

THE GENESCENE

The official publication of the Genesee Foundation

November 2026 | Issue #523





1893 Montane Drive East
Two White Cap Views \$2,595,000



1952 Montane Drive East
Retreat-Like Privacy \$2,495,000



31354 Morning Star
Elevated Design & Finishes \$2,295,000



1614 Foothills Drive South
Mount Blue Sky Views \$1,600,000



2210 Juniper Court
Fabulous Decks + Flat Lot \$1,320,000



865 Aster Way
JUST SOLD



ANN LENANE & ANGELA BELDY

303.503.8086

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www.DenverMountainLiving.com



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Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado

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From Genesee to collections around the world.
Digital paintings on reflective aluminum, alive to changing light.

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Upcoming Events

Election Day	November 3
Annual Meeting	Thursday, November 5 6:30pm
ARC Meeting	Thursday, November 5 & 19 10am
First Friday	Friday, November 6 6pm
Open Space Meeting (Oxley)	Tuesday, November 10 9am
The Genescene Deadline	Tuesday, November 10 4pm
Community Budget Meeting	Tuesday, November 10 6pm
Genesee Silver Foxes	Wednesday, November 11 11am
Book Club (Oxley)	Thursday, November 12 9:30am
Communications Meeting	Thursday, November 12 3pm
ARC Submission Deadline	November 13 & 30
Genesee Art Show	November 13 & 14
Open Mic Night (Oxley)	Friday, November 13 6:30pm
Bunco (Oxley)	Wednesday, November 18 6pm
Board Meeting	Wednesday, November 18 6:30pm
Third Friday Bridge	Friday, November 20 1pm
Fire and Safety Meeting	Friday, November 20 1pm
Women's Forum	Monday, November 30 11:15am
Holiday Concert	Saturday, December 5 7pm

Weekly Recurring Events

Monday	Vinyasa Yoga 10am Mahjong 1pm
Tuesday	Knit Chicks 1pm (2nd) Mt View Quilters 10am (2nd, 4th) Genesee Jam 6:30pm Yin Yoga 6:30pm
Wednesday	Vinyasa Yoga 10am
Thursday	Vinyasa Yoga 10am
Friday	Genesee Jam 1pm Genesee Hikers Party 6pm (3rd)

More details are available on the Community Calendar at geneseefoundation.org and provided through weekly Foundation eBlasts.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

board@geneseefoundation.org

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Vice President | Sharon Jones
Treasurer | Mike Palleschi
Secretary | Tom Rust
Director | Mitch Johnson
Director | Brian McCulley
Director | Vacant

RESIDENT SERVICES

CenturyLink
800.244.1111

Comcast
800.934.6489

CiraNet
855.877.2472

CO Parks & Wildlife
303.291.7227

CO State Forest Service
303.279.9757

Genesee Water & Sanitation
303.278.9780

Aspen Waste Systems
303.923.8000

JeffCo Animal Control
303.271.5070

JeffCo Elections/Voter Registration
303.271.8111

JeffCo Planning & Zoning
303.271.8700

JeffCo Road & Bridge
303.271.5200

JeffCo School District
303.982.6500

US Postal Services (USPS)
800.275.8777

Xcel Outage Reporting
800.895.1999

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCIES (Fire, Accidents, Ambulance) | 911

Colorado State Patrol
303.239.4500

Non-emergency JeffCo Sheriff/Dispatch | 303.277.0211

Genesee Fire Protection District
303.526.1230

Highland Rescue
303.526.9571

Rocky Mtn Poison Center
303.739.1123

Vacation Check
303.526.3065

Submissions for *The Genescene*

New Submission Guidelines for *The Genescene*

Remember - all submissions are due by the **10th** of each month

Do you have an article, photo or notice to share? Email your submissions directly to us at genescene@geneseefoundation.org or visit the Foundation website under Community/Communications/The Genescene for submission forms and detailed guidelines, including acceptable language and topics. DO NOT email submissions to the Foundation office staff, the Communications Committee or the editors.

Please ensure submissions are finalized and clearly labeled with a title. Any accompanying photos should include captions and photo credits. For posed photos featuring 10 or fewer residents, please provide names in left-to-right order. Names will be included as space allows. Names are not required for action photos or larger group photos. All submissions need to be signed with the author, committee or group's name in bold and contact email address in italics.

We greatly appreciate submissions from our residents and thank you for contributing to The Genescene!

The Genescene | genescene@geneseefoundation.org

eBlast Submissions

If you want to put a notice in the weekly Friday eBlast, please email your submission to frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org

Sign up Now for Weekly eBlasts

The only way to get updates, up-to-date information, late-breaking news and emergency information from the office is to sign up for our weekly eBlasts. Every Friday you'll receive an email with everything you need to know about what's going on in Genesee.

