

**DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
Monday April 6, 2026**

A G E N D A

3:00 p.m.

Work Session - Community Development Updates

- **Liquor and Massage Licensing Update**
- **Training Lessons and Exercising Sessions of Non-owned Animals - Proposed Regulations**
- **Commemorative Events to Recognize Colorado Statehood 150 and America 250 Anniversaries**

Agenda Item

Date: April 6, 2026

To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager

From: Kati Carter, AICP, Director of Community Development *KC*

CC: Scott Weeks, Senior Planner
Shanna Austin, Manager, Public Outreach and Assistance
Steve Koster, AICP, Deputy Director of Community Development
Valerie Brewster, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Jeff Garcia, County Attorney

Subject: **Liquor and Massage Licensing Update**

SUMMARY

Currently, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) serves as both the Liquor Licensing Authority (LLA) and the Massage Facility Licensing Authority (MFLA). Both Authorities have flexibility to appoint others to serve in this role as approved by Resolution and Ordinance in 2009 and 2024, respectively. Information is provided below that would allow the Board to consider the appointment of others to serve in these roles.

In addition, under the County Liquor Licensing Resolution, the LLA acts on local liquor license violations. Updates to the County's current penalty guidelines are proposed for alignment with State regulations and to provide for additional enforcement flexibility.

BACKGROUND

Hearing Officers

State liquor code defines a LLA as the "governing body of a municipality or city and county, the board of county commissioners of a county, or any authority designated by municipal or county charter, municipal ordinance, or county resolution."

In 2009, the Board established a process to delegate the LLA to appointed members. Resolutions 009-142 and 009-231 serve as a reference for those actions. In 2017, Resolution 017-085, rescinded those actions and provided that the Board serve as the LLA.

Ordinance O-024-005 defines the MFLA as "the governing body of the Board of County Commissioners of Douglas County, or any authority designated by County charter or County resolution, to receive, review, and approve or deny, applications for licensure of a massage

facility and investigate and determine the eligibility of a person to be an owner or employee of a massage facility.”

Based on these governing documents, the Board can appoint hearing officers or members to sit as the LLA and MFLA. Proposed language for hiring hearing officers is attached.

Liquor Licensing Penalty Assessments

State Statutes regulate activities for sales and service of alcohol beverages, including disciplinary actions for violations. Section 44-3-601 of the Colorado Liquor Code specifies that any local licensing authority has the power to take actions for any violation from a licensee as it pertains to the terms, conditions, or provisions of the license or permit issued by the local authority.

Local penalty guidelines were last updated in 2015. State guidelines were subsequently amended in 2018, 2020, and 2024. As a result, the county guidelines need to be updated for consistency with current state regulations.

Staff analyzed the penalty fees and rules under Section 44-3-601 of the State Liquor Code and identified modifications to the Douglas County LLA Penalty Guidelines, consistent with the Colorado Department of Revenue’s Standards for liquor violations. The revisions mainly address minimum fines and the timing of when those fines would be assessed. Additional changes address when licenses can be suspended.

A red-lined version of the penalty guidelines is provided as an attachment.

NEXT STEPS

Staff is prepared to discuss this with the Board.

ATTACHMENTS

Hearing Officer Hiring Language
Redlined Penalty Guidelines

Liquor Licensing Hearing Officer:

- General duties include attending and overseeing Douglas County liquor license hearings, make determinations on application approval, denial, violations, and penalties to be assessed.
- Requirements include a HS Diploma/GED and intermediate to advanced knowledge of C.R.S. §§ 44-3-301 through 313, Regulation of Activities, Alcohol Beverages, State and Local Licensing. Computer experience is required. Must be able to perform detail-oriented work with accuracy and attention to detail efficiently. Must be able to learn quickly and adapt to a fast-paced environment with public interaction. A law license paralegal certification or teaching experience in the field of law is preferred.
- Scheduling & Compensation are based off an estimated 3 to 10 hearings per year with each hearing taking approximately 1 to 3 hours, not including preparation time, depending on the nature of the hearing. All hearings are open to the public and are conducted during normal business hours of 8am to 5pm.

Douglas County Local Liquor License Authority – Penalty Guidelines

Based on mitigating or aggravating circumstances, the Authority has the discretion to follow these **guidelines** or to deviate from them as they deem appropriate. The Authority may consider a licensee’s past history of success or failure with compliance checks, prior violations/prior corrective action(s) and their effectiveness or any other factors when imposing a penalty. These guidelines are modeled after the Colorado Department of Revenue’s Standards for Liquor Violations.

