'Tis the season to be jolly and stay safe. Whether you are out shopping or cozy at home shopping online, security is always a concern during the holidays. To keep yourself, your loved ones and your home safe, follow these tips from the Commerce City Police Department:

When you are out shopping

- Always lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- If possible, go shopping with family or friends
- Keep valuables, including shopping bags and wrapped gifts, out of sight to help avoid car theft and break-in
- Keep your children close in crowded areas
- If you feel nervous about someone when going back to your vehicle, don't be embarrassed to go back inside and request assistance

Online shopping

- Buy from reliable, established businesses. If the sale price from a private individual is "too good to be true" it is probably a scam.
- Make sure charitable organizations are reputable before giving your donation

Keep your home secure

- Close and lock all windows and doors, including your garage
- Keep window coverings closed to conceal presents or other valuables
- For long absences, set a timer for lights, leave a light or the television on to trick a "would-be" criminal into believing someone may be home



Students from Adams City High School continued an annual tradition of painting the blades of city snowplows, which then drove in the school's homecoming parade to show off the artwork on October 1. The city provided paint, pizza and transportation to the students for the event.

COUNCIL CORNER



René Bullock
Mayor Pro Tem

The best is yet to come

The promise of "Five Projects in Five Years" made through the city's voter-approved capital improvement program is moving closer to reality all the time. Just a few weeks ago we celebrated another groundbreaking ceremony in the program on a patch of dirt that will soon become a beautiful, 106,000-square-foot new recreation center at E. 112th Avenue and Potomac Street. The ceremony was the latest in an exciting period of many such celebrations that help us look toward the bright future of Commerce City.

City Council and the CIP CAC (Capital Improvement Projects Citizens Advisory Committee) are constantly thinking about the future of the city's capital improvement program. The 1 percent sales and use tax passed by voters in 2013 continues after the current projects have been paid for. While some of that money will go toward operations and maintenance of the new facilities, there will be resources for more projects down the road.

As our city continues to grow, new priorities will emerge to help serve the next generation of residents. It's never too early to start thinking about the next set of projects that will continue to improve the community. The work being done now and being planned for the future will help make Commerce City a quality community not just for our own lifetime, but for our children and their children after them.

We can already enjoy three new neighborhood parks (Fronterra, Turnberry, and Villages East) and the outdoor pool at Pioneer Park as a result of this program. Three more opening ceremonies are on the horizon in the next two years as the widening of Tower Road, new recreation center and upgrades to the existing recreation center are completed. It's encouraging to think about the future of this community and realize that the best really is yet to come.



Paradise Island Pool



Fronterra Park



Turnberry Park



Villages East Park



Tower Road: opening late 2017



New Recreation Center:
opening spring 2018

Current Recreation Center upgrades:
starting 2017, opening late 2018



Fresh youth and teen events for fall

Get to know your local police officers

Youth ages 9-17 can take on Commerce City police officers in a friendly sports game.
 Fri 11/4 Dodgeball Check-in at 4 p.m.
 FREE Commerce City Recreation Center

Middle School Madness for grades 6-8

Come to the recreation center for video games, pool, sports, music, crafts and more!
 Sat 11/12 7-10 p.m.
 \$2 per person Commerce City Recreation Center

Paint with a pro at mother/daughter craft night

Create beautiful artwork under the guidance of a professional artist. Mothers, daughters, grandmothers, granddaughters, aunts and nieces are welcome. Ages 6 and older with adult.
 Mon 11/21 5:30-8 p.m.
 7001.301 \$10/\$12 per person



Hoop it up with the junior Nuggets

Commerce City is partnering with the Denver Nuggets basketball team in 2017. All participants receive a jersey and two free tickets to a Denver Nuggets game. Open to grades K-6. Registration is open Dec. 5-31. More information will be available in the winter-spring activity guide.



COMMERCE CITY HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

ART SHOW & TREE LIGHTING – Join the countdown and watch the festive tree lighting at the civic center. View the student art show sponsored by the Commerce City Cultural Council, enjoy warm refreshments and snacks, sing along with professional carolers, and mingle with elected officials and staff.

Mon 12/5 5-7 p.m. FREE
 Commerce City Civic Center, 7887 E. 60th Ave.

MINGLE WITH KRINGLE AT BUFFALO RUN – Santa Claus is coming to Buffalo Run! Bring your camera and take a photo with Santa. Little ones will also enjoy holiday crafts. Feast on light refreshments provided by the Bison Grill and relax next to the stone fireplace.

Sat 12/10 1-4 p.m. (Santa on break from 2-3 p.m.)
 Buffalo Run Golf Course, 15700 E. 112th Ave. FREE

PARKS & REC HAPPENINGS

Commerce City Recreation Center

6060 E. Parkway Dr.
 303-289-3760
 c3gov.com/recreation

Buffalo Run Golf Course

15700 E. 112th Ave.
 303-289-1500
 buffalorungolfcourse.com



Book your holiday party at Buffalo Run

Buffalo Run is a beautiful setting for corporate events, holiday parties, or weddings. The Bison Grill has a seating capacity of up to 100 people and the restaurant's outdoor pavilion has a seating capacity of 150 people. Make your event a memorable and rewarding experience at Buffalo Run!

For more information, please contact the food and beverage manager at 303-286-4845.

Seniors, make your voice heard.

Apply for a senior advisory committee by Dec. 5

Senior advisory committee applications are available for the 2017 program year. Seniors/older adults are invited to apply and make a difference in the recreation center's senior/older adult activities.