Call, email or stop in the Vista office to sign up today. It's quick, it's easy and it's FREE!

frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org or 303.526.0284

Do Not Post on Mailboxes

Posting on the wooden mailbox structures is for official Genesee Foundation notices ONLY. Do not post personal ads or notices on them for any reason. If you want to distribute something, feel free to use the slot underneath each mailbox. We all appreciate your cooperation, especially our maintenance staff who would otherwise have to remove all of those staples.

Genesee Board | board@geneseefoundation.org



LookoutAlert
EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

LookoutAlert is the only official Jeffco system which will send you emergency and evacuation notifications.

Residents may register for Lookout Alert using the QR code here or at LookoutAlert.com.

Resources for Wildlife Emergencies

For emergencies involving large animals: Colorado Parks and Wildlife 303.291.7227; after hours, dial *277 on a cell phone.

For smaller wildlife: Jefferson County Animal Control 303.271.5070

For wildlife emergencies on roadways

- On county roads: Jefferson County Road and Bridge 303.271.5200
- On state highways: Colorado State Highway Department 303.757.9514

Dead Animal Removal

- For large animals (those weighing more than 100 lbs.) Colorado State Patrol 303.239.4501
- For small animals: Jefferson County Animal Control 303.271.5070

For more information on living with wildlife, visit the Colorado Parks and Wildlife website (<https://cpw.state.co.us>)

frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org

Notary Services Available

Notary services are available in the Genesee office during normal business hours. There is a nominal fee and you'll need to make an appointment. Call or email Traci, Sarah or Taylor, our notary extraordinaries, to check their availability at 303.526.0284 or frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org

Safety Reminder-Share the Roads

Please slow down when driving on our Genesee roads, including Genesee Ridge and Genesee Vista. Remember that the maximum speed limit in Genesee is 30mph, with many blind curves where caution signs recommend only 15mph. You will frequently encounter elk and deer on our roads and if a car is moving slowly or stopped in front of you, it may be waiting for wildlife to move out of the way.

Pedestrians should walk facing traffic on the left side of the road and remain aware of surroundings. If you walk in a large group, it's best to move to the shoulder and walk single file or at most two abreast when cars are approaching.

As always, when you come to a stop sign, remember "stop means stop" and take time to look around for pedestrians, cyclists and wildlife, as well as approaching traffic.

Be especially careful with the end of Daylight Savings Time on November 1.

frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org

When to Contact the Jefferson County Sheriff

Because we live in unincorporated Jefferson County, our law enforcement services are provided by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

- If you see a crime in progress, call 911
- Do not call the Foundation office
- If you have a non-emergency event such as a stolen package, call JeffCo at 303.980.7300
- Do not call the Foundation office
- If you are issued a case number as a result of the non-emergency event, please email patrol@geneseefoundation.org with the responding deputy's name and case number. This will enable our patrol to follow up if necessary. It will also allow the staff at Genesee Foundation to better understand what is happening in our community

Genesee Fire and Safety Committee | gfsf@geneseefoundation.org

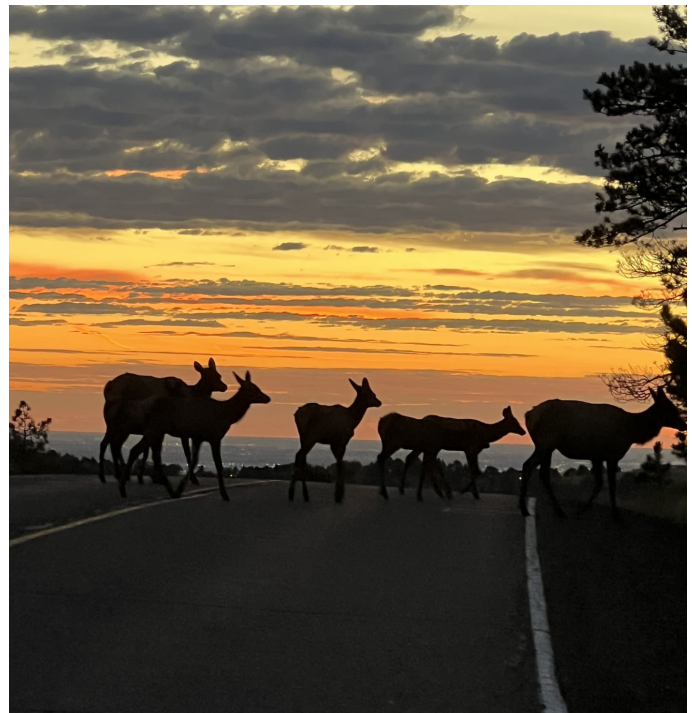


Photo by Jerome Rau

Genesee Board Meeting

Summary – Sept 23, 2026

For the most up-to-date information, please attend Board meetings.