~~Once a violation(s) of liquor guidelines is identified~~ All licensees and/or their representative are required to attend a **Show Cause Hearing** to address the alleged violation ~~and determine any potential fine, suspension or revocation of a license~~. The Douglas County Attorney’s Office is not authorized to make any agreements prior to the Hearing. Licensees will be questioned on the following topics: liquor policies, sale and serving procedures, training, discipline, signage and corrective measures proposed/taken.

Licensees must petition the Authority for a **fine in lieu of suspension**. If accepted, the fine will be calculated as:

- ~~The fine shall be the equivalent to~~ 20% of the licensee’s estimated gross revenues from sale of alcohol during the period of suspension.
- ~~The estimated gross revenue shall be based off~~ average day sales of the month that the violation occurred.
- ~~The fine must be between \$500 and \$1,000~~ ~~No less than \$200~~ except that penalties for a first violation must not exceed and no more than \$5,000.
- ⊖ Fine is to be paid within timeline as determined by the Authority at 30 days of the Show Cause Hearing
- ⊖ Suspensions CANNOT be served on designated Holidays that shall track the Douglas County Government Holiday Schedule for the relevant year of violation if the licensee is regularly scheduled to be open for business. ~~the following designated holidays: New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving or Christmas~~
- No suspension shall last longer than 6 months.

First Offense

- Mitigated/Responsible Vendor
 - Warning
 - Up to 5-day suspension, full amount held in abeyance
 - No aggravating circumstances
 - Responsible Vendor training completed

- Standard
 - 10-day suspension
 - 7 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 3 days served
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition

- Aggravated
 - 15-day suspension
 - 8 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 7 days served
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition

- Fine In Lieu
 - May be accepted by the Authority in cases where an innocent third party would be negatively affected by a suspension OR if the licensee's gross profit from alcohol sales is > greater than 50%.
 - May not exceed \$5,000 for first violation

Second Offense - Within 1 Year of the First Offense

- Mitigated/Responsible Vendor
 - 10-day suspension
 - 5 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 5 days served
 - *Total: 5 + previous abeyance*
 - No aggravating circumstances
 - Responsible Vendor training completed
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition
- Standard
 - 15-day suspension
 - 8 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 7 days served
 - *Total: 7 + previous abeyance*
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition
- Aggravated
 - 25-day suspension
 - 15 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 10 days served
 - *Total: 10 + previous abeyance*
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition
- Fine In Lieu
 - May be accepted by the Authority in cases where an innocent third party would be negatively affected by a suspension OR if the licensee's gross profit from alcohol sales is **> greater than** 50%.

Third Offense - Within 2 Years of the First Offense

- Mitigated/Responsible Vendor
 - 15-day suspension
 - 8 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 7 days served
 - *Total: 7 + previous abeyance*
 - No aggravating circumstances
 - Responsible Vendor training completed
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition
- Standard
 - 25-day suspension
 - 15 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 10 days served
 - *Total: 10 + previous abeyance*
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition
- Aggravated
 - 40-day suspension
 - 25 days held in abeyance for 1 year
 - 15 days served
 - *Total: 15 + previous abeyance*
 - ✓ Consecutive days with at least 1 day being a Friday, Saturday or Sunday
 - ✓ Regularly scheduled business days (excluding designated holidays)
 - ✓ To be served within 30 days of imposition
- Fine In Lieu
 - Not applicable.
- License Revocation
 - May reapply for license after 12 months from date of Third offense

Special Event Permit

- First Offense
 - Warning
- Second Offense
 - Denial of permit for the same event
- Third Offense
 - Denial of all permits for 1 year

Agenda Item

Date: April 6, 2026

To: Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

Through: Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager

From: Kati Carter, AICP, Director of Community Development *K C*

CC: Steven E. Koster, AICP, Deputy Director of Community Development
Michael Cairy, Zoning Compliance Manager
Mike Dawson, Zoning Compliance Official

Subject: **Training Lessons and Exercising Sessions of Non-owned Animals – Proposed Regulations**

BACKGROUND

At a Board of County Commissioners (Board) work session on December 15, 2025, staff reviewed a situation where a property owner was allowing non-owned dogs to be brought to the property to be exercised by non-residents. This use was determined to be similar to dog and horse training lessons which is an allowed use of the property. The Board directed staff to draft regulations that would allow this use for the benefit of all landowners.

