

November 15, 2021



# BLACKHAWK NEWSLETTER

## *BOD Meeting Update*

### *Important Links*

- [Blackhawk Website](#)
- [Blackhawk Facebook](#)
- [Covenants](#)
- [Driveway and Building Compliance Forms](#)
- [Contact Information](#)
- [BOD Meeting Minutes and Monthly Financials](#)

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The BHR board met on October 30 via teleconference. Treasurer Art Jackson submitted a proposed budget for review for 2022 and asked for input so that it can be approved by November 15. Road Chair Jim Nance reported that road base was applied to Lost Spur, Timber Drive, and the "camel back" at the top of the intersection on Four Mile Canyon Road in October, and that Mike Ferrero has been working on cleaning around culverts. He mentioned that we have enough in the Road budget to purchase road base to cover between 1.25 and 1.5 miles every year, plus grading of most of the ranch. EMC Chair Brad Brooks reported that work is progressing on the CSFS grant that is funded through June 2023 and that he is working on our Firewise renewal application. Access the link on the left for the full Minutes as well as the Financials.

## *BHR Ranch Website*

By Susanne Bloomfield

Please check your personal contact information on the [Blackhawk Website](#) to make sure that all of your information has been updated and is correct. Click on POA Resources and go to the Blackhawk Ranch Owner Directory tab. There is also a Contact Information Change form in the same tab that you can fill out.

THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

The Directory is password protected. Contact the [webmaster](#) if you need it.

## *Things You Need To Know*

*Invoices for POA dues will be sent out by December 15, 2021. If you have not received yours, contact [Tammy@shoeboxsbas.com](mailto:Tammy@shoeboxsbas.com)*

## *Winter Driving on BHR—Be Safe!*

By Brad Brooks, EMC Chair

Snows are coming to the roads of Blackhawk! Hence, a few thoughts might be worth sharing as we begin winter driving here on the ranch. The snow removal rubric for Blackhawk roads includes plowing the roads when 4" or more of snow is measured on our roads (not open ground or decks, etc). This will be adjusted depending upon other winter factors, such as overall snow depth, amount of drifting, moisture in the snow, and outdoor temperatures. We typically maintain roads such that **a 4-wheel drive vehicle, with sufficient clearance, and aggressive snow/mud tires** will be able to negotiate the roads in winter. Typically, we start plowing early mornings after the snow fall abates. Typically, plowing all roads takes 8-10 hours; sometimes less or more depending upon conditions.

Three considerations will determine your safe ingress/egress on snowy, icy, or muddy roads. First, your experience and skill driving on unpaved mountain roads during snow season. Second, the type, drive train, and clearance of the vehicle driven. Please understand Front Wheel Drive is not 4-wheel drive, nor is All-Wheel drive. A well-maintained 4-wheel drive SUV or pickup with sufficient clearance will be a major advantage to your successful ingress and egress on Blackhawk this winter. Third, vehicles' tires need to have aggressive enough tread to grip, as well as self-clean, the snow, ice, and mud you will encounter this winter.

Unfortunately, accidents occur on our roads each winter. Many involve contractors or delivery drivers trying to move loads across snowy, icy, or muddy Blackhawk roads in 2-wheel drive vehicles. Often, waiting 1 or 2 days to let our roads dry out can make the difference between a safe delivery or an accident. Please work with your deliveries or contractors to inform them of current road conditions and ask them to delay, when roads are not yet passable by 2-wheel drive vehicles.



## *A Moment in Time*

by Nancy Pasternak

Did you know that Zebulon Pike, the name-sake of Pike's Peak west of Colorado Springs, explored Huerfano County from January 24<sup>th</sup> to January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1807? He was commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the southwestern



area of the Louisiana Purchase in 1806 and 1807. Pike was instructed to seek out the headwaters of the Arkansas and Red Rivers, and to investigate Spanish settlements in New Mexico.

Pike and his men left Missouri and traveled through the present-day states of Kansas and Nebraska before reaching Colorado, where he spotted the famous mountain later named in his honor. From there, they traveled down to New Mexico, where they were stopped by Spanish officials and charged with illegal entry into Spanish-held territory. His party was escorted to Santa Fe, then down to Chihuahua, back up through Texas, and finally to the border of the Louisiana Territory, where they were released. The information Pike provided about the U.S. territory in Kansas and Colorado was a compelling reason for future U.S. settlement, and his reports about the weakness of Spanish authority in the Southwest stirred talk of future U.S. annexation.

Pike's journey included exploring seven present-day U.S. states in 280 days, along 2,697 miles in the U.S. as well as three Mexican provinces in 73 days and travelling 967 miles in Mexico, ( then New Spain ). Present-day Texas and New Mexico were then considered part of New Spain. Pike found and explored the headwaters of the Arkansas, South Platte, Osage, and Cottonwood Rivers, as well as the Mississippi ( on his first expedition in 1805 and 1806 ). Zebulon Pike during his lifetime traveled and explored more than 8,800 miles in more than 320 of today's counties in 24 U.S. states, two provinces of Canada and three provinces of Mexico.