Community Management and Operations

The Board welcomed the hiring of a new Community Manager, Jennifer Hansen, who began working for the Foundation in October. The search for a permanent Open Space manager continues, with both external and internal candidates under consideration.

Vista Playground Improvements

Construction has begun on the Vista Playground renovation. The project includes new playground equipment, earthwork and utility relocations. A firm completion date has not yet been established, because progress will depend partly on the progress of related utility work and weather conditions. The Board approved a \$15,800 contract for landscape/architectural oversight to help monitor project progress, costs and adherence to the approved plans. Our new community manager and Facilities Committee will work closely with the landscape architect throughout the construction.

Financial Update

The treasurer reported a year-to-date operating deficit of approximately \$85,000, following a particularly expensive summer period. Higher costs were concentrated in common area maintenance and administration, largely reflecting staffing and payroll expenses.

Reserve expenditures also reflect several major community improvement projects, including road paving, the Vista Playground and completion of the Oxley renovation. The Foundation continues to maintain substantial cash and investment reserves. Work is underway on the 2027 budget with, as of this writing, a draft to be presented to the Finance Committee and community for review in October.

Banking and Financial Controls

The Board approved a resolution to transition the Foundation's banking services from First Citizens Bank to Banc of California. The change is intended to improve customer service and integration with the Foundation's accounting systems. The new arrangement includes enhanced financial controls, requiring two authorized signers for electronic transfers and checks exceeding \$5,000. The transition is expected to occur after the fourth-quarter assessments are issued. Residents using automatic payments may receive additional instructions if changes are necessary.

Community Activities and Board Business

The Board reviewed routine committee reports from Finance, Fire and Safety, Open Space and Patrol. Minutes from these committee meetings are posted on the Foundation website.

Tom Rust | tom@geneseefoundation.org
Board Secretary



Dear Genesee Residents,

We are pleased to welcome Jennifer Hansen, who joined the Genesee Foundation as our new community manager on October 5. Jennifer has written a message below to introduce herself to the community.

"I am incredibly excited and honored to introduce myself as the new Community Manager for the Genesee Foundation. After recently relocating to Colorado, I knew I wanted the next chapter of my career to be somewhere truly special—somewhere I could become part of a community rather than simply manage one. From the moment I began learning about Genesee, I was struck by what makes this community so unique: its extraordinary natural setting, its strong sense of identity, and the pride residents take in protecting the character and quality of the place they call home. I feel incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to join a community with such a rich history and such a strong commitment to preserving what makes Genesee special.

I bring more than eight years of community association management experience, including six years working onsite, along with nearly two decades as an educator. Throughout both careers, the part of my work I have valued most has always been people; building relationships, communicating openly, solving problems, and bringing people together around a shared purpose. As I begin at Genesee, my first priority will be to listen and learn: from our residents, Board members, staff, and the many people who have cared for this community long before my arrival. I am genuinely excited to get to know you, participate in community events, learn Genesee's traditions, and become a familiar face throughout the community. Most of all, I look forward to making Genesee not only my professional home, but a community I am proud to be part of for many years to come."

Jennifer Hansen | jennifer@geneseefoundation.org
Genesee Foundation | frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org

The Corner

With our annual Board election just around the corner, I thought it best to give everyone a break from my usual two-bit philosophizing, in deference to the election process.

But there is one thing I don't want to let pass without comment.

I was sorry to miss this year's Volunteer Appreciation Night in October, so I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the many people who give their time, energy and talents to Genesee.

One thing I've come to appreciate through my own experience volunteering is just how much these contributions mean. Whether serving on a committee, helping organize an event, caring for our Open Space or lending a hand in any of the countless ways that make our community work, you're giving something that is precious to all of us: your time.

That generosity doesn't go unnoticed and it certainly isn't taken for granted. On behalf of the Board, and from me personally, thank you for all you do.

Finally, I want to extend my best wishes to everyone who stepped forward as a candidate in this year's election. Thank you for your willingness to serve our community.

Jeff Herman | jeff@board.geneseefoundation.org
Board President

2026 Annual Election Dates

Tuesday, Nov. 3	ELECTION DAY
Wednesday, Nov. 4	Posting of election results at Vista and Foothills Clubhouses and Genesee website (before end of business day at 4:00pm)
Thursday, Nov. 5	ANNUAL MEETING ; Virtual, 6:30pm



Turkey on Juniper Court named Thanksgiving! Photo by RitaKay Lochner

Genesee Art and Artisan Show | Sale | Social

Vista Clubhouse

Friday, November 13 | 12pm to 7pm with wine and appetizers from 4pm-7pm

Saturday, November 14 | 10am to 4pm with coffee and donuts

Come enjoy seeing our creative community and socializing with friends and neighbors. We once again have four new artists as well as familiar ones. Items include paintings, jewelry, photography, wood, raised metal bowls and ceramics.