The attached draft amendment to Section 6, Estate Residential District (ER) of the DCZR would allow a property owner to let non-residents exercise their dogs on the property. The use would be within a broadened use category of "training lessons and exercising sessions of non-owned animals." If this approach is acceptable to the Board, the Rural Residential (RR), Large Rural Residential (LRR), and Agricultural One (A-1) sections would also be amended to reflect this change.

DISCUSSION

The DCZR currently allows a property owner in the ER, RR, LRR, and A-1 zone districts to provide "Training of non-owned horses, or riders not related to the landowner or lessee, limited to 14 lessons per week."

In 2016, the Director of Community Development interpreted the DCZR to allow the training of non-owned dogs, or of dog handlers, as reasonably similar to "Training of non-owned horses, or riders not related to the landowner or lessee, limited to 14 lessons per week" and include the use in the same zone districts with the same limitations, pursuant to Section 207, Inclusion of a Use Not Listed, of the DCZR.

In assessing the new use of allowing a property owner to let non-owned dogs be brought to the property to be exercised by non-residents, it seems reasonable to consider such use as similar to a training lesson. Based on that, it would be reasonable to allow such use without extra zoning approvals and treat the use the same as the training of non-owned horses and dogs, horse riders, or dog handlers.

The attached draft amendment to Section 6 of the DCZR allows “Training lessons and exercising session of non-owned animals” in the ER zone district as follows:

- The landowner or lessee may conduct training of a non-owned animal (1 lesson), an animal rider or handler (1 lesson), or a non-owned animal and the animal’s rider or handler (1 lesson).
- The landowner or lessee may allow non-residents to use a property for exercising sessions of their personally owned animals while the animal owner is present. Each animal owner exercising their personally owned animals is 1 exercising session.
- Training lessons and exercising sessions, in any combination, are limited to no more than 14 total per week.

This allows a property owner the flexibility of multiple similar uses without increasing the intensity of uses on the property. The draft amendment incorporates the new use, and codifies the Director’s interpretation of dog training, into the DCZR.

The draft amendment also proposes changes to the Use Permitted by Special Review (USR) subsection within the ER District to clarify that horse boarding and animal training and exercising are distinct uses. Further, the amendment specifies that either of these uses beyond the number allowed by right are a USR. Section 21, Use By Special Review, of the DCZR, will also require amending for further clarification of the distinct uses.

NEXT STEPS

Staff is prepared, if directed by the Board, to initiate the Zoning Resolution amendment process to revise the Residential and Agricultural Zone District sections to allow training lessons and exercising sessions of non-owned animals as described above.

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Revisions to Zoning Resolution Section 6

SECTION 6 ER - ESTATE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

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601 Intent (Amended 8/11/09)

To provide areas for medium low-density residential homesites, on land that has minimal farming or ranching value, that create country living in a rural atmosphere while preserving the vegetation, significant geological features, wildlife habitat/corridors, views and privacy, and provide an appropriate transition from urban development to large-lot residential or agricultural areas. The density range is from one dwelling per 4.9 acres to one dwelling per 2.5 acres. Adequate facilities, such as roads, water and sanitation, fire protection, emergency service, and public utilities shall be available to serve these areas.

Expansion of urban development into rural areas is a matter of public concern because of the potential of unnecessary increases in service costs, conflicts between agricultural and urban activities, and the loss of open space and the natural landscape. Medium low-density residential homesites may be appropriate when located outside the highway corridor viewsheds, depicted on the Douglas County Open Lands Opportunity Map, and when adjacent to residential development of similar or greater density. Development consideration may be given where it would serve to preserve agricultural land or open space, and promote a design that is sensitive to the natural land features in accordance with the intent of the Douglas County Comprehensive Master Plan, as amended.

Development within this district should provide road connections, between developments, that provide adequate response time for sheriff/fire protection and medical support, and more efficient service delivery such as school busing.

The ER zone district is characterized by residential homesites and other accessory uses which enhance the basic elements of a balanced residential area, such as, schools, parks, neighborhood recreational facilities, and open space. Development or use of land in this district is permitted only in accordance with the provisions herein. Land disturbance activities may require permit(s).

