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Summer Energy | Community in Motion | 2026

Summer has officially arrived at Independence, and what a way to kick off the season!

Summerfest brought together neighbors, local businesses, first responders, community partners and visitors from across Elbert County for a day filled with laughter, music and connection. From the foam tower's sudsy chaos and live music to the bustling vendor market and beer garden, the smiles exceeded all expectations. Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, participated, and helped create such a memorable day.

As we move into June, the community is buzzing with activity. The pool is open, gardens are growing, food trucks are returning each week, and there are plenty of opportunities to get outside and enjoy everything that makes Independence such a special place to call home.

Here's to long evenings, sunny days and a summer filled with good neighbors and great memories.



The Clubhouse is staffed daily from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. through Labor Day. Outside of staffed hours, the gym remains accessible with key card access and is closed Mondays from 10–11 a.m. for routine cleaning.

Community Garden Update

It's not too late to grow with us this season!

The Independence Community Garden is already showing signs of summer, but there are still garden plots available for residents who would like to participate. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or trying your hand at growing vegetables, herbs, or flowers for the first time, we'd love to have you join us.



With 44 garden plots, a community greenhouse, irrigation access, and a welcoming group of gardeners, the Community Garden is a great way to connect with neighbors while enjoying the rewards of growing your own food.

Plots are still available and can be reserved now.

To reserve a garden plot or ask questions about the program, email IndependenceCOCommunityGarden@gmail.com.

There's still plenty of time to plant, grow, and enjoy a harvest this season!

JUNE COMMUNITY EVENTS

HAPPENING IN INDEPENDENCE

Pool Season is Here

The Independence Pool is officially open for the season!

Please remember:

- Residents must have their community access card for entry.

- Pool hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.
- Guests must be accompanied by a resident.
- Children under 14 must be supervised according to posted pool rules.
- Please help keep the facility clean and enjoyable for everyone.

Remember your sunscreen and to stay hydrated as temperatures begin to climb!

Sunrise Yoga in the Park



Start your Saturday with fresh air, movement, and a little time for yourself!

Join your neighbors for complimentary outdoor yoga at beautiful Trenton Park. Whether you're a seasoned yogi or have never stepped onto a mat before, all ages and experience levels are welcome. This relaxed, community-focused class is designed to help you stretch, breathe, and enjoy a peaceful start to the weekend.

Upcoming Classes

June 13 | 8 a.m.

June 27 | 8 a.m.

August 1 | 8 a.m.

August 15 | 8 a.m.

August 29 | 8 a.m.

Location

Trenton Park at Independence

Near 39799–39759 Yorktown Terrace

Bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and a friend. We look forward to seeing you in the park!

Have Ideas? We'd Love to Hear Them.

Join the Independence Social Committee

Some of the best things happening in Independence started with a simple idea from a neighbor.

If you enjoy bringing people together, planning events, decorating, welcoming new residents, organizing volunteers or simply sharing creative ideas, consider joining the Independence Social Committee. Whether you have an hour to spare or want to be more involved, there's a place for you.

Help us create the events, traditions and experiences that make Independence feel like home.

Meetings: Third Tuesday of each month (*new meeting date*)

Time: 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Independence Clubhouse

Questions or interested in joining?

Great communities don't happen by accident—they're built by neighbors who care.

Stay Connected:

- Keep an eye on your email (and your junk folder, just in case)
- Add Contact@IndependenceDenver.com to your address book
- Follow community pages: FB: [IndependenceNeighborhood](#) | IG: [@indneighborhood](#)
- Follow the Community run pages: FB: [Women of Independence Neighborhood](#) | FB: [Neighbors of Independence](#) (proof of residency required for access)
- **NEW** [The Independence Lifestyle: Where Community & Nature Connect](#)



Food Trucks Are Back at Independence



Food Truck Wednesdays | 4–7 p.m.

Food Truck Wednesdays are back—mark your calendars.

Join us each week from **4–7 p.m.** for an easy midweek dinner with a rotating lineup of local favorites. No cooking, no cleanup—just grab a meal and spend a little time outside with neighbors.