Hope to see you there!

Diane Nims | jdnims1343@gmail.com



Millsie Neale



Kim Douthitt



Diane Nims



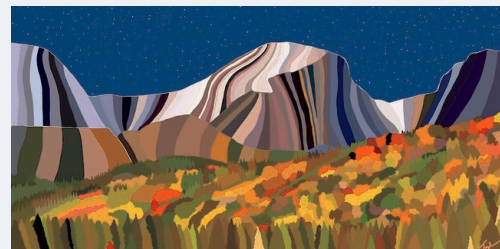
Madison Davis



Dee Dee Tedeschi - pottery
Ellen Tedeschi - bead work



Timmie Schones



Topher Straus



Sara Jehn



Yu



Shane Patrick

First Friday

November 6 | 6pm | Vista

Welcome the month of November with Genesee friends and neighbors. We love it when new residents attend!

As always, First Friday is BYOB. Please also bring a dish to share: If your last name begins with A - I please bring a dessert; everyone else bring an appetizer.

Your hosts,

Sandy and Dave Schumacher | sjschumacher@comcast.net



October First Friday Hosts: Nance and Woody Woodruff
Photo by Susan Wajda

Fall Festival

Our annual Fall Festival was a wonderful success and we couldn't have asked for a better day! Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the festivities and take advantage of the beautiful fall weather. A special thank you to our amazing sponsors, Ann Lenane and Angela Beldy with Kentwood Real Estate and Tim LaPointe with Alpine Homescapes, for helping make this event possible!



Social and Rec | social@geneseefoundation.org

Photos by Jennifer Hansen

Genesee Hikers

The Genesee Hikers have finished their 2026 hiking season, which started in May and ended in October. This year we had 70 hikers signed up for our Wednesday hikes and monthly third Friday happy hours. During the winter months, many of the hikers transition to Wednesday snowshoeing and cross-country skiing with the Genesee Winter Club. For more information, just email us.



Hike at Beaver Brook Watershed. Hike leaders were Ralph Beckett and Anne Voigts. Photo by Anne Voigts



Genesee Hikers at Harrigan Creek. Hike leaders were Guy and Sarah Warren



15 Hikers at Buno Gulch on September 23. Hike leaders were Ken Blum and Keith Dierking.

Genesee Hikers | geneseehikers@gmail.com
Genesee Winter Club | geneseewinterclub@gmail.com

Genesee Alpine Club

On thirteen trips this summer, the Genesee Alpine Club hiked exactly 100 miles and 34,000 vertical feet. But it's about more than just the numbers. Club members huffed and puffed their way up to the summit of some lesser known peaks deep inside spectacular wilderness areas. In the process, they enjoyed solitude, backcountry orienteering, the fellowship of the trail and, of course, summit cheese! Many thanks to all who participated this summer. Please contact me if you are interested in hiking with the Genesee Alpine Club next summer.

Summer 2026 Genesee Alpine Club Schedule

Date	Peak	Location	Summit Elev. (ft)	Round Trip Dist. (miles)	Elevation Gain (ft)
June 22	Mount Flora	Front Range	13,129	6	1,800
June 29	Lake Dorothy	Indian Peaks Wilderness	12,061	7	1,900
July 7	Vasquez Peak	Vasquez Peak Wilderness	12,947	4	2,100
July 13	James Peak	James Peak Wilderness	13,272	7	2,700
July 20	Pegmatite Points	Mt. Blue Sky Wilderness	12,227	9	2,900
July 27	Sugarloaf Peak	Mt. Blue Sky Wilderness	12,514	7	2,800
August 3	Stanley Mountain (Attempt)	Vasquez Peak Wilderness	12,521	5	1,400
August 10	Square Top Mountain	Front Range	13,794	8	3,000
August 17	Gray Wolf Mountain	Mt. Blue Sky Wilderness	13,604	9	3,700
August 24	Shelf Lake	Front Range	12,100	7	2,000
August 31	Crystal Peak (Attempt)	Tenmile Range	13,852	9	2,800
September 8	Bison Peak	Lost Creek Wilderness	12,431	12	3,900
September 14	Pitkin Lake	Eagles Nest Wilderness	11,400	10	3,000
Total				100	34,000



The magic of Bison Peak



Genesee Alpine Club members on their way to Pitkin Lake. Susan Wajda, Mary Ann Hilt, Bob Dolian, Keith Dierking, Wendy and Scott Menefee and Ann Sarg.



Pitkin Lake (Eagles Nest Wilderness)
All photos by Guy Warren.

