



**BLACK FOREST COMMUNITY CLUB
JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER
“Everyone is Family in the Forest”**

Schedule of BFCC Events

There will be no General or Board and Officers meetings in June.
There will be a combined meeting with the Festival meeting and the BFCC Board and Officers on Wednesday at 6pm. Anyone is welcome to see how the Festival is coming along and opportunities to volunteer.

For Line Dancing classes, etc., check bfcommunityclub.org calendar

2025 KEEPER OF THE KEYS TO THE FOREST

Past Keepers of the Keys have begun the search for the 2025 Keeper of the Keys. **Nominations from the community are starting June 1 and must be received by Saturday, June 28.** The nominee must have been a resident of the Black Forest for at least 10 years. They must be community focused and participate in community activities.

To nominate a person, a letter must be sent to **Keeper of the Keys, POB 88088, Colorado Springs, CO, 80908**

Voting by residents of the Black Forest will be **between July 10 and July 31 with Past Keepers taking your ballot.**

Times and places to vote: 1) **Thursday evenings** at the Music in the Park events starting at 6pm (Log School Park at the corner of Black Forest and Shoup Road).

2) **Saturday mornings from 9am to noon at the Pavillion** in the Log School Park.

Announcement of the new Keeper of the Keys will be at a **community Potluck Dinner to be held on Sunday, August 3, at 5pm.**



The 2025 Black Forest Festival – “The Heart of the Forest – 56 Years Strong”

The Black Forest Community Center Festival Committee is hard at work bringing together the largest community gathering in our beloved Black Forest! **Mark your calendars for August 9th, 2025**, and get ready for a day full of tradition, fun, and community connection.

This year’s festival continues its longstanding favorites, including:

Pancake Breakfast – Kick off the day at 6:30 AM in the Community Hall with a warm meal, live music, and seating indoors or outdoors.

Booth Fair – Beginning at 8 AM, explore delicious food, amazing shopping, chainsaw carving, movable fencing, and local craft demonstrations. The kids will love pony rides, games, and of course the parade!

Festival Parade – At 10:30 AM, experience a hometown celebration of all things Black Forest—tractors, floats, marching bands, first responders, community groups, and more! Want to be part of it? <https://weareblackforest.com/2025-parade-signup/>

Outhouse Races – Following the parade, witness one of Black Forest’s most quirky, beloved traditions dating back to 1976—where friendly competition, laughter, and local charm collide!

Join us in making the 2025 Black Forest Festival a reality by becoming a sponsor: <https://weareblackforest.com/2025-festival-sponsorship-opportunities/>

Parade signups @ <https://weareblackforest.com/2025-festival-sponsorship-opportunities/>

Outhouse race signups (coming soon)

Booth fair signups (almost fully sold out) @ <https://weareblackforest.com/2025-festival-sponsorship-opportunities/>

Join us in celebrating the businesses that keep our Black Forest Festival and Community thriving!



Iron Knight Disposal – Platinum Sponsor of the 2025 BF Festival

Proudly serving eastern El Paso County, **Iron Knight Disposal** isn't just a trash service—it's a second-generation, family-owned company built on **integrity, reliability, and unmatched customer care**. They don't just pick up trash; they **lift up the community** with their support of our 2025 Black Forest Festival.

The Chicken Coop - Platinum Sponsor of the 2025 BF Festival

More than just a bar, **The Chicken Coop** is where **great music, good drinks, and an unbeatable community spirit** come together. A local favorite, they're serving up not just cold drinks, but **warm camaraderie**, supporting the festival that brings us all together.



Rial Heating and Air Conditioning - Platinum Sponsor of the 2025 BF Festival

Keeping your home comfortable year-round, **Rial Heating and Air Conditioning** is more than just expert HVAC service—it's a company built on **reliability, quality, and community care**. Whether it's keeping homes warm in winter or cool in summer, their dedication to service extends beyond the thermostat, directly supporting our community and this year's festival!

The Omelette Parlor - Platinum Sponsor of the 2025 BF Festival

A Colorado Springs favorite for **hearty breakfasts, friendly faces, and a touch of local history**, **The Omelette Parlor** has been serving up delicious, home-style meals for generations. More than just great food, they're a staple of the community and dedicated supporters of the festival year after year!