Get ready for a delicious summer lineup.

Trucks are subject to last-minute changes.

June 10 – Ragbag Bistro

June 17 – Tacos Por Dias

June 24 – Woodhill Small Batch BBQ

July 1 – La Mesa

July 8 – Tacos Por Dias

July 15 – La Mesa

July 22 – Pierogies Factory

July 29 – Lucky Bird

August 5 – Colorado Berliner Haus

August 12 – La Mesa

August 19 – Woodhill Small Batch BBQ

August 26 – La Mesa

September 2 – What Would Cheesus Do

It's Never Too Late to Learn to Swim



Whether you're introducing a young swimmer to the water for the first time or helping an older child build confidence and improve technique, swim lessons are a great investment in both safety and fun. We're excited to have a local swim instructor available for Independence residents this season. Lessons are scheduled before public pool hours and can be arranged directly with the instructor. Private and semi-private (two-student) lessons are available.

Meet Your Instructor

"Hi, my name is Tessa and I am graduating from Legend High School this May. I have been a competitive swimmer for over 10 years and have taught lessons at Dolphinz Swim School for two years. Please reach out at 720-766-2126 or TessaWaterman17@gmail.com if you're interested in scheduling private lessons."

Interested in Lessons?

Tessa Waterman: 720-766-2126 TessaWaterman17@gmail.com

Spaces are limited and scheduling is handled directly with Tessa.

Water Fitness Instructor Wanted

Interested in leading early morning water fitness classes at the Independence Pool this summer?

We're looking for a certified instructor or experienced aquatic fitness leader to help bring this new program to life.

For more information, contact Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com.

HAPPENING IN THE TOWN OF ELIZABETH



Elizabeth
COLORADO

One of the best parts of living in Independence is having a vibrant hometown right down the road. This summer, Elizabeth is packed with opportunities to get out, connect with neighbors, support local businesses and enjoy everything that makes small-town living so special. From the [Friday Night Market & Concert Series](#) and [Main Street Car Shows](#) to family fun runs, community celebrations and live entertainment, there's something happening all season long.

Skip the drive and discover what makes Elizabeth such a great place to call home.

To explore the full Town of Elizabeth events calendar, [click here!](#)

June 12 – August 14 – Friday Night Market

August 21 – Car Show on Historic Main Street

August 29 – 250/150 Main St 5K & Color

September TBA – Birthday Bash Movie Night

September 26 – Historic Downtown Walk &

Run

Talk

August 29 – 250/150 Celebration at Running
Creek Park

December 5 – Mayor's Tree Lighting



Community Spotlight | Elizabeth Library

Many Independence residents had the opportunity to meet the wonderful Elizabeth Library team at Summerfest. Now it's time to discover everything they have to offer! From story times and summer reading programs to book clubs, educational workshops and activities for all ages, the library has an incredible lineup of events designed to keep the entire family engaged all summer long. Whether you're 1 or 99, there's something waiting for you.

Of course, you'll also find books, eBooks, audiobooks, streaming content, free WiFi, computers, printing services and access to resources from libraries across Colorado.

Looking for your next great read, a fun activity for the kids or a way to connect with the community? Start at the library.

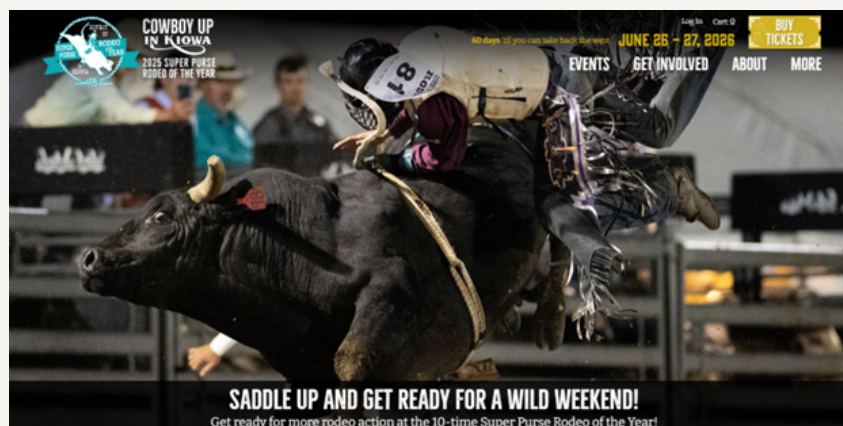
Elizabeth Library

303-646-3416

pplibraries.org

Save the Date:

2026 Cowboy Up in Kiowa Rodeo



To purchase tickets, [Click here](#).