602 Principal Uses

On lots of 2.3 acres or greater in area, the following uses shall be allowed by right: (*Lots smaller than 2.3 acres are limited to the principal uses allowed in the residential zone district to which the lot conforms in size.*) (Amended 5/14/03)

602.01 Community Uses:

- Church - maximum seating capacity of 350 in main worship area (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*)
- Fire station - no on-site training (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*)
- Library (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*)
- Open space/trails
- Park/playground

- Recreation facility - neighborhood (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*)
- Recreation facility - private (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*) (*Amended 9/9/08*)
- School - public/private kindergarten through 12th grade (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27 for private school; location and extent required for public school per Section 32*)
- Sheriff substation - no training or detention (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*)

602.02 Construction office - temporary (*refer to Section 22*)

602.03 Residence

- Principal - 1 single-family dwelling or 1 group home per lot (*excluding mobile home*) (*group homes must be separated by a distance of 750'*) (*Amended 9/9/08*)
- Temporary (*refer to Section 22*)

602.04 Sales office - temporary (*refer to Section 22*)

602.05 Utility service facility (*Site Improvement Plan required per Section 27*)

~~602.06 Youth-oriented agricultural activity~~

603 Accessory Uses (*Amended 6/24/25*)

The following shall be allowed only when a principal use has been established on the lot. (*Lots smaller than 2.3 acres are limited to the accessory uses allowed in the residential zone district to which the lot conforms in size.*)

603.01 Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) – one per lot, except as restricted by a Rural Site Plan, subdivision plat, or other similar land use approval.

603.02 Accessory uses and buildings

603.03 Animals (*refer to Section 24*)

603.04 Day-care home - small

603.05 Garage - private:

- For lots less than 1 acre in size - a maximum of 1 detached garage of no more than 1,000 sq. ft. in area is permitted.
- For lots 1 acre or greater in size - a maximum of 2 detached garages is permitted. The total detached garage area shall not exceed 3,000 sq. ft. per lot. (*Amended 3/8/22*)

- 603.06 Home occupation - Class 1 (*refer to Section 23*)
- 603.07 In-home elder care (*Amended 3/28/01*)
- 603.08 Satellite receiving dish
- 603.09 Training lessons and exercising sessions of non-owned animals: horses, or riders not related to the landowner or lessee, limited to 14 lessons per week
- The landowner or lessee may conduct training of a non-owned animal (1 lesson), an animal rider or handler (1 lesson), or a non-owned animal and the animal's rider or handler (1 lesson).
 - The landowner or lessee may allow non-residents to use a property for exercising sessions of their personally owned animals while the animal owner is present. Each animal owner exercising their personally owned animals is 1 exercising session.
 - Training lessons and exercising sessions, in any combination, are limited to no more than 14 total per week.

603.10 Youth oriented agricultural activity

604 Uses Permitted by Special Review (*Amended 6/22/05*)

On lots 2.3 acres or greater in area, the following uses are permitted, upon the approval of the Board, in accordance with Section 21, Use by Special Review of this Resolution. (*Lots smaller than 2.3 acres are limited to the uses by special review allowed in the residential zone district to which the lot conforms to in area.*)

- 604.01 Church - greater than 350 seating capacity in main worship area
- 604.02 Day-care center/preschool, or day-care home— — large
- 604.03 Horse boarding facility that exceeds the maximum number permitted by right
- 604.034 Training lessons and exercising sessions of non-owned animals that exceeds the maximum number as an accessory use ~~Horse boarding or training facility that exceeds the maximum number of horses permitted by right~~
- 604.054 Recreation facility - community
- 604.065 Residence
- Bed and Breakfast

604.067 Utility - major facility

605 Land Dedication

A portion of the gross site area shall be dedicated to Douglas County for public use, or cash-in-lieu of land as required by the Douglas County Subdivision Resolution.

606 Lot Area

To promote a design that is sensitive to the natural land features and adapts to the natural topography, flexibility in lot size is allowed. Lot size may be determined through a site analysis based on compatibility with adjacent land uses, health department requirements, the natural environment, water availability, soil suitability for septic, and the Douglas County Master Plan. The ability to keep animals may be affected by the lot size. (Refer to Section 24)

606.01 For lots served by an individual septic system, the minimum allowable lot area is 1 acre.

606.02 For lots served by central water, a one-acre minimum lot area is required for a detached accessory dwelling unit (ADU). (Amended 6/24/25)

606.03 For lots served by individual groundwater well, a two-acre minimum lot area is required for a detached accessory dwelling unit (ADU). (Amended 6/24/25)

607 Maximum Gross Density

The gross density shall not exceed 1 dwelling per 2.5 acres and may be less due to required infrastructure or dedication, or environmental constraints.