Guy Warren | guycharleswarren@gmail.com

New - Genesee Open Mic Nights!

Hello Genesee musicians. The Genesee Jam group is starting something new this fall-and we'd love to see you there!

Once a month on a Friday evening, musicians from Genesee are invited to gather at the Vista Clubhouse for an informal Open Mic Night. The idea is simple: come play, sing, dance, listen, meet other local musicians and have some fun together!

Whether you've been playing for years, getting back to your musical roots, or simply enjoying hearing your neighbors make beautiful music, you're welcome to join.

Our hope is to create another way for musicians in Genesee to connect, share music and build community.

When: 2nd Fridays-**Nov 13 (Oxley)** and Dec 11 from 6:30pm-9pm.

Where: Vista Clubhouse

Come bring your instrument, your voice, your listening ears and your dancing shoes. Also, BYOB and an appetizer to share. We hope this becomes a new Genesee tradition!

Janet Marks | jmarks7343@gmail.com

Genesee Silver Foxes



Last meeting of 2026

Gentlemen, you are invited to the Wednesday, November 11 meeting of the Genesee Silver Foxes, with lunch at Casa Tequilas, 1204 Bergen Parkway in Evergreen. Social and mingling starts at 11am and sit down is at 11:30am.

Order off the menu and the bill will be pooled and divided equally among all present. Soft drinks and coffee are included. You are separately responsible for premium drinks.

Jim White will be your host and main bill collector. Please RSVP "Yes" or "No" directly to Mike Thomas at mthomasrep@me.com so we can arrange a large-enough table or tables for our group. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Jim White | jimwhite1506@gmail.com

Genesee Women's Forum

The Genesee Women's Forum (GWF) started the 2026-2027 season with a return to the Evergreen Arts Center to see the 53rd Rocky Mountain Watermedia Show. Membership is open to all ladies in Genesee. Each month GWF members take turns planning events here in Genesee or in the local area. For more information, please contact us.



Genesee Women's Forum at the Evergreen Arts Center listening to presentation by Sara Miller. Photo by Sally Overton



Front row: Bonnie Bushaw, Elaine Pomeranz, Rita Hintz and Charlie Miller Back row: Sally Overton, Dar Thomas, Barb Gersch, Maria Suehnholz, Carol Wahlgren, Ilene Cohen, Teresa Carr, Susan Wajda and Ann Halverson Photo by Sara Miller, Executive Director at Evergreen Arts Center

Sally Overton | sallyoverton@mindspring.com

Bonnie Bushaw | bonbon3b@aol.com

Genesee Knit Chicks

If you love to knit, crochet or do any kind of stitchery, please join the Genesee Knit Chicks. All skill levels are welcome. We knit, chat, exchange recipes, books and patterns and laugh together.

We meet from 1-3pm at Oxley Homestead on the second Tuesday of every month. Come when you can and stay as long as you like.

Contact me if you have any questions or want to be added to our email list.

Ann Sarg | annsarg6@gmail.com
303.264.4464

Genesee Music Jam

The Genesee Song Circle is playing music at Oxley Homestead:

The Song Circle/Jam is held most Tuesday nights at Oxley Homestead from 6:45-9pm.

If you have an interest in old-time music, there is an ongoing instrumental Old-Time Jam on Friday afternoons at Oxley from 1-4pm.

All musical abilities are welcome; just bring your instrument(s) or your voice, capo and a song to share. Email me if you want more information.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Janet Marks | jmarks7343@gmail.com

Bunco is Back at Oxley

November Bunco is scheduled from 6-9pm on Wednesday, November 18. All ladies are welcome. Remember to bring \$11 (in small bills), an appetizer to share and BYOB. Contact me to be added to the Bunco Evite list.



Laura Kenney, Tracie Peterson, Monica Chapman and Cathy Hannemann. Photo by Susan Wajda

Carolyn Benson | carolyn.benson@comcast.net



American Red Squirrel. Photo by Sara Kresse

Genesee Pickleball Club

Cold weather is coming... Keep warm playing Pickleball!

If you would like information about classes and drills, private lessons and social events or just to stay in touch with pickleball friends, then please join the Genesee Pickleball Club. Sign up is through the Team Reach app. Just reach out to Lissa Staples or Suellen Palcanis (palcanis@msn.com) for the team code.

Membership is available to all residents and there are no dues. Alternatively, you can schedule individual games through the Court Reserve System on the Genesee website.

Open Play: Everyone is welcome to join in the action at Solitude.

All times are 10am to 12pm.

Mondays: Beginners from 10-12pm

Tuesday: Men's Day

Wednesdays, Fridays, Sundays: All levels from 10-12pm

Thursdays: Lady's Day

Court Usage Rules: *This is really important!*

Owl paddles are required! Four Owl paddles and quiet balls are available in a bin on the court. To purchase an Owl paddle through the club, please contact Suellen Palcanis (palcanis@msn.com).

