

Manager's Message

Each August I typically focus my time on preparing for the Town's Annual Golf Tournament fundraiser followed by our Harvest Daze weekend and then transition into preparing for the budget process for the upcoming year. I also try to get our summer construction projects completed by the end of the summer before school gets going but that's more difficult to manage due to unpredictable weather delays and contractor schedules.

I wanted to focus this month's message on Harvest Daze and as it's our community's largest event which is primarily funded through fundraising activities and donations. I started hosting a golf tournament at the Coyote Creek Golf Course in Ft. Lupton in 2017 as the primary fundraiser event for Harvest Daze as I'm not very good at simply asking businesses for donations and wanted to offer a fun event that could bring in the needed revenues to support the Harvest Daze weekend. During the past six years the tournament, along with the Mayors' donation drive, has successfully generated enough funding to keep all activities either free or at minimal costs for the community to enjoy. Most of the funding pays for the community meal, several bands including stage and sound/light system rentals, bounce houses and kids activities, and in recent years the carnival-style rides that are available in the west ball field. One of the most expensive event or activity is the fireworks display which has increased from \$5,000 to \$8,000 just in the past two years. In previous years the Town has budgeted approximately \$25,000 to fund all events and activities but in recent years the budget has increased significantly due to increased costs in fireworks and adding the carnival ride rentals. Some activities still have a cost or entry fee, such as the beer garden and the various other fundraisers including the cornhole, horse shoes, volleyball and softball tournaments, but overall the Town strives to

keep the weekend a fun and very affordable community event.

Harvest Daze continues to be our largest annual community event that originated in the early 1900's and has had previous names such as Pickle Days and Platteville Homecoming Days. In 2005 the Town took over the management and operations of the community event to keep it going and the name Harvest Daze has been used ever since.

The Town established the Harvest Daze Fund in 2006 that is a special revenue fund separate from the general fund to track fundraising and donations. The Board of Trustees will typically provide funding from the general fund to help offset the costs of the fireworks display if needed but as stated earlier all costs related to the Annual Harvest Daze weekend comes from donations and fundraising.

The event schedule has changed a little over the years since the Town started managing it as new activities have been tried but overall the schedule is basically the same for the 3-day weekend. Friday evening is considered the "community night" held at Lincoln Park with a meal provided along with simple, fun activities. Saturday is a full day starting early around 7:00am and not ending until the firework and bands conclude around 10:00pm. The weekend concludes with a relaxing but competitive co-ed softball tournament at the ball fields and the Lions Club bingo at the Community Center. A full list of activities for this year's Harvest Daze weekend can be found on the Town's website with flyers posted at Town Hall and the Community & Senior Centers.

Contact Information

Town of Platteville

400 Grand Avenue
Platteville, CO 80651
(970) 785-2245
Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:30pm
www.plattevillegov.org

Police Dept.

(970) 785-2215
Non-Emergency Dispatch:
(970) 356-1212
Emergency: 911

Public Works Dept.

(970) 785-6415

Recreation & Seniors

(970)785-2245 x. 1101
(720) 438-0711

Platteville/Gilcrest Fire Protection District

303 Main Street
Platteville, CO 80651
(970) 785-2232

Pioneer Museum

502 Marion Avenue
Platteville, CO 80651
(970) 785-6285
Mon & Wed 10:00am-3:00pm
Sat. 10:00-2:00pm

Public Library

504 Marion Ave./PO Box 567
Platteville, CO 80651
(970) 785-2231
Mon - Fri 10:00am-6:00pm
Sat 10:00am-2:00pm
www.PPLCO.us

Nantes Library (Gilcrest)

703 Birch Street
Gilcrest, CO 80623
(970) 737-1035
Mon-Fri 10:00am-6:00pm
Sat 10:00am-2:00pm
www.nanteslibrary.us