Mutton Bustin' registration is now open!

HAPPENING NEARBY

Around Denver & Beyond

Summer is officially underway, and June is packed with opportunities to explore everything Colorado has to offer. Closer to home, Douglas County communities like Castle Rock, Parker and Highlands Ranch are hosting farmers markets, outdoor concerts, festivals and family-friendly events throughout the season. In Elizabeth, the Friday Night Market & Concert Series returns each Friday evening with live music, local vendors and a great small-town atmosphere.

If you're looking for a mountain getaway, June is one of the best times to hit the road. Highlights include the GoPro Mountain Games in Vail, the Telluride Balloon Festival, the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, and the Food & Wine Classic in Aspen. Mountain favorites like Estes Park, Breckenridge, Frisco and Georgetown also come alive with outdoor recreation, shopping, dining and summer events.

Whether you're planning a weekend adventure or simply looking for something new to do, Colorado's summer event season offers plenty of reasons to get outside and explore.

Music and performance are everywhere this time of year—from Red Rocks concerts to productions at the Denver Center and Opera Colorado.

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

In the Garden

Denver Botanic Gardens | Children's & Family Programs

The Gardens offers a wide variety of programs for children and families to explore the connections between nature, art and culture together.

Children and family programs encourage exploration, creativity and an appreciation for the natural world. The Gardens offers programs year-round at:

[York Street](#) [Chatfield Farms](#) & [Plains Conservation Center](#)

Admission to the Gardens is included with program registration. To learn more about the Gardens' Children and Family Programs registration financial assistance program, visit their [Financial Assistance Application](#).

DENVER ART MUSEUM

At the Museum

Denver Art Museum | Beat the Heat at the Denver Art Museum

Looking for a cool escape this summer? Spend a day exploring one of Colorado's cultural treasures, the [Denver Art Museum](#).

With world-class exhibits, interactive galleries and more than 70,000 works of art from around the globe, the museum offers something for every age and interest. It's the perfect place to spend a hot summer afternoon while discovering new artists, cultures and ideas.

Feeling inspired? The museum also offers creative classes and workshops for adults, along with summer camps and art experiences designed to help children explore their creativity through hands-on projects and artistic discovery. Whether you're picking up a paintbrush for the first time

or looking to expand your skills, there are opportunities to learn and create all summer long.

Art has a way of helping us see the world differently—and sometimes even ourselves. This summer, consider making a visit to the Denver Art Museum part of your Colorado adventure.

THE BUTTERFLY PAVILLION



For Families | Butterfly Pavilion Summer Programs

If you're looking for something a little different for the kids this summer, the Butterfly Pavilion offers hands-on programs that go beyond the typical camp experience.

Their [summer camps](#) (ages 5–9) are built around exploring nature, science, and the small creatures that keep our world running. Think interactive projects, live animal encounters, and time spent exploring exhibits all designed to get kids curious, engaged, and off screens for the day. Camps run as full-day programs, with both single-day and week-long options available.

They also offer [Homeschool Days](#), which are themed experiences that include classes, activities, and hands-on learning opportunities at a discounted admission rate perfect for families looking to mix learning with something more immersive and fun.

Space is limited for most programs and registration is required, so if this sounds like a fit, it's worth taking a look sooner rather than later.

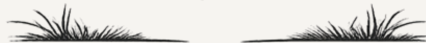
[Click here](#) to visit the Butterfly Pavilion website to explore programs, dates, and registration details.



COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE

The Independence Lifestyle:

Where Community & Nature Connect



Independence Lifestyle continues to grow as a simple, resident-driven way to connect through shared interests, ideas, and everyday moments. Whether it's a walking group, game night, gardening conversation, or something that hasn't started yet, this is where those connections begin. It's informal, flexible, and shaped by you.

Just as importantly, this community shows up for one another in quieter ways. If you're facing food insecurity or going through a tough time, please remember you're not alone. Your well-

being and your privacy matter and there is no shame in asking for help. This is a community that cares. You can reach out to Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com for assistance, and your privacy will be honored.

Opportunities to connect will be shared here in the newsletter and through the **new community Facebook group**, [The Independence Lifestyle: Where Community & Nature Connect](#). The goal is simple — make it easy for neighbors to find each other and spend time doing the things they enjoy.

Do you have an idea you'd like to explore? Reach out to the new community Facebook group (link above) and let's help bring it together. You can also email karpssk15@gmail.com or karpcbk15@gmail.com if Facebook isn't your thing.

Club listings are shared for informational purposes and are not necessarily endorsed by the Independence Overlay Metropolitan District.

Current Grassroots Clubs at Independence Include:

MONDAY NIGHT GRAVEL — LET'S RIDE!

Community Spotlight | RUST Cycling

Looking to spend more time on two wheels this summer?



Independence is fortunate to have a local cycling resource right in our own backyard. Whether you're interested in gravel riding, road cycling, bike maintenance, coaching, group rides or simply connecting with other cyclists in the area, RUST Cycling is helping riders of all levels get out and enjoy Colorado's incredible riding opportunities.

From beginner-friendly rides to challenging gravel adventures, RUST Cycling is building a community around fitness, exploration and the simple joy of riding.

If you've been thinking about dusting off your bike, upgrading your gear, learning more about cycling or finding a group to ride with, this is a great place to start.

Visit rustcycling.com to learn more about upcoming rides, services, events and resources for cyclists throughout the Elizabeth area.

Live local. Ride local. Support local.

INDEPENDENCE HUNTING & FISHING CLUB

Reach out to Robert at RobertCase7676@gmail.com or call 719-247-0067

INDEPENDENCE ART CLUB

Please contact Joe Bennett at JoeBennett.co@gmail.com or 303-503-8634

INDEPENDENCE SMALL BUSINESS GROUP

A welcoming space for local entrepreneurs, creatives, and business owners to connect, share ideas, and support one another in a relaxed setting. No formal agenda or pressure, just good conversation and a community of neighbors who want to see each other succeed. If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to vicki.mhp@gmail.com.



INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE

A Reminder from the Clubhouse

The Independence Clubhouse is your hub for fitness, pool access, reservations and resident support. Now through Labor Day, Front Range Recreation staff are available daily from **10 a.m. to 8 p.m.** to assist with facility access, clubhouse reservations and general questions. Please bring a photo ID and proof of residency if you need assistance with account setup or access.

The gym remains available outside staffed hours with key card access and is closed Mondays from **10–11 a.m.** for routine cleaning.

Need help, have questions or looking to reserve a space? Stop by during staffed hours or visit the Recreation page on the [Independence Overlay Metropolitan District](#) website for policies, facility information and additional details.

Another option is to email Office@FrontRangeRecreation.com or IndependenceDenver@gmail.com.

Paws & Courtesy | The Heat Is On... and So Is the Smell



Summer is here, and that means anything left behind by our four-legged friends doesn't stay unnoticed for long.

Please remember to pick up after your dog whenever you're enjoying the trails, parks, open spaces or dog park. Not only is it the neighborly thing to do, but warm temperatures quickly turn forgotten piles into unpleasant odors that everyone gets to enjoy—and not in a good way.

At the dog park especially, if your dog drops it, please pick it up. There isn't a cleanup crew following behind, and keeping the space clean helps everyone enjoy it.

If barking becomes a concern, a friendly conversation with your neighbor is often the quickest way to resolve it. Sometimes a pet just needs a little extra exercise, attention or relief from the summer heat.

For ongoing concerns, Elbert County Animal Control can be reached at **303-621-2027**.

