

The Allegiant Wire

A newsletter focused on serving the rental vacation owners of Grand County

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Pine Beetles, Wildfires, Construction, Oh My!

By Shannon Cormier

Welcome to summer. This season in Grand County brings us more pine beetles, the pending threat of wildfire and lots of construction. And when we say Grand County we mean it. These items are affecting the county from one end to the other.

The Mountain Pine Beetle has spent the past few years lurching into the county's lodge pole pines. This little menace could be doing us a favor, if we would look at things from the glass half full perspective. Trees that are not growing vigorously due to old age, crowding, poor growing conditions, drought, fire or mechanical damage, root disease and other causes are most likely to be attacked. Grand County's pines are just that, crowded, old and infested with mistletoe. When infected areas are cleared, what remains are the young and healthy, well spaced trees and an opportunity for the variety of trees to flourish. Having a better mix in the woods, equates to better preparedness for future outbreaks of this pest or others.


What is being done to prevent the destruction caused by the beetle? There is the option to spray pesticides. Certain formulations of carbaryl, permethrin, and bifenthrin are registered for use to prevent attacks on individual trees. These sprays are currently being applied to living green trees to kill or deter attacking beetles. The truth of the matter is that these sprays work best during the first year of the epidemic. About 20% of the sprayed trees are being noted as being hit by the beetle from last summer season activity. The chemicals are starting to show trace results in area water tests as well. Overall, spraying provides only short term results. The long term result is to thin the forest.

All the standing dead trees not being removed threaten the valley with the possibility of wildfire. A dry spell this summer, a not-so-careful camper, a cigarette butt tossed out of a car window, or a lightning strike is all it might take to set things ablaze. Having a defensible space around one's property will be a key to survival.

Construction is the other epidemic hitting the valley with full force. Both the local ski resorts are booming with activity. In fact, the traditional music events held at these locations have been relocated to downtown Winter Park. Summer nightly rentals may suffer due to the smaller venues, particularly July revenues. August has a new event which keeps us hopeful for a "law of averages" for the summer season.

Vacation seekers do seek solace and prefer locations away from construction. If there is construction nearby your residence there may be an affect on the occupancy for summer. On the flip side, those properties not experiencing the dust, noise and other inconveniences of new builds may fair better.

Have a great summer!

 Allegiant Management, LLC	
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Marketing Report

By Diane Ehlert

News from One of Our Local Chambers

Introducing New Chamber Board and Staff Members for the Winter Park/Fraser Valley Chamber



Chamber Welcomes New Board Member - Jason Thornton

Jason Thornton has more than ten years of experience in the banking industry holding a wide range of positions including Teller, Trust Administrator, Investment and Securities Advisor, Commercial Loan Officer and Vice President prior to being named President of the Winter Park Fraser Branch of Millennium Bank in September 2006. A proven leader from his management training days with Community First, Jason continues to lead Millennium in a very competitive direction, never yielding to a challenge or attitude of impossibility. His approach to growth is creative and community oriented, making him a passionate champion of Millennium and Grand County. The Chamber board and staff look forward to working with Jason in the coming months.



New Downtown Events Director Joins Chamber Staff

Gina Hallisey started planning events nearly 20 years ago as part of the job duties for the various companies she worked for. In 2000, she decided to get into event planning full time and opened an event planning business called *Get Connected Events*. Gina has planned many events from management retreats, reunions, trade shows, weddings and holiday parties to name a few. She planned to expand her event planning to include music festivals and larger events. When she saw that the Winter Park-Fraser Valley Chamber was seeking help with planning events, it seemed like a great opportunity to grow in her career as a planner. Gina and her husband Tom moved to Grand County in 2003 when his transfer with Qwest came through. "We've always wanted to live in Grand County and we were excited that we could make this beautiful place our permanent home," she said. Gina and Tom have two grown children, Mandie and Becky. The oldest daughter, Mandie, lives in Raleigh, North Carolina and Becky lives in Boulder. "I am excited about my new position and feel I can help promote the town of Winter Park and the Fraser Valley by planning quality events that people will look forward to attending," she said.

Chamber Selects New Ad Agency!



The Chamber Marketing Council has selected AOR, Inc. out of Denver as its new ad agency of record. Beth Wampler, one of the principals of AOR, has been a long-time fan and visitor to our valley and is very knowledgeable and familiar with the area. In addition to handling the Chamber's marketing program, AOR will also be our agency for the Grand County Parade of Homes.

"I am very excited to be working with AOR, and bringing to you our new ad campaign and marketing plan for 2007", comments Joyce Burford, the Chamber's Marketing Director. If you would like to learn more about AOR, Inc. you can visit them online at www.thinkaor.com

WPR opens summer season this Saturday



Courtesy of Daily Tribune 6/15/2007

Winter Park Resort has put away its skis and snowboards and is now ready to enjoy the summer.

The resort is officially opening its summer season this Saturday, June 16 and will remain open through Labor Day on Sept. 3. It will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Winter Park Resort base activities and attractions include the opening of the Zephyr Lift. Favorite attractions such as the Amaze'n Human Maze, Leaps & Bounds Bungee, Rock 'n' Roll Gyro, Mountainside Mini Golf, Outdoor Climbing Wall are located at the base of Winter Park Resort.