The only balls allowed are: Onix Fuse G2, WilsonTru 132 or Penn 40

No pets at the courts.

Strict hours of court availability: 9am to 7pm on weekdays and 10am to 5pm on weekends.

No music in consideration of our neighbors.

Drills: Every Tuesday from 9-11am. Check the Team Reach site for updates.

Lessons and Clinics: Taught by Jim Treitman and Joe Pratt. Contact them through Team Reach.

Hope to see you soon!

Lissa Staples | lislabete@gmail.com

Genesee Gourmet Club

The Gourmet Club is having great fun this year! We kicked off with a Summer Salad Spectacular competition and Von Unruh won First Prize for her arugula salad with Rita Hintz and Pam Bull tying for Second and Third Place. Each were awarded with kitchen gadgets to make better salads!



Summer Salad Spectacular Winners - Von Unruh, Rita Hintz, Pam Bull



Galen Unruh, Von Unruh, Bill Cottrell, Keith Dierking, Karen Dierking, Heather Ritchey Photos by Rita Kay Lochner

Genesee Gourmet Club | geneseegourmetclub@gmail.com

RitaKay Lochner | ritakaylochner@yahoo.com

Genesee Ski-Prep Group-Workout

Coming to a Close

Class Details: No cost

We're wrapping up our Ski-Prep Workouts and conditioning sessions. The final session will be held on Thursday, November 19. We've consistently had between six and fifteen participants each workout.

Our 11-week ski prep workout program was progressive and used body weight, resistance bands, and dumbbells.

Weeks 1-4 were Level 1/Beginner and focused on:

- Slow, foundational strength, conditioning, and controlled movements.
- Joint alignment (knees tracking over toes, no twisting, hips forward).
- Building core-pelvic stability.
- All to prevent knee and hip injuries.

Weeks 5-7 were Level 2/Intermediate and focused on:

- Strength and increased muscular endurance using more weight and resistance.
- Load-bearing capacity for long downhill runs using unilateral (single-leg) exercises.

Weeks 8-11 were Level 3/Advanced and Level 4/Advanced, focusing on:

- Specific power and endurance.
- Mimicking the demands of the slopes—absorbing terrain shocks, rapid lateral edging, and holding deep turns under fatigue.
- High-intensity, peak prep.

It's been great getting to know this group of people who are also passionate about fitness and downhill skiing. Perhaps next year, you'll want to join the group!

Karen Achtemeier | karenachtemeier@aol.com

P.S. **NOTE: I am NOT a certified personal trainer. This is a group of skiers working out together. Join at your own risk (waiver to sign at the first class you attend).



Photo by Karen Achtemeier

Genesee Downhill Ski Club

2026/27 Season Sign-Up

This year, we are officially opening the Genesee Downhill Ski Club to all Genesee Foundation residents, running much like our Genesee Hikers.

How the club works:

Weekly Hosting: Members pick or host a specific date—preferably on Tuesday or Wednesday—and choose a ski resort destination on our shared Google spreadsheet.

Carpooling and Departure: On their ski day, the host will coordinate participants by meeting at the Genesee Buffalo Herd Overlook Parking Lot (near Genesee Village Center) to organize carpools at the hosts designated time of departure.

On the Slopes: Skiers may hit the slopes in small groups, large groups or individually, with a planned group meetup for LUNCH at the ski resort.

Future Activities (TBD): Depending on member interest, we may expand to include overnight ski trips, social gatherings, or group ski lessons, etc.

Important Notes:

Ski-Prep Workout Group: The Downhill Ski Club is separate from, but related to, the Ski-Prep Workout Group. While many members participate in both, they require separate sign-ups, but to the same email address. You may choose to participate in workouts, skiing, or both. Sign up for your preference now.

Happy skiing!

If you want to join the email list and gain access to the weekly schedule spreadsheet, please email me:

Karen Achtemeier | KarenAchtemeier@aol.com



Sally Overton, Karen Achtemeier and Debbie Grossman

Nest Box Monitoring 2026

The nest box monitoring program was a successful community program once again this year. Volunteer monitors spent many hours checking boxes for nests, eggs, hatchlings and fledglings. Maintenance Manager Chris Mazurek provided wood for new birdbox roofs and repaired a box damaged by a bear. Volunteer Fred Coester cut new roofs and helped repair other damaged boxes. Thank you to everyone who helped us continue this important citizen science program.

The data we collect is entered into the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch site, where it is available for ornithological researchers. The data is valuable in understanding the nesting behavior of numerous bird species and for tracking the status and trends in their reproductive biology.