S-5! - Platinum Sponsor of the 2025 Black Forest Festival



From **high-quality metal roofing solutions** to **cutting-edge solar attachments**, **S-5!** has been leading the way in innovation and durability for over 30 years. Rooted in **precision, reliability, and sustainability**, they're committed to **helping communities build stronger, smarter structures**. **S-5!** is a proud member of the Black Forest community and sponsor of this year's festival.

JOIN THE CHICKEN COOP AND RAISE A GLASS FOR THE BLACK FOREST FESTIVAL



JUNE 3RD | 6:00 PM

COME JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING WITH LIVE MUSIC AND NOT JUST ONE
BAND, BUT TWO BANDS ROCKING THE BLACK FOREST.
BAR, POOL TABLES, AND HORSESHOES

YOUR PARTICIPATION HELPS SUPPORT THE 2025 BLACK FOREST FESTIVAL, A BELOVED COMMUNITY
EVENT THAT CELEBRATES OUR LOCAL HERITAGE AND BRINGS US ALL TOGETHER. EVERY CONTRIBUTION
MAKES A DIFFERENCE! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE! LET'S MAKE THIS FUNDRAISER A
HUGE SUCCESS FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

BLACK FOREST FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER

The Chicken Coop - Platinum Sponsor of the 2025 Black Forest Festival
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festival that brings us all together.

These are the Black Forest Fire and Rescue Board Election Results/ Judges Unofficial Abstract of Votes for Black Forest Fire Rescue District

Kiersten Tarvainen	74
John Tarvainen	71
Nathan Dowden	55
Tad McClurg	50
Thomas Garmong	47
Michael Callies	23

With only 124 people voting, the new Black Forest Fire Department board will be Kiersten Tarvainen and Nathan Dowden (both on the board already) and Kiersten's brother John.

Back Yard Plan

This is the work that has been discussed and approved by the Black Forest Community Club Backyard Committee and the members present for the vote. In order to get this much needed work done before the 2025 Black Forest Festival, we will need to start soon.

- 1) Perform boundary survey of property.
- 2) Remove three beetle infested trees at south side of driveway entrance. This will accommodate new driveway direction.
- 3) Cut new driveway south through trees, curve around to the west, then north to connect to existing driveway. (There are green marker flags marking new driveway path.)
- 4) Re-work drainage channel north of the club off Black Forest Road.
- 5) Remove old water feature.
- 6) Remove cistern and fill.
- 7) Remove all tree stumps.
- 8) Lower old well head and install new cover to allow to be driven over.
- 9) Lower grade of north/west corner of lot 1 1/2' - 2.'
- 10) Spread dirt to level south/west area.
- 11) Back fill and grade washed out area on west side of property.
- 12) Create flat area for demo garden.

Black Forest Community Club Presents Music in the Park

Big Band & Jazz

Where: Outdoor pavilion, next to the Black Forest Community Center
12530 Black Forest Road, corner of Shoup Road

Rain or shine! Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy music outdoors.
If it rains, the concert will move next door into the Community Center.

What time:

5:30 Food, non-alcohol drinks, desserts *

6:00-7:30 Music

Summer schedule:

6/19 Front Range Big Band

6/26 Academy Jazz Ensemble

7/3 Peak Big Band

7/10 Kicks Big Band

7/17 Loose Connections

7/24 Bill Emery Band

7/31 Swing Factory

8/7 Kicks Quintet

8/15 Bud Gordon & Friends

Free concerts - donations welcomed

For more information, see <https://www.bfcommunityclub.org> or contact Jeff Ader at (719)232-1882

* Profits go towards the Center's backyard improvements



There's a new dump in town. For those who have stumps and bulk pine needles to get rid of, check out The Dump. It just opened in May.

The Dump is located off Volmer Road on a road going east just north of Bill's Tool Rental. It is a transfer station run by the same company as the Monument dump on Hwy 105. Contact info: 719 792-3867 woodmendump.com They take stumps and pine needles and charge per weight. The charge for mattresses is wrong on the sign posted along the road before reaching the scales. \$59 is the correct cost.

Second summer article from Nick Daniel, El Paso County Noxious Weed Specialist

Greetings Black Forest residents! With the good moisture we've been getting and temperatures trending up, it's now time to start thinking about controlling warm season weeds. For June, I'd like to focus on our two largest thistles: musk thistle and Scotch thistle.

