



JUNE 2026 ELECTRONIC EDITION #5



THE SQUEAKY SQUIRREL

THE SAMPSON COMMUNITY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

ABOUT AND FOR OUR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY, PRODUCED BY KIM VANTREASE

SAMPSON COMMUNITY CLUB 16150 SAMPSON ROAD, LITTLETON, CO 80127 FACEBOOK.COM/SAMPSONCOMMUNITYCLUB OR WWW.SAMPSONCLUB.ORG



In 2026, the United States proudly celebrates 250 years of **freedom** since the Declaration of Independence launched a bold new nation. Early settlers crossed the Atlantic Ocean seeking the chance to live, worship, and work freely, and their descendants carried that spirit forward when the colonies stood together in 1776 to claim independence. From that moment on, generations of Americans have built this country with determination and defended it with courage, protecting its freedoms from all enemies near and far. What began as thirteen hopeful colonies has grown into 50 states and a ***nation known for resilience, opportunity, and the unshakable belief that liberty is worth fighting for.*** This is a time to celebrate 250 years of American freedom, strength, and unstoppable spirit!

HAPPY 250 BIRTHDAY!

A QUICK NOTE FROM KIM...

My apologies for getting the Squeaky Squirrel out so late this quarter. My daughter went to Ireland on a mission trip leaving Red and I to operate her business while she was busy playing with the leprechauns and ferries—I mean coordinating the trip and events. Honestly, I completely forgot about the Squeaky Squirrel Newsletter! Didn't know that was possible...but it was, apparently. Thanks for your understanding! 😊 ~Kim



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



Has been rescheduled to AUGUST 28, 2026 - THE FUN BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M.

LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

We would like to put a page together on our website where local business owners are displayed for the community interest. You can advertise your business and contact info there for \$50.00 per year. If you're interested, please contact Kim at sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com or text her at 303-570-9028.



A NOTE FROM THE SAMPSON COMMUNITY CLUB PRESIDENT

We wrapped up the Annual Ice Cream Social yesterday, and on the drive home I kept thinking about all the “thank yous” we received. At first, I responded out of habit, “our pleasure,” which it truly is — but it struck me more deeply this time. Those thank yous weren't just polite goodbyes. People were genuinely grateful for the Social Events that serve this community. That made me reflect on why we do what we do. The truth is simple: we love it. This community is worth every bit of effort we put in. Gatherings matter. They're important — more important than we sometimes realize — and they shouldn't fade away. So, we keep doing what we do because it is important.

Now, allow me, thank you all for attending these events and for supporting this Board and our beautiful old building and traditions. ❤️

We have more fun events planned for this summer and fall. And while people may wonder why we invest so much time and energy, the answer is clear: community centers are the heartbeat of a neighborhood. They're where we learn about our area, where we gather, connect, and become part of something meaningful. These events bring folks of all ages together to share food, laughter, stories, and traditions — building and strengthening the friendships that make this place feel like home. At the Sampson Community Club, we create opportunities for neighbors to meet new friends, support one another, and make lasting memories, all while keeping our historic spaces active, welcoming, and full of life. From fundraisers and potlucks to game nights and celebrations, every event helps weave a stronger, more connected community.

QUICK CONTACT REFERENCE - SAMPSON COMMUNITY CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

President, Kim Vantrease, valleyhawk7@msn.com 303-681-2104 or text 303-570-9028

Vice President, Bryn Shepeck, shepeckbryn16@gmail.com 720-499-6347

Treasurer, Jackie Johnson, jazzyjj@live.com 720-933-8601

Secretary, Amanda Dougherty, doughertyschool@gmail.com 303-903-1918

www.sampsonclub.org -- facebook.com/sampsoncommunityclub - sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com

2026 SAMPSON COMMUNITY CLUB CALENDAR OF EVENTS



July 17th – MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS ON THE GIANT SCREEN Movie to be determined—Check website and Facebook page for updates. If inclement weather, we will show the movie on the giant screen indoors. Bring a comfy chair (or use one of the club's chairs) something warm to wear, and your favorite movie munchies!