608 Minimum Setbacks

Parcel Size	SETBACK FROM:			
	Street	Side Lot Line	Rear Lot Line	115+KV Power Line
LESS than 2.3	regional/maj. arterial: 100' other: 25'	15'*	25'* accessory: 15'	100'
2.3+ ac.	regional/maj. arterial: 100' other: 25'	25'*	25'*	100'

*Schools and buildings within recreation areas shall be set back 50'

The setback is measured from the lot line to the wall of the structure horizontally and perpendicular to the lot line (See illustration in the Definition section.) The setback from the POWER LINE is measured from the closest edge of the easement to the structure.

609 Encroachments

609.01 A cornice, canopy, eave, fireplace, wing wall or similar architectural feature may extend 3 feet into a required setback.

- 609.02 A covered or uncovered deck or porch may extend 6 feet into a required setback, except for a side setback. *(Amended 3/8/22)*
- 609.03 Foundation anchoring and foundation repair systems may be located within a required setback. *(Amended 3/8/22)*
- 609.04 A building permit shall not be issued for any structure which is to be located within an easement unless written approval by the easement holder(s) is provided.
- 609.05 Utility distribution lines and related equipment commonly located along property lines may be located within a required setback. A neighborhood substation or gas regulator/meter station shall meet the required setbacks.

610 Building Height

Maximum building height: 35 feet

The maximum building height shall not apply to belfries, cupolas, penthouses or domes not used for human occupancy, roof-mounted church spires, chimneys, skylights, ventilators, water tanks, silos, parapet walls, cornices, antennas, utility poles and necessary mechanical appurtenances usually carried above the roof level.

- 610.01 The maximum height of a roof-mounted church spire/steeple shall not exceed 1.62 times the height of the church measured from the lowest finished floor to the roof peak. The height of the roof-mounted spire shall be measured from the top of the spire to the finished floor of the lowest walkout level of the church. *(Refer to Section 36 building height definition - spire height calculation)*
- 610.02 The height of an antenna shall be no greater than the distance to the nearest lot line. *(Refer to Section 27A for cell sites and Section 21 for telecommunication facilities)*

611 Water and Sanitation

All uses shall be served by a central water facility. Individual septic systems shall be allowed in compliance with health department regulations.

612 Utilities

All public utility distribution lines shall be placed underground.

613 Street Standards

Construction of paved streets in accordance with the Douglas County Roadway Design and Construction Standards, Storm Drainage Design and Technical Criteria manual, and other applicable County regulations.

614 Parking Standards - Refer to Section 28 for nonresidential parking standards
(Amended 4/24/02)

The minimum off-street parking spaces required: 8 spaces per lot in accordance with the Douglas County Roadway Design and Construction Standards.

Unlicensed, operable vehicles parked outside shall be concealed by a solid fence, berm, vegetative barrier, or a combination thereof. Inoperable vehicles are prohibited.

615 Fencing Standards

615.01 Fences, walls, or hedges shall not be erected in the public right-of-way, but shall be allowed within the setbacks, on private land. A building permit is required for any retaining wall greater than 4 feet in height or any fence or wall greater than 6 feet in height, or as required by the Building Code, as amended and adopted by Douglas County. (Amended 12/18/12)

615.02 Fences, walls, or hedges shall be erected and maintained in a manner which does not obstruct the vision of automobile traffic on the adjacent streets, rights-of-way, or driveways in accordance with the Douglas County Roadway Design and Construction Standards manual.

615.03 Fences, walls or hedges shall be maintained in good structural or living condition. The landowner is responsible for the repair or removal of a fence, wall or hedge, which constitutes a safety hazard, by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence or abandonment, or which constitutes a zoning violation.

615.04 Swimming pools shall be enclosed by a fence or wall that meets or exceeds the requirements of the Building Code, as amended and adopted by Douglas County. (Amended 12/18/12)

615.05 Barbed, electrically charged, concertina, or razor wire is prohibited.

616 Sign Standards - Refer to Section 29 of this Resolution

617 Lighting Standards - Refer to Section 30 of this Resolution

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Agenda Item

Date: April 6, 2026

To: Douglas J. Debord, County Manager

From: Kati Carter, AICP, Director of Community Development *K C*
Caroline Frizell, APR, Director of Communication and Public Affairs *CF*

CC: Brittany Cassell, Curator
Sarah Packard, Communication Specialist
Lauren Pulver, Planning Manager
Steven E. Koster, AICP, Deputy Director of Community Development

Subject: **Commemorative Events to Recognize Colorado Statehood 150 and America 250 Anniversaries**

SUMMARY

Community Development staff has been working with County partners and Communication and Public Affairs staff to plan displays and events to celebrate the Colorado 150 and America 250 anniversaries. In 2026, Douglas County is hosting a series of events that invite residents to experience the open spaces and historic sites that are living connections to Colorado's path to statehood.

