

15

# BLR

**BANNINGLEWIS RANCH**

MAGAZINE



**X-COUNTRY SKIING**

**DEVELOPER'S UPDATE**

**A JOY-FILLED HOLIDAY**

# The Retreat

Banning Lewis Ranch



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# CONTACT BLR MAGAZINE

If you have an idea for BLR Magazine, wish to contribute an article, or advertise in upcoming issues of the magazine, please contact [marketing@banninglewisranch.com](mailto:marketing@banninglewisranch.com).

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**BANNING LEWIS RANCH™**  
AN OAKWOOD HOMES COMMUNITY

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## BANNING LEWIS RANCH

# DEVELOPER'S UPDATE

### Happy Holidays from the Ranch!

As we celebrate the holiday season, we are mindful of the generations who came before us at Banning Lewis Ranch, Ruth Banning and Pinky Lewis, as long-time stewards of the land we now call home.



An undated postcard from Ruth and Raymond Lewis' Banning-Lewis Ranches. Courtesy of Special Collections, Pikes Peak Library District, 098-6910

### Reflecting back . . .

Ruth Banning, a Colorado Springs native, was the daughter of William and Elizabeth Banning. A 1915 graduate of Wellesley College, she took over management of the Union Ice and Coal Co., as well as the Banning Ranch south of Colorado Springs, in 1916 after the death of her father and brother.

Raymond Lewis, a cattle owner with property in Fowler, was a graduate of Colorado College, where he was captain of the football team for a year. His friends knew him as Pinky, apparently due to his ruddy complexion.

Ruth and Raymond were married in 1921 and formed Banning-Lewis Ranches, selling the original ranch and accumulating land east of Colorado Springs for their cattle operation. They would eventually expand the ranch to nearly 40,000 acres, stretching from Widefield to Falcon. The ranch became known throughout the West and beyond for its Colorado Domino-type Herefords. Their Prince Domino 101 was champion bull at the American Hereford Association's Golden



Above: Ruth Banning Lewis with Prince Domino in 1935. Courtesy of Special Collections, Pikes Peak Library District, 098-9117

She died in 1962 at The Broadmoor hotel, where the couple had taken up permanent residence; Raymond, who remarried, died in 1978.

Left: Raymond Lewis, a polo enthusiast, on Friarsdale in 1937. Photo by Harry L. Standley, courtesy of Special Collections, Pikes Peak Library District, 098-6923

### Appreciating our neighborhood today . . .

We welcomed the Pikes Peak Library District's Mobile Library Bookmobile to the Ranch House once again during the months of November and December, providing residents the opportunity



By Thomas Garmong, Vice President of Finance and Division Executive, Oakwood Homes and Banning Lewis Ranch

Jubilee Show in Kansas City in 1932 and at the National Western Stock Show a year later. Raymond, a polo enthusiast, and Ruth also raised thoroughbred horses.



to sign up for Library cards, check out and return books. We hope adults and children alike were able to check out books to enjoy during the winter season.



Fall was filled with many neighborhood events, starting with the 4th Annual Great Pig Roast in September. It was by far our largest attended and best Pig Roast to date! Many thanks to our Builder Partners- Oakwood Homes, Classic Homes and Covington Homes for making the day possible- and to Bird Dog BBQ for preparing and serving a delicious BBQ lunch. We hope to see you all out again next year!



The YMCA in partnership with the Banning Lewis Community Foundation hosted the 3rd Annual Fall Harvest and Festival Truck or Treat Competition on Saturday, October 19th. It was a beautiful autumn day with nearly 100 pumpkins distributed to the kids.



Our Young Art Makers Program started up again September-November with classes every Thursday evening for children ages 5-12 years old at the Ranch House. Pamela McCreight, an instructor from the Bemis School of Art at the Colorado College Fine Arts Center, shared her artistic knowledge with students as they explored new materials and creativity with mixed media.



Cookies with Santa always kicks off the December Holiday season in festive style. This year the YMCA once again hosted the Saturday morning event on December 7th where all the young at heart could share their toy wish list Santa.

**We hope your holiday season will be graced with time to reflect on blessings of the past year and time to enjoy the camaraderie and friendship of neighbors at holiday events and gatherings at Banning Lewis Ranch.**