AUGUST 14TH - MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS ON THE GIANT SCREEN Movie to be determined—Check website and Facebook page for updates. If inclement weather, we will show the movie on the giant screen indoors. Bring a comfy chair (or use one of the club's chairs) something warm to wear, and your favorite movie munchies!



AUGUST 28TH @ 6:30 PM BINGO! FUNDRAISER FUN! C'mon Down! Full snack bar, 8 games of Bingo, and fun with your friends and neighbors! Cash Prizes! *Please note, the new date for this event is August 28th.*



SEPTEMBER 12 @ NOON - ANNUAL PIG ROAST FUNDRAISER

The festivities kick off at noon, and the fun starts the moment you arrive! Bring your favorite side dish to share and enjoy a big, delicious community feast with friends, neighbors, and all the familiar faces that make this event such a highlight every year. Come on down, meet new people, reconnect with old friends, and jump into an afternoon full of laughter, games, and good company. We always have a great time hanging out, playing games, and welcoming new folks into the mix — it's one of those events that just feels good to be part of.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to any Board Member or email sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com. This favorite fundraiser is just \$18.00 per family or \$9.00 per person, and extra donations are always appreciated. Every contribution helps support the Sampson Community Club building and future events. And because we love to keep things exciting, we'll have extra games and prizes this year! Woot! Oink...



OCTOBER 10TH @ 5 PM - CHILI COOK-OFF

Bring a big ol' pot of your best homemade chili and let the crowd taste what you've got! We'll all dig in, laugh, compare flavors, and crown the champions of this year's Chili Cookoff. Not a chili-maker? No worries at all — come on down anyway, grab a warm bowl, and help pick the winners. The more taste-testers, the better the fun. Donations are always welcome, but don't you fret... we're not shaking anyone upside-down for spare change. Just bring your appetite, your neighbors, and your good vibes. This one's gonna be a spicy good time!



NOVEMBER 7TH @ 3 PM - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Sampson Community Club is serving up the turkey, and we're inviting everyone to bring a favorite side dish to share. It's the perfect chance to test out those new holiday recipes on your friends and neighbors while enjoying a cozy afternoon together. This year, the offices of President and Secretary are up for election or re-election. If you've got ideas for future events, activities, or improvements for Sampson Community Club, bring them along! Your presence matters and we'd love to hear your thoughts as we brainstorm, dream big, and celebrate what makes this community special. Come join the fun, the food, and the fellowship. Your participation helps keep the Sampson Community Club thriving, and we can't wait to see you there!



Remember, Scheduled and **NEW Events will be updated on the website at www.sampsonclub.org or [Facebook.com/SampsonCommunityClub](https://www.facebook.com/SampsonCommunityClub) if there are any changes or postponements. So, check often for updates & new events that may be added or cancelled!**



THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL NEVER FAILS TO ENRICH US

Contributed by Kim Vantrease

We had a blast at this year's Annual Ice Cream Social. The weather showed up for us in the best way — sunshine, blue skies, and not a single one of us melting like birthday candles this time. Hosting it outside was the winning move, and wow, did it pay off. Friends, families, neighbors, and ice-cream lovers of all ages came out to enjoy mountains of ice cream and all the fixins. Laughter everywhere, kids running around with sticky smiles, and grown-ups pretending they weren't going back for seconds (or thirds). And of course, the highlight we all look forward to: live music from Don Coenen. His voice, his talent, his endless catalog of songs — we still don't know how he remembers them all, but we sure love that he does. Thank you, Don!!! This year came with a surprise treat: Bob Webber of the band SugarLoaf was in attendance and hopped on stage with Don! Two good ole rock-n'-rollers giving us a mini concert right in our own backyard — what a delight. Thank you, Don and Bob, for making the day extra special. What a perfect afternoon of sunshine, music, community, and ice cream. Already looking forward to the next one! 🍷 🎵 ✨ Check out the pictures below capturing some of the moments.









THIS IS OUR SIXTH ELECTRONIC SQUEAKY SQUIRREL NEWSLETTER...