Thank you for helping keep Independence clean, welcoming and enjoyable for residents, visitors and pets all summer long.

Safety Reminder: Ponds & Open Space

All ponds are restricted District property and are used for irrigation, retention, and detention—not recreation. **Motorized vehicles are never allowed in open space areas.**



Emergency Contacts:

Fire – 303-646-3800

Sheriff – 303-621-2055

INDEPENDENCE METRO DISTRICT AND PUBLIC ALLIANCE



Please save his contact information below. If you have questions or simply want to introduce yourself, the Public Alliance team is here to help:

Phone: 720-213-6621

Email: Contact@PublicAllianceLLC.com

Visit, bookmark, and favorite the Independence Websites where you can find information about community happenings, news, meetings, documents, and all things related to Independence and the Metro Districts:

[The Overlay District – Homestead and Pool/Gym](#)

[Districts 1-6 – Where You Live](#)

[Independence Water and Sanitation District](#)



COMMUNITY REMINDERS

A June Message from the Metro District

Annual Reuse Water User Certification

The Independence Water and Sanitation District is committed to operating a safe, reliable, and environmentally responsible reuse water system for irrigation throughout the community.

As part of the District's ongoing efforts to comply with Colorado's reuse water regulations and reporting requirements, we have introduced a new **Annual Reuse Water User Certification**. This certification helps ensure residents understand what reuse water is, how it is used within the community, and the basic safety guidelines associated with its use.

The certification consists of approximately **10 quick yes-or-no questions** and should take only a few minutes to complete.

We are asking all residents who receive irrigation water from the District's reuse water system to participate. Our goal is to achieve **100% participation** so we can successfully complete our annual reporting requirements and continue operating the District's reuse water program in accordance with Colorado Regulation 84.

Learn More About Colorado's Reuse Water Program:

[Click HERE](#)

Complete Your Annual User Certification:

[Click HERE](#)

Or scan the QR code.



Thank you for taking a few minutes to participate and support the District's commitment to water conservation and responsible resource management.

RESIDENTIAL WATER & NON-POTABLE WATER UPDATE AND LANDSCAPING

It is officially springtime, landscape maintenance matters. Please take a moment to check for lingering weeds or trees that may not have survived the winter. Keeping yards neat supports the welcoming character of Independence.

Section 8.1.1 Sightly Conditions: Each Unit shall at all times be kept, maintained, repaired and replaced in a good, clean and sightly condition by the Owner thereof.

2026 Irrigation Season Begins

- Irrigation services were successfully activated on Monday, April 20th.
- If you have not yet turned on your irrigation, please ensure your personal irrigation valves are turned ON (open). All residents will need a 6' Sprinkler Valve Key to turn on (and off) your irrigation valve. A **Sprinkler Valve Key** can be found at a local home improvement store such as: Home Depot, Lowes, or on Amazon.
- If you have turned on your irrigation valve and still do not have water running to your system, please make sure that during the winterization process you or your landscaper did not inadvertently turn off any valves around the irrigation meter.
- Please note that individual home irrigation systems are the responsibility of the homeowner, including turning the valve on and off, maintenance, and repairs.
- **We kindly remind residents to use water responsibly. Excessive or inefficient use may lead to higher individual water bills and could require the District to implement additional restrictions, including the potential for excess-use surcharges.**

For 2026 the District has implemented the following irrigation restrictions: Click [HERE](#) to learn more

- Irrigation of landscaped areas shall be limited to no more than three (3) days per week. Homes with addresses ending in an **odd number** shall only irrigate on **Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday**.
- Homes with addresses ending in an **even number** shall only irrigate on **Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday**. Residential irrigating is not permitted on Friday.
- Irrigation **shall not** take place **between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.**
- Irrigation zones should be set to **water 10-15 minutes per zone**.
- Runoff of irrigation water is not permitted. Please ensure that your irrigation system timers are adjusted – set to only irrigate on the correct days of the week and that individual zones are timed to prevent overwatering and runoff of irrigation water.

The District encourages users to irrigate responsibly. The current Rate & Fee Resolution can be found on the District's website at: [Rates - Independence Water and Sanitation District](#).