This season had one cold spell in May, when nesting had begun for some birds. However, the extremely hot, dry summer took a bigger toll on many of our birds. Our first egg of the season was laid by a pygmy nuthatch on May 7, but the nest failed with all the young birds disappearing or dying. There were also mountain and western bluebirds laying eggs in early May. The earliest bluebird egg was on May 8, a clutch of three eggs, but only one young hatched and fledged. We had many nests in which the eggs disappeared. Fortunately, another attempt was made in many of those boxes, either by the same parenting pair or another. The tree swallows seemed to suffer the most from missing eggs or nestling death. The nestling deaths may have been from the extreme heat, difficulty finding food, disease or a combination of those issues.

Our final data showed 94 nest attempts, 395 eggs, 325 nestlings and 270 fledglings. That's 17 more nest attempts than last year, due to the many second attempts after eggs disappeared. There were 28 more eggs this year, also due to second nest attempts, seven fewer hatchlings and 18 fewer fledglings than last year. Forty more bluebirds fledged this year than last year, which is a very positive outcome.

The species data for 2026 is:

Species	# Nest Attempts	# Eggs	# Nestlings	# Fledged
Mountain Chickadee	4	20	13	10
Tree Swallow	17	64	53	31
Violet-Green Swallow	15	63	58	39
Swallow species unknown	9	38	29	29
Pygmy Nuthatch	6	31	25	23
House Wren	4	8	8	8
Western Bluebird	18	83	67	59
Mountain Bluebird	20	87	72	71
Bluebird species unknown	1	1	0	0

Many of the birds using our boxes are gone for the winter, but we look forward to their return in the spring and the start of nest monitoring again.



Ann Sarg | annsarg6@gmail.com

Animal Of The Month: Evening Grosbeak

In the 40 years or so I've lived in Genesee, I've only seen evening grosbeaks a handful of times. However, since late August, I have seen them regularly and have often sighted flocks of dozens or more feasting on berries from juniper and hawthorn bushes.

Evening grosbeaks are large finches. They are unmistakable with a strong, thick, pale bill and a short, notched tail. Males have a dark head fading to bright yellow underparts and mostly black wings with bright white secondaries. Females are gray with gold and white highlights. They frequent forested areas, especially at higher elevations, and face increasing habitat loss and declining populations.

Evening grosbeaks are irregular (or "irruptive") winter migrants and will seek out food sources and show up at feeders outside of their normal winter range. Sunflower seeds are a favorite winter food. With their enormous bills, evening grosbeaks can crush seeds that are too large for smaller birds. Smaller birds often seek out grosbeaks and scavenge the scraps they leave behind. I love seeing these striking birds and hope they have found a winter home in Genesee.

Fun fact: "The evening grosbeak is a songbird without a song - that is, it does not seem to use any complex sounds to attract a mate or defend its territory. It does have a small repertoire of simple calls, including sweet, piercing notes and burry chirps."



All photos by Diane Davies

Diane Davies | mayfair6278@gmail.com

Sources: All About Birds <https://www.allaboutbirds.org> and Ebird <https://ebird.org>, Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Plant of the Month: Allium bulbs



The Allium genus which includes both culinary staples like onions and garlic as well as striking ornamental flowers originated in the temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere with the center of diversity spanning Central Asia, the Mediterranean, and western China. Ornamental allium bulbs did not capture European gardeners until the mid 19th century. In the 20th and 21st centuries, landscape designers popularized ornamental varieties like Allium ‘Globemaster’ for their architectural flower spheres.

Most ornamental allium bulbs thrive in USDA hardiness zones 3-8 (Genesee is zone 5). They adapt well to high elevation gardens in the foothills up to 8000’. Plant in the Fall (September to November) before the ground freezes solid. Plant in full sun to partial shade (at least six hours of daily sunlight). Loose well-draining soil is critical, heavy clay soil leads to bulb rot. Bury large bulbs about 6-8 inches deep and smaller varieties 3-4” deep, keeping the pointed end facing up. Allium bulbs are drought tolerant once established.

Alliums are highly deer resistant because they contain pungent sulfur compounds and emit an onion like scent that deer strongly dislike.

Remember no plant is entirely deer proof, deer may occasionally nibble tender new growth. Each allium globe is made up of dozens of tiny flowers packed with sweet nectar that is easy for pollinators to reach. They bloom heavily from late spring into summer filling a gap when spring bulbs fade and summer flowers are just starting.

Ornamental alliums are suitable for defensible space planting. They resist ignition due to their cellular moisture and lack of resinous compounds. Plant them within the 30-100’ FireWise zone.

The top allium bulbs recommended for higher elevation in the Rocky Mountain foothills characterized by rocky or clay soils, intense sun and heavy pressure from browsing wildlife are.....