On October 19, 2021, the Huerfano County Commissioners approved Resolution 21-39, which supports the feasibility study to establish designation of the Pike National Historic Trail. The resolution endorses legislation necessary to designate the trail as a National Historic Trail. The resolution says, "The establishment of the Pike National Historic Trail will promote investigation to embellish historical, geographical and the unique cultural heritage of Huerfano County." For more information, google Pike National Historic Trail Association.

## *Lathrop State Park*

by Susanne Bloomfield

With so many areas to explore in Colorado, we often forget one beautiful area right in Blackhawk Ranch's backyard—[Lathrop State Park](#). Colorado's first state park, it was established in 1962 and contains 1,460 acres of recreational opportunities, including two separate lakes.

Martin Lake offers swimming, water-skiing, power boating, jet-skiing, and sailing while the more peaceful Horse-shoe Lake attracts canoeists, kayakers, and other wakeless boats. Both lakes offer fishing, including catfish, bass, walleye, trout, blue gill, and large tiger muskies.



Lathrop is also a great place for camping, and has 103 reservable, year-round campsites. All have picnic tables and firepits. Pinon Campground offers 82 electrical hookups and coin showers.



Other activities are available for everyone: an archery range, 13 geocache sites to discover, and two hiking trails, the three-mile, paved Cuerno Verde Trail, which allows bicycling, and the two-mile, non-paved Hogback trail, which includes a self-guided wildlife brochure. Hunting with shotguns or bows and arrows for small game and waterfowl is also allowed in posted areas around Horse-shoe Lake during the legal seasons.

The Visitors Center has park passes, licenses, boat/snowmobile registrations, a gift and book store, history and wildlife displays, firewood, bagged ice, ice cream, bait, soft drinks, and local attraction brochures.

If that is not enough, a nine-hole golf course, mini-golf course, and driving range are also located in the park with a full restaurant and a bar—the Second Street Bar and Grill that is open Monday-Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.





## *Holiday Happenings*

by Melissa Miller

With the holidays fast approaching, everyone's schedules are filling up quickly with turkey and wrapping paper. Don't miss out on the upcoming festivities.

### **Trinidad's Annual Tree Lighting**

Fri, Nov 26, 5:15 – 6:15 PM  
Annual Tree Lighting at  
Hometown Holidays, Trinidad,  
CO 81082

### **Trinidad's 22nd Annual Parade of Lights**

Sat, Nov 27, 6 – 7 PM  
Main Street. Wear your lighted bling, lights, and glow necklaces.



### **2021 Annual Holiday Arts Fundraiser & Culinary Celebration**

Sat, Dec 4, 5 PM – 7:30 PM

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Annual Holiday Arts Fundraiser! Stroll La Veta's Galleries and enjoy a sampling of holiday foods while supporting local art programs. On Ryus Avenue visit La Veta School of the Arts, Shalawalla and SPACe Gallery. On Main Street visit Crafted in Colorado, Silver Shoe, The Salon, Artisans on Main, H's Place Gallery, and Traditions Makers Market. Artisans on Main will provide the desserts.

At this yearly festive Arts Walk, stroll among 8 galleries & shops in La Veta, enjoying delicious eats accompanied by live seasonal music while providing support for local arts programs. Tickets (\$25) will be available at SPACe, Artisans on Main, and H's Place.

### **Holiday Giving Celebration**

Virtual – Starting Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> with a live watch party Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>

The Spanish Peaks Business Alliance will be hosting our 4th Annual Holiday Giving Celebration virtually again this year due to COVID-19 safety concerns. The auction portion of the benefit will be hosted on our website: <https://www.spba.huerfano.org/holiday-giving-celebration>. Donors can learn what local nonprofits are working on this year, what they need help with, and conveniently donate straight from the website. The site will be open to accept donations starting December 6th! SPBA will send a receipt for tax purposes following the event.

### **Christmas at the Rosemount Museum of Pueblo**



Fri, Nov 26 – Thurs,  
Dec 30

The Women's Auxiliary decorates the house, both inside and out, for the holidays using thousands of lights and trees in every room. The museum is closed on Sunday, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We suggest calling to confirm holiday

hours as they can vary and are subject to change. Regular holiday hours are Tuesday through Saturday.

Guided tours begin at 10 a.m. and the last tour of the day at 3:00 p.m. On self-guided days the last admittance into the museum is 2:45 p.m., which allows guests 45 minutes to enjoy the mansion. Self-guided tour days are as follows: November 26 and 27 and December 18, 21, 22, 23, 28, and 29. Dec. 30 is a guided tour day and will offer morning tours only. To book a group tour, contact the museum at (719) 545-5290.

### **Electric Safari at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs**

Nightly, December 3 – 5

Nightly, December 10 – 23

Nightly, December 25 – January 1, 2022

(\*Electric Safari is NOT open on Christmas Eve, December 24)

Electric Safari at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo is the only place in Colorado Springs where you can see over 60 one-of-a-kind light sculptures while celebrating the season with our animals at the same time! New this year, come and see our larger-than-life illuminated inflatable animals, located throughout the Zoo.

Electric Safari was voted 3rd Best Zoo Lights in the U.S. in 2019 and 2020 by USA TODAY 10Best Readers' Choice.

And many more! Thanks to COVID, I don't think I need to remind anyone how precious time with family and friends is. Enjoy the festivities and the reason for the season!