Required Non-Potable Irrigation Water Signs: (See Photo)



Semocore, the District's water operator, has been installing required non-potable irrigation water signage at homes throughout the community and will continue over the next several weeks. The signs will be placed near each residence's front stairs.

The District's irrigation system uses non-potable water, which is safe for landscape irrigation but not safe for drinking or human consumption.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) requires visible signage identifying non-potable water systems as part of statewide public health and water system identification requirements. Please do not remove or tamper with these signs once installed.

The District will be considering fines for Signs that have been installed and then removed by the homeowner.

We love seeing Independence shine through every season, and as we move into the spring growing season, here are a few timely reminders to help keep our community safe, welcoming,

and looking its very best.

Community Trash Cans & Dog Waste Stations

The District continues to work with ELCI to perform weekly litter removal throughout the community, including the maintenance of community trash cans and dog waste stations.

As a friendly reminder, these receptacles are intended for small household and pet waste items only. Please do not dispose of large or bulky materials. These materials can damage or tear the trash bags, creating additional cleanup challenges and maintenance costs.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping keep Independence clean, safe, and enjoyable for all residents. Thank you for doing your part to keep our community looking its best.

PARKING REMINDERS

To help keep our streets safe and accessible for walking, biking, and other summer activities we encourage residents to utilize their garage(s) and driveway for vehicle parking whenever possible, reserving street parking as a secondary option.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

A friendly reminder that recreational vehicles, campers, and trailers may not be parked in driveways or on the street for longer than 72 hours (Article 21 in the District's covenants). This guideline helps keep streets clear, improves visibility, and maintains the overall appearance of our community.

SEASONAL DECORATIONS

As a reminder, seasonal decorations should be removed within 15 days after holidays.

TRASH CONTAINERS



For all completed homes with a certificate of occupancy:

- Trash containers may be placed curbside after 6 a.m. on pickup day.
- They must be returned to proper storage by 9 p.m. the same day.
Containers should be stored out of sight between pickups.
- These small steps keep our neighborhood clean and looking beautiful!

DESIGN REVIEW

Thinking about a winter project or planning ahead for spring? Any exterior changes — landscaping, patios, architectural modifications — must be submitted for design review before work begins. You can find covenants and design guidelines on the Overlay Districts page. [Click here](#) for more information.

For New Homeowners, what is a Special District?

Special districts are created to fill service gaps in county services. In Colorado, these districts function as local governments or political subdivisions of the state, adding a third level of government in the United States. This level includes counties, municipalities (cities and towns), school districts, and other entities such as authorities and special districts. For the Independence community, several Metropolitan Districts are in place:

- [Independence Overlay Metropolitan District](#): Oversees public amenities, enforces Covenants, and acts in lieu of an HOA.
- [Independence Metropolitan Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6](#): Metropolitan Districts dedicated to residential development.
- [Independence Water & Sanitation District](#): Provides water and sanitary sewer facilities and services to the entire community.
- [Independence Commercial District](#): Will oversee future commercial operations.

If you have any questions about our community's districts, architectural review tips, design guidelines, or resident responsibilities related to home ownership in the Independence Community, as well as inquiries about water, landscaping, trash, etc., please contact Public Alliance, LLC at 720-213-6621 or Contact@PublicAllianceLLC.com.

INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY BLOG



Top Tips for Helping Your Garden Thrive in the Heat

As we head into summer, higher temperatures may cause your garden to struggle. If you're loving the extra sunshine but not the sight of wilted plants, we have some tips for you! Here, we share strategies to help even the most fragile crops thrive in the warmer weather, read our [latest blog](#) to learn more!

JOIN US ON SOCIAL FOR THE LATEST UPDATES!



WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

If you have questions at any time, please reach out to us!

For community-related questions:

Contact@IndependenceDenver.com

For resident-related events:

Kristin@IndependenceDenver.com

For District-related questions (water, landscaping, etc.):

Public Alliance Main Number: 720-213-6621

Email: Contact@PublicAllianceLLC.com



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