Variety	Flower Color/Size	Height	Best Use
<u>Allium 'Globemaster'</u>	Massive, 8–10” deep purple globes	32–38”	Focal point, mid-border showstopper
<u>Purple Sensation (A. aflatunense)</u>	4” rich violet-purple spheres	28–36”	Mass plantings, mixing with perennials
<u>Drumstick Allium (A. sphaerocephalon)</u>	Small oval heads, magenta-to-green	24–30”	Naturalizing in rock gardens, late summer color

Purchase Allium bulbs at westside nurseries in Lakewood or order online from various outlets.

Dar Miller Thomas | darmthomas@icloud.com

Animal of the Month: Tree Squirrels

Photo Credit Correction: Jim Heiney took the photos of the tree squirrels accompanying “Animal of the Month: Tree Squirrels” by PJ Jones in the October issue of *The Genescene*. We appreciate Jim’s photo contributions over the years and apologize for omitting this photo credit.

The Editors



All photos by Jim Heiney

Holiday Concert with the Mitchells

December 5 | 7pm | Vista

Brett and Angela Mitchell's concert will feature beloved holiday favorites, including selections from Vince Guaraldi's music for *A Charlie Brown Christmas* and music by Joni Mitchell. The program will also include such classics as "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "My Favorite Things," and "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town." Treasured carols including "O Holy Night," "What Child Is This," and "O Christmas Tree" round out this celebration of the holiday season.



Bios:

Conductor, composer and pianist, Brett Mitchell currently serves as music director of the Pasadena Symphony and artistic director and conductor of Oregon's Sunriver Music Festival. He previously held tenures as music director of the Colorado Symphony, associate conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra, and assistant conductor of both the Houston Symphony and the Orchestre National de France. As a guest conductor, he has led the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center; all part of a domestic and international portfolio that includes the major orchestras of Dallas, Detroit, Edmonton, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minnesota, Nashville, New Zealand, North Carolina, San Francisco and Vancouver. Also an accomplished pianist with a wide following on YouTube, Mitchell was named a Steinway Artist in 2025. For more information, please visit brettmitchellconductor.com.

Angela Mitchell is a light lyric soprano whose career spans opera, musical theatre, contemporary music, broadcasting and arts marketing. Her recent operatic roles include Musetta in *La Bohème*, Nannetta in *Falstaff*, Miss Wordsworth in *Albert Herring*, and Mademoiselle Silberklang in *The Impresario*. Her musical theatre credits include Agnes in *I Do! I Do!*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, and Emma in *Jekyll & Hyde*. Mitchell currently leads marketing efforts for the University of Denver Lamont School of Music and Theatre. Her freelance arts marketing work includes projects for the Denver Chamber Music Festival, Boulder Philharmonic and Pro Musica Colorado. She holds a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Houston, a Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Science in Business from the University of Minnesota, and a Voice Performance Certificate from the University of Denver.

Debra West | deb.westhome@gmail.com

NYE-Save the Date

December 31 | 6-10:30pm | Vista



Set-up for NYE 2025. Photo by Carolyn Benson

Genesee residents are once again invited to a community NYE party! Plan to bring an appetizer to share and BYOB. Even if you can't stay the entire evening, feel free to just stop by for as long as you want to socialize with your neighbors and listen to some good music provided by our own Genesee community musicians.

Watch for more details in the December issue of *The Genescene*.

Everyone is welcome! Invite your friends!

Genesee Foundation | frontdesk@geneseefoundation.org

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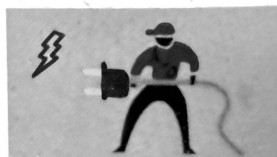
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A	1952 Montane Drive	5	6	6,699	\$372	\$2,495,000
A	1543 Copper Rose Drive	7	5	6,033	\$331	\$1,999,000
A	1285 Snowberry Drive	5	5	6,085	\$326	\$1,985,000
A	25478 Foothills Drive N	4	4	3,866	\$453	\$1,750,000
A	1551 Genesee Ridge Road	5	5	5,120	\$331	\$1,695,000
A	2210 Juniper Court	4	4	4,961	\$272	\$1,349,000
A	23925 Currant Drive	4	3	3,270	\$395	\$1,290,000
A	1318 Northridge Court	4	4	3,884	\$309	\$1,200,000
Active Average		5	5	5,605	\$364	\$2,018,455
P	2255 Stonecrop Way	4	4	5,065	\$354	\$1,795,000
P	1013 Arrow Wood Drive	3	3	2,178	\$388	\$845,000
Pending Average		4	4	3,622	\$371	\$1,320,000
C	1644 Tamarac Drive	3	3	2,938	\$356	\$1,047,260
C	865 Aster Way	4	3	2,608	\$359	\$935,000
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