Seniors have the opportunity to serve on the program committee, outreach committee, or health and wellness committee. Committee members advise department staff, serve as an information resource to program participants, assist with fundraising and provide outreach services.

Typical committee meetings occur every other month throughout the year and are scheduled during the week during morning hours. Members are asked to attend community outreach events and may sometimes be asked to volunteer for committee created events/programs.

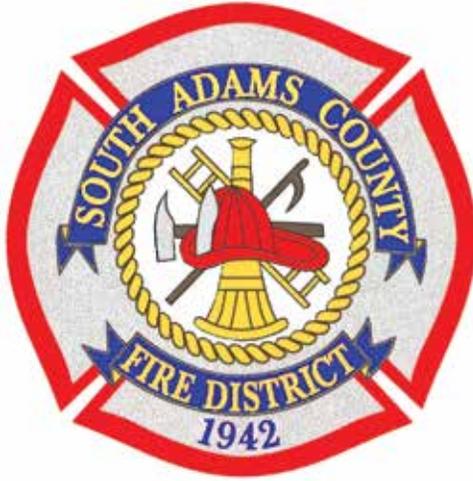
There is a maximum of nine participants per committee. Individuals cannot serve on more than one committee per year. Participants will be contacted by staff in December. Applications and forms are available at the Older Adult/Senior Center, 6060 E. Parkway Dr. or online at c3gov.com/SeniorBoards. Forms should be returned to the parks and recreation department, Attn: Derrick Tripp, by Dec. 5. Please contact Derrick, recreation supervisor of senior services, at 303-289-3761 or dtripp@c3gov.com.

Winter/Spring registration opens Dec. 5.

Thank you to our senior volunteers for contributing more than 6,500 hours of service to the city.

Congratulations to Thelma Cole and Sandy Carruthers on winning the Triple C and Red Sweater Awards for their outstanding contributions to senior programs. They were presented with the awards at the senior volunteer appreciation dinner on September 28.

Jeri Albrecht	Gene Davis	Dennis La Favre	Vangie Rountree
Martha Applegarth	James Deden	Lois Heinrich-LaFavre	Don Sater
Maria Armendariz	Pam Duran	Mary Landin	Rose Schwab
Nicalee Baker	Pauline Flowers	Donna Littlefield	Beth Scott
Carol Barnick	Maxine Galindo	Judy Marie Locke	Christy Smith
Janet Barrette	Margaret Garcia	Jennie Loveridge	Mary Specht
Bob Benzel	Beth Grey	George Maxey	Margaret Summers
Lois Bertapelle	Ollie Grimard	Daniel McCabe	Mary Thompson
Joy Bishop	Emma Goodenough	Clara McKee	Grace Tochiara
Karen Borowski	Al Hardt	Sandy Medena	Judy Trzeciak
Dave Busby	JoAnn Hardt	Marian Meyer	Janice Tuufuli
Bonnie Campbell	Carole Harvell	Rae Lene Morey	JoAnn Vail
Sandy Carruthers	Steve Ivarson	Vera Omara	Shirley Valentine
Sherri Choromokos	Nancy Jorgenson	Vivian Parker	Tillie Villarreal
Ramona Cisneros	Bill Kawamura	Rudy Parks	Bev Walker
Thelma Cole	Gail Kawamura	Loretta Petty	Judy White
Fern Conklin	Janet Keeseey	Debbie Phillips	Jenette Wooley
Diane Cruz	Les Knisley	Charlene Reynolds	Linda Wulf
Viola Davenport	Carlene Knisley	LeOra Richards	Frances Zacek
	Robert Kreutzer	Harold Richd	
	Carmen Kreutzer	Peggy Rice	



South Adams County Fire Protection District

6550 E. 72nd Ave., Commerce City, CO 80022 • 303.288.0835

Fire safety tip of the month

Thanksgiving safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stove top so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in a room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

DID YOU KNOW?

Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.



South Adams Fire helps community be drug free

On October 11 at Kearney Middle School, the South Adams County Fire Department took part in a special drug awareness presentation hosted by the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Colorado National Guard. The entire school sat on the south lawn of the football field to watch the landing of a military Black Hawk helicopter as the highlight of the event.

SACFD firefighters took part to help highlight the importance of drug-free living for local youth. Programs that educate students on the use and abuse of these harmful and sometimes deadly substances can lead to dramatic declines in drug-related incidents. Because of this awareness, youth drug use has plummeted 15 percent in the last 15 years.

The South Adams County Fire Department values our relationships with other agencies, such as the National Guard and DEA, to help us prevent more than just fires. We hope to also help save local kids from the black hole of drug abuse. For more information, please visit dea.gov/resource-center/statistics.shtml and sacfd.org.



Members of the SACFD participated in a drug awareness program with the DEA and Colorado Air National Guard on Oct. 11 at Kearney Middle School.

SACFD upgrades extrication rescue equipment

The South Adams County Fire Department recently acquired new extrication equipment that will shave precious time off automobile accident rescues and increase the effectiveness of personnel on scene, improving the care provided to patients involved in such accidents.

Commonly known as the "jaws of life," extrication tools can include cutters, spreaders, and ram devices. These are used to access individuals trapped in a vehicle during major accidents. Having quick access to the necessary tools can change the outcome for an injured patient in these situations.

These tools are typically powered hydraulically using a separate power unit, which takes time and manpower to set up and control as the tools are being used. South Adams County Fire's new extrication tools are battery-powered and no longer tethered to a separate power system. This allows more mobility, faster set up, and greater flexibility during a rescue – all of which can save crucial seconds when they matter most.



SACFD personnel train with new extrication equipment.