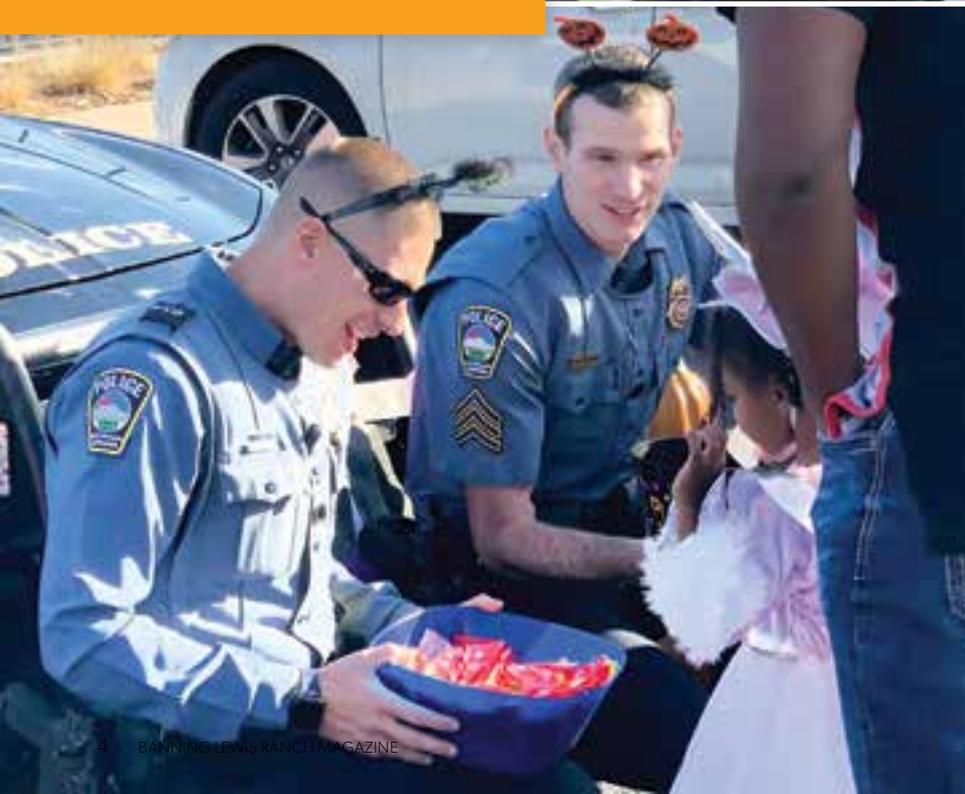
## Looking Ahead . . .

Oakwood Homes has begun construction of the new active Adult Lifestyle Community, *The Retreat at Banning Lewis Ranch and Oakwood Life Community*, south of Dublin Road. The project features several community amenities, including Pickleball Courts, Bocce Ball Courts, Club House, Pool, and their very own Lifestyle Director. The builder partners anticipate starting to build homes in this community as soon as Q1 in 2020, with the amenity anticipated to come on board around mid-summer in 2020.



# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS

PHOTOS BY CHUCK BIGGER





# BANNING LEWIS RANCH MAGAZINE RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

## MEET OMAR, SUSIE AND LEVI LOPEZ

**What street do you live on?** Rim Bluff Ln

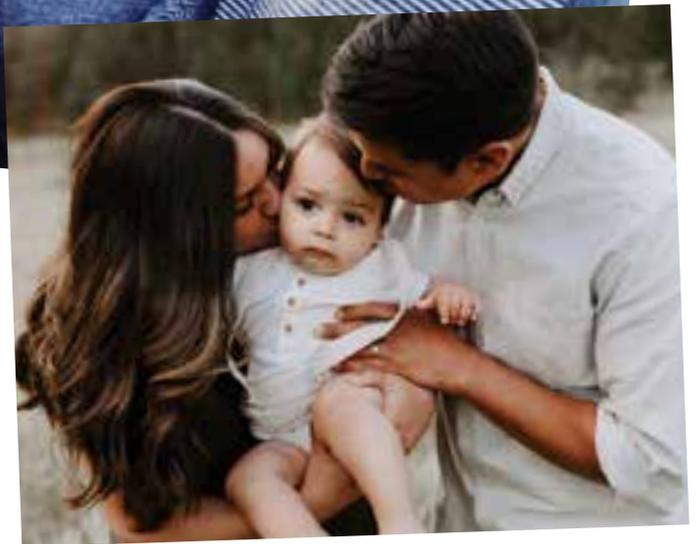
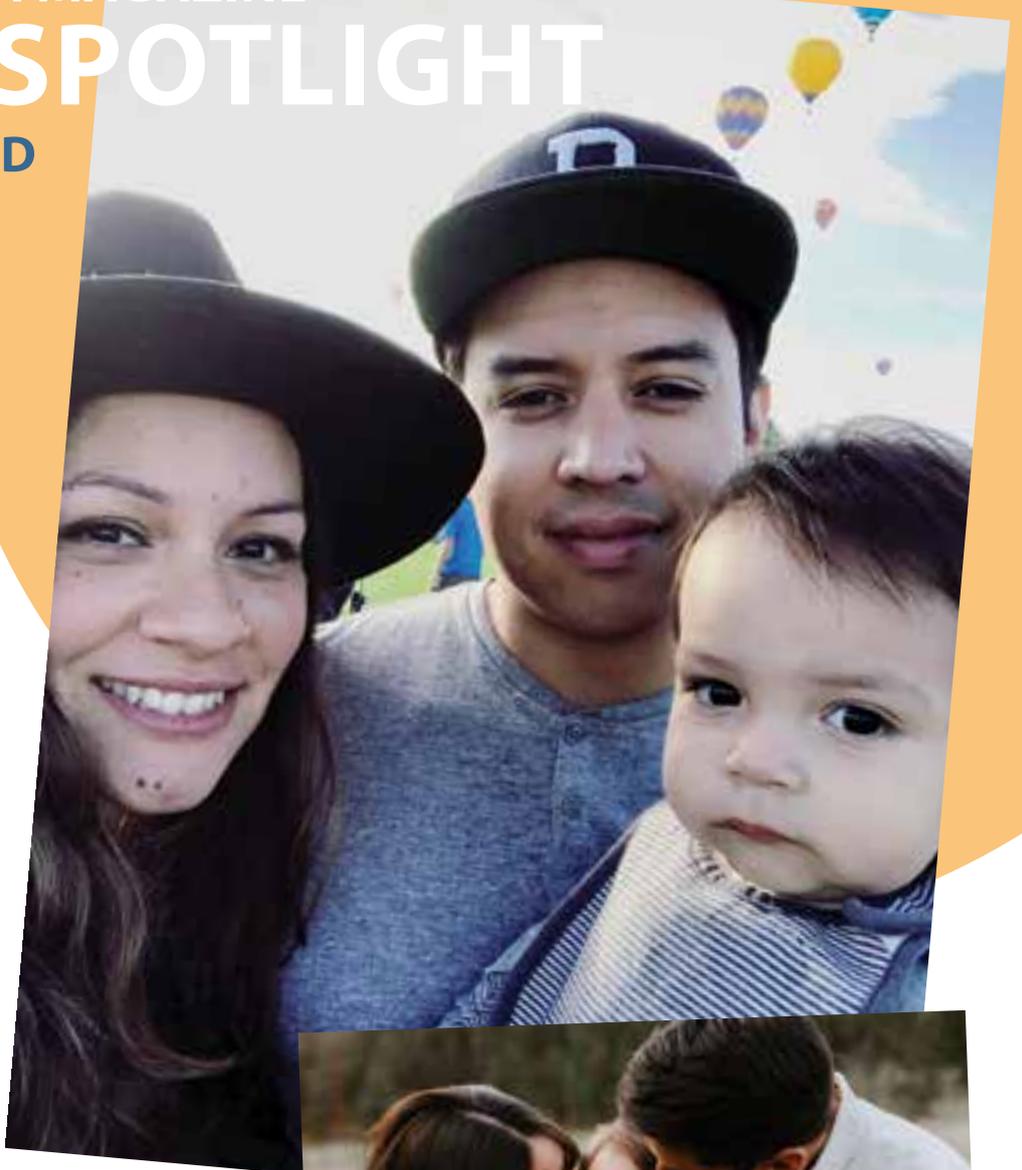
**Who built your home?** Covington