One of the resort's main attractions in the summer is its famous Alpine Slide, which is the longest slide in Colorado. When sliding, riders climb into sturdy plastic sleds equipped with runners and hand-held brakes before speeding their way down 3,030 feet of stomach-in-your-throat dips and swooping turns. The parallel tracks (one for slower riders and one for adrenaline junkies) are accessed from the Arrow chairlift at the base of the resort. (Height restrictions apply).

Another great feature of summer season at the resort is its 50 miles of chairlift-accessible mountain bike trails. Mountain bikers get themselves and their bikes transported up the mountain via the Zephyr Express chairlift.

Also opening this Saturday for the summer season is the resort's Plaza Palooza. Enjoy free family entertainment with face painters, character artists, balloon art and jugglers from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily at the resort's main plaza.

WPR wins another award

Wind-powered lift gets environment award from state

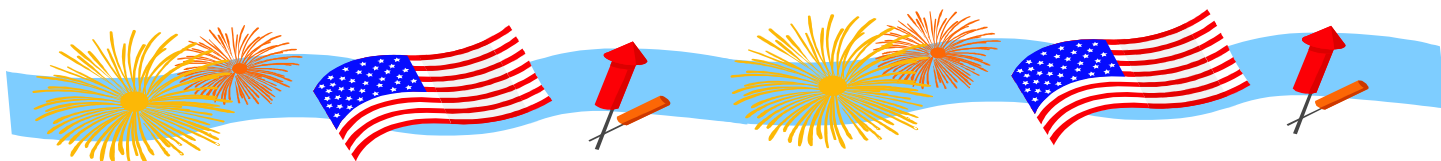
Winter Park Resort will receive a Bronze Environmental Achievement Award from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for excellence in pollution prevention and commitment to the environment. The resort earned the medal for its 2006 Backside Parsenn Peak Project which encompasses the recent installation of the wind-powered Eagle Wind chairlift and accompanying terrain improvements.

"Winter Park once again is honored to receive an environmental award from CDPHE," said Doug Laraby, Winter Park Planning Director. "We take our public lands stewardship and environmental responsibilities seriously, and we're delighted and humbled to be recognized for our efforts."

As part of the Winter Park Resort's Master Development Plan, the Backside Parsenn Peak Project was designed to preserve scenic panoramas and views while minimizing visual impacts through such acts as avoiding any major wetland disturbances, light glading to minimize impacts to lynx habitat, and using a helicopter so to not disturb delicate forest and tundra.

The Bronze tier of the CDPHE's Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) is the entry-level tier designed to recognize businesses, municipalities, and others that have made significant achievements in improving the environment of Colorado. Winter Park Resort is receiving this prestigious award based on the environmental outcome, scope and dedicated history of the project.

The Colorado Environmental Achievement Award is Winter Park Resort's second environmental award received this year. The resort was presented with the 2006 Silver Eagle Award for its commitment to the environment in the category of Excellence in Visual Impact at the 2007 National Ski Area Association Annual Meeting in April.



July 2007 Calendar of Events

- 7/01 Blues from the Top
- 7/03 8th Annual Fraser Picnic in the Park
- 7/04 Lance Gutershon's Fraser Valley 4th of July Celebration
- 7/04 Fire up the Cliffs 4th of July Celebration
- 7/5-7 Crankworx Colorado
- 7/6 Granby Farmers Market
- 7/7-8 Mountain Bike Capital US Weekend
- 7/7 High Country Stampede Rodeo
- 7/7 Winter Park Mountain Bike Series Race #3: Cross Country Super Loop
- 7/7 Summer Ski Train to Winter Park
- 7/7 High Altitude Challenge Truck & Tractor Pull
- 7/10 You can own your own home workshop
- 7/10 8th Annual Fraser Picnic in the park
- 7/12 Blue Grass Thursdays: FREE live music
- 7/13-15 4th Annual Winter Park Folk Festival
- 7/13 Granby Farmer's Market
- 7/14 High Country Stampede Rodeo
- 7/14 Summer Ski Train to Winter Park Resort
- 7/14 Family Plaza Palooza
- 7/17 8th Annual Fraser Picnic in the Park
- 7/19 Blue Grass Thursdays: FREE live music
- 7/20 Granby Farmer's Market
- 7/21 Hi Country Stampede Rodeo
- 7/21-22 Winter Park Jazz Festival
- 7/21 Summer Ski Train to Winter Park Resort
- 7/21 Winter Park Mountain Bike Series #4
- 7/21 Family Plaza Palooza
- 7/21-22 34th Annual Alpine Art Affair
- 7/24 8th Annual Fraser Picnic in the Park
- 7/24 Grand Sports Presents Snow Mountain Ranch Tuesday Night Mountain Bike Race Series
- 7/26 Blue Grass Thursdays: FREE live music
- 7/27 Granby Farmer's Market
- 7/28 High Country Stampede Rodeo
- 7/28 Summer Ski Train to Winter Park
- 7/28 Family Plaza Palooza
- 7/28-29 Fraser River Days and Lumberjack show
- 7/29-8/5 Winter Park-Fraser Valley Arts Week
- 7/31 8th Annual Fraser Picnic in the Park

