

Time on our hands



Above: David W. Jones, avid member of the PDGA-Professional Disc Golf Association, finishes a practice round at the popular Palmer Lake disc golf course. Aspiring to qualify for national and international sanctioned events, he just learned of the cancellation of upcoming scheduled tournaments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. David's enthusiasm and passion for this fast-growing sport is not deterred by the change of events. As he carries his disc backpack, he can readily select any numbered types of distance and fairway drivers, midrange discs, and putters based on need for disc throwing stability, accuracy, speed, and distance. Introduced by a friend to this throwing version of golf, he has proven himself a friendly, but formidable competitor, steadily moving to more advanced levels. *Photo by Sharon Williams.*



Above: Brad Fuller, Larkspur, CO who is new to the game of disc golf, throws from the 10th tee at the Palmer Lake disc golf course. He and his son joined a group of friends from Monument, CO who are cheering him along the challenging up-hill fairway. *Photo by Sharon Williams.*



Above: L-R: brothers, Xander and Keegan Owen, and mother, Carolyn Owen. Normally, Carolyn works in an administrative capacity at Pikes Peak Community College. Recently that changed when public health mandates brought her work home. She had just finished her 8-hour workday and now follows it with an exercise regimen with her two sons. With an extended school break, Xander is experimenting with cake baking. Brother Keegan is primer painting his room followed with a color choice of tan for the final coat of paint. As a family, they are valuing two precious assets in life, time and health. *Photo by Sharon Williams.*



Above: Neighbors greeting neighbors - From left, Sondra and Dave Wayman and dog Boomer. *Photo by Sharon Williams.*



Above: A 3½-mile hike around the "Rock" on Mount Herman trail on March 14 provided glimpses of people on horseback, mountain bikers, a young woman with two retrievers, and a fellow hiker. For this hiker, who felt admonished to stay home and keep a 6-foot distance from others, this was a good way to get out of the house and get some exercise and fresh air. On March 25, a similar loop of 2½ miles included encounters with 25-30 people enjoying the outdoors with kids home from school and folks who cannot go to work. Gov. Polis' Stay in Place order states that Coloradans can leave their home to engage in outdoor activity such as walking, hiking, Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, biking, or running. Remember to maintain the minimum 6-foot distance from those who do not live in your household. *Photo by Steve Pate.*



Left: Remember wildfire risk reduction? Teens and adults with lots of free time + nice weather = a great time to reduce your home's "ignition potential" when wildfire comes. Let's make use of this isolation time to make our homes safer this summer and beyond with regular maintenance. Rake pine needles 10-15 feet away from base of house. Clear those dry fuels out from under steps and in your gutters. Use loppers to cut back scrub oak at least 30 feet from the house, and thin out "doghair thickets" of pine trees. Trim limbs 6-10 feet up big trees and scrub oak. Make neat stacks of slash so it's easy for contractors to collect. Team up with neighbors later on when you hire a contractor so you can save money. Here, George and the team from Tree Masters finish up annual forest management work for the Woodmoor Improvement Association along the Fairplay Drive median. See <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Preparing-homes-for-wildfire> for Home Ignition Zone safety tips. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*