While both species are large biennials, there are a couple key identification differences. In the rosette stage, Scotch thistle has very hairy leaves that appear silver to blue-green in comparison to musk thistle leaves which have a shinier appearance and a prominent white mid-rib going down the center of each leaf. Both species have sharp spines on their leaves. Musk thistle flowers are pink to purple and have prominent, sharp bracts behind each flower, resembling a crown. Scotch thistles have reddish to violet-colored flowers that bloom at the tips of branches. Both species can grow to over six feet tall and can produce over 10,000 seeds per plant. Musk and Scotch thistles both like to invade rangelands, over-grazed pastures, roadsides, and disturbed areas. These two noxious thistle species are best controlled in the rosette stage when they can be easily dug out. Just be sure to break to the taproot at least 3 inches below the soil surface. If you catch thistles flowering on your land, be sure to remove the flowers and securely bag them before removing or spraying the rest of the plant. There is also a biocontrol available for musk thistle if you have a severe infestation.

As always, I am happy to give advice to and identify weeds for residents of El Paso County. I can be reached via email at EVSnnoxiousweeds@elpasoco.com. I hope everyone has a great start to summer and a successful season of battling noxious weeds. – Nick Daniel, El Paso County Noxious Weed Specialist.

A Note from Leif Garrison concerning the Log School Park.

Dear fellow BFCC member,

On behalf of the Friends of the Black Forest Log School (and Park), I have a simple message: We need your help.

Many of you have toured the Log School or attended one of free the summer jazz concerts in the Log School Park or perhaps walked through the park on your way to or from a meeting or event at the Club, but you may not have thought much about who takes care of the log school, the park, and its landscaping. The answer is the Friends of the Log School, assisted by several Black Forest friends and neighbors. But the ranks of this dedicated group of volunteers have become noticeably thinner recently.

Some of our long-time park volunteers have moved or passed away or are otherwise no longer able to help out, and the able-bodied volunteers who are available to help with watering the park this summer are pretty few in number so far. The park is not very large and doesn't have too many requirements, but all the trees and bushes etc. do require watering once a week during the summer months (May thru September).

So, we need help with keeping everything watered, and would be very grateful if some of our friends from the BFCC could team up with the Friends of the Log School for this purpose.

Here is the link to take you to the sign-up page for the Log School Park summer watering calendar:

<https://forms.gle/fjJ66vm5nGr9wzjLA>

Once you open up the calendar, you'll see that a number of weeks are already spoken for, so if just a few BFCC members (including family members or friends) could sign up for just one or two of the open weeks, that would fill out the schedule for this year.

BTW we can arrange for a "training" session (to show where the hoses are kept and how to turn on the water etc.) as may be requested, and please note that most people can get the watering done in about 1.5 to 2 hours or so (it goes faster with two people).

After volunteering with the BFCC and the Log School for multiple decades (and counting), I know that there are many Forest residents who are ready, willing and able to pitch in to help take care of our community—all we need to do is get the word out about when and where help is needed!

Thanks in advance for your consideration,
Leif Garrison

Community Yard Sale

Saturday, June 7th from 8:00am - 1:00pm

Black Forest, Kirk Drive 80908

Furniture, household goods, clothes, toys, Legos and horse-related items

klreich@hotmail.com Kelly Reich (new member of the BFCC)

Memorial for Eddie Bracken

There will be a memorial service for Eddie Bracken at Our Lady of the Pines Catholic Church here in the Forest Wednesday, June 18 with the Rosary to start at 10:30am (if desired) and the funeral to start at 11:00am (normally an hour and a half). There will be a luncheon on campus at 12:30pm.

Burial at 3pm at Eastonville Cemetery off Meridian Road

Hall Rental Manager: Jeff Ader (cell: 232-1882)

The Black Forest Community Club Newsletter is a publication of the Black Forest Community Club, a non-profit, social club organized around a theme of community service. Subscriptions are included exclusively with club membership. Membership is open to all adult residents of Black Forest. Annual dues are \$15 per family. For membership information write to the following address or visit our website. Black Forest Community Club, POB 88034, Black Forest, CO 80908-8034. Or fill out the membership form in this issue.

President: Jim Collins

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