EVENT PLANNING

In addition to planning County events, staff has been attending local planning meetings organized by History Colorado to coordinate with other local organizations on plans for commemorative events this year. As dates for the following events are finalized, staff will update the Board of County Commissioners (Board) to ensure there is an opportunity for the Board to attend. The County is currently planning for the following events and exhibits:

Public Artifact Exhibits

Earlier this year, the Douglas County History Repository (Repository) installed exhibits at the Parker Old Schoolhouse and Miller building garage windows. The Parker exhibit is a transportation theme featuring historic license plates, car parts, horseshoes, historic travel pamphlets, and more. The Miller garage windows contain 8 informational panels of important moments in American history, designed by History Colorado for public use.

This summer, in partnership with the Douglas County Libraries, the Repository will hold a ribbon cutting to open artifact exhibits at three library branches. The exhibits will include a display focusing on dairy farming in the County, highlighting artifacts from the Metzler Ranch, at the Castle Rock branch. The Parker branch will feature ranching and equestrian artifacts from various historical sites in the County. The Highlands Ranch branch display will

share the history of American Indians by highlighting artifacts from the Mission Veijo project when the Highlands Ranch development was built. These exhibits will remain in the library branches permanently and will be updated annually to reflect new topics and artifacts.

The Repository also partnered with the Castle Rock Museum by loaning out American Indian artifacts for an exhibit it will display in the museum all year. In July, the Repository is partnering with the Douglas County Fair Board by loaning artifacts for a large display at the fair. The artifacts will help tell the history of ranching in the County.

Public Events

On June 14, the Repository will partner with the Town of Castle Rock for its Flag Day event occurring during the farmers' market. The Repository will host a booth showcasing County artifacts.

On June 18, Repository volunteer and former County Curator, Norma Miller, will give a presentation at Parker Water's headquarters on the excavations and history of the Russellville site. Russellville was a significant part of the gold rush in Colorado with the discovery of gold by William Green Russell and is believed to be the birthplace of Douglas County. Russellville was also a cavalry camp.

County staff will host tours of the open excavation on project 5DA.265 to teach staff and the public about archaeology and the importance of documenting American Indian history before it erodes away. This project is awaiting final grant contracting with the state and tours are planned to begin in early summer.

Repository staff and volunteers will participate in the County's Fall Festival at Sandstone Ranch on September 26. This year, the Repository is coordinating with the Gold Prospectors of the Rockies organization to bring gold panning demonstrations educating the public on the history of gold mining and its significance to the settlement of Douglas County.

Ribbon Cuttings at Historic Properties

Ribbon cuttings will be held throughout the summer to mark the installation of interpretive signs at several County historic sites including Sandstone Ranch, Columbine Open Space, and Evans Homestead.

County Open Space and Repository staff are coordinating the timing of the new Lincoln Mountain Open Space trail system extension. The County will host a ribbon cutting this summer to celebrate the opening of the trail, completion of exterior work on Evans Homestead, and installation of interpretive signs.

Staff is planning additional ribbon cutting events to highlight significant historic preservation project work that is wrapping up this year. When the current exterior phase of work at the Miksch Helmer cabin is complete, staff will partner with the Roxborough Area Historical Society to host a ribbon cutting and open house event in the fall. Additionally,

restoration work on the Spring Valley Schoolhouse is expected to be completed this summer. Staff will coordinate with the Larkspur Historical Society to host a ribbon cutting and public open house late this summer.

BRANDING AND PROMOTION

County staff are developing a unified branding approach to ensure all commemorative events and exhibits in Douglas County tied to the Colorado 150 and America 250 anniversaries are easily recognizable and connected under a cohesive identity. The County has created a commemorative logo inspired by the Russellville Barn, a historically significant local landmark.

This branding will be applied consistently across physical displays, event signage, digital communications, and promotional materials to create a cohesive public experience and reinforce awareness of the anniversary celebrations. In addition, staff are coordinating the development of a dedicated County webpage that will serve as a central hub for event information, exhibit details, and opportunities for public engagement.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will coordinate with the Board on attendance at any of the events above, once dates are confirmed.