We appreciate your support and hope you like this new version! The Squeaky Squirrel will always be available online for your perusal at www.sampsonclub.org. Remember, if you, or someone you know, would like the Squeaky Squirrel emailed directly, please contact us at sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com and let us know. If you want a paper copy because you have limited access to the internet, please text or call Kim at 303-570-9028 and advise her of your desire to receive the Squirrel via postal delivery. Feel free to let us know if you do not receive your emailed copy; we want to make sure everyone gets a copy each quarter! Thank you!



LONG-TIME RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE PASSED ON...

Contributed by Kim Vantrease

Our long-time residents, Starla and Dick Lovelace, recently passed, with Starla passing first and then Dick most recently. I only had the opportunity to meet Starla once at a Sampson Club event. I remember her being friendly and wished we had more opportunities to get to know each other. I am going to miss seeing Dick often driving past my home. We always considered him kind of a legend around here; one of the olde-time, sturdy gentlemen that could straighten out a rowdy crowd with just one look. We offer our condolences to their family and friends as saying good-bye is never easy. End of an era. ♥

WITH GENUINE SINCERITY

Contributed by Kim Vantrease

We extend our deepest gratitude to all who contribute their time, energy, and resources to the Sampson Community Club. Your efforts strengthen our community and ensure its continued growth and vitality. Throughout the year, so many of you step up to help with maintenance and countless other tasks, and we are deeply grateful. Special thanks to Wesley and other Sampson Road residents for keeping our parking lot clear of snow—it makes a huge difference with all the events we host. Noemi and Ken Bartlett, your behind-the-scenes efforts, from weed-eating to shoveling, and hosting set-up never go unnoticed. Don Coenen for your entertaining music during the Annual Ice Cream Socials! Your music always makes the day more special! We are grateful to Kari and Trevor Vernon for your many years of stewardship and service to the Club and its residents, and to Bryn Shepeck for your steady guidance and leadership as Vice President. Amanda Dougherty, thank you for being our Secretary and for being such a fun Bingo-caller! To everyone who has given their time, enthusiasm, donations, firewood, muscle, music, shoveling, hosting, planning, and more, thank you. Working together not only helps our community thrive, but it brings joy and fulfillment to all involved. We are forever appreciative to our event hosts, coordinators, volunteers, attendees, and Board members for weaving this community together. Your support and encouragement keep the Sampson spirit alive. Because of you, our community is stronger, brighter, and better. Thank you!

NEW RESIDENTS

Lots of people don't realize that the Sampson Community Club is for everyone. It's a community center and isn't exclusive to Sampson Road residents like many have thought. It's for you and serves as a main hub where folks can gather for fun events, make new friends, learn about the area, volunteer, exchange important information, carpool opportunities; just too many perks to list! Remember, this community hub is here for you! And don't forget, you can rent the building for your own personal use. Lots of people have been renting the building this past year realizing just how handy it is! Another bonus is, you can borrow tables and chairs to use at your home for events. Sampson Community Club Members will pay \$30.00 per day to rent the building, and nonmembers will pay \$50.00 per day. We also offer special weekly rates, as well. If you would like to rent the Sampson Community Club School House Building, contact any of the Board members as they would be happy to get you on the schedule. The Club is tax exempt as a 501(c)(4) organization. According to the IRS, all donations to the Club are not tax deductible by the donor. As always, all are welcome to attend the Club functions! We look forward to meeting you! C'mon and join the fun!

FUTURE IDEAS...

Anyone interested in painting classes at the Sampson Club? Water Color, oil, acrylic? Anyone interested in teaching as well? Or, do you have another talent you would like to teach? If so, write to us at sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com!

The Sampson Community Club is here for you; it's your hub! If you have any information you'd like to share, a story, or any suggestions and feedback, we would love to hear from you! sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com.



COMING SOON...SERIOUSLY

Contributed by Kim Vantrease

Coming Summer of 2026, the Sampson Community Club will have on site, our own Puzzle Exchange! It works just like the Free Tiny Library, except it's with **PUZZLES ! ! !** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at sampsoncommunityclub@gmail.com.



FREE TINY LIBRARY

Is there for you! It's located by the ramp at the Sampson Community Club. Come anytime and trade out, or just take home books waiting for your spring and summer reading!



Well, that's all for now! Thank you for reading and for being a part of this great community!