**How long have you lived in Banning Lewis Ranch?** 1.5 years

**Why did you choose to live in BLR and what do you enjoy most about the community?** We like the community and family feel, the open spaces/ walking trails, and the events like the Farmers Market

**Favorite activities/hobbies:** Getting outside, cooking, and making memories with our 1 year old!

**Favorite neighborhood restaurants:** Till Kitchen, Dos Santos, Monse's Pupuseria, Walter's 303 Pizza, Piglatin Cocina



**Favorite Sports:**

Soccer (Omar) and Ice Skating (Susie)

**Favorite Sports Teams:**

We are pretty neutral...we like everyone!

**Favorite family dinner**

**menus:** Enchiladas, all kinds of soup, quinoa and lentil salads

**Holiday family traditions:** Making homemade tamales with the whole family and dressing up all the babies in matching holiday outfits.

**How are you involved in the**

**community?** We are a part of the BLR facebook group that shares experiences, pictures and tips. We are hoping to get more involved and meet more friends in the neighborhood!

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# LOOKING FOR SOME FUN IN THE SNOW?

By Linda DuVal

**Well, downhill skiing isn't for everyone, and it isn't your only option. In fact, the Breckenridge Nordic Center has lots of options. And it's accessible from Colorado Springs without going up I-25 and through Denver – a plus!**

You can try cross-country skiing or snowshoeing on 1,400 acres of groomed trails. Cross country skiing is the safest way to learn how to ski and is perfect for the whole family, says Therese Dayton, owner and program director for the center.

*“If your children can walk, they can ski. If they can't walk, they can be towed in the easy-to-use pull-behind sled,” she says.*

If you've never done cross-country skiing, they have lessons available for the whole family and ski trail maps are always available. If you'd like to try snowshoeing, you can take guided snowshoe tours until you are comfortable doing it on your own. Snowshoeing is a good option for those who want to explore at their own pace. There's also a small sledding hill for kids.

If physical exertion doesn't appeal to you, try a snowcat tour. Designed for the whole family – from toddlers to elderly folks – the 90-minute snowcat adventures leave from the Nordic Center at 2 and 4 pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. These tours fill up fast so be sure to book in advance by calling (970) 453-6855. Or check the Snowcat Adventure page under the activities tab on the website: <https://breckenridgenordic.com>.







# INSPIRATION VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Inspiration View Elementary Unique Inside and Out

**Inspiration View Elementary School. The name reflects the spectacular view from the location but also reflects what happens inside the school. D49's newest school boosts 382 students in PK through fifth grade and continues to attract more students each week.**

Thank you Banning Lewis Ranch for embracing this beautiful school. We hope that we meet your expectations for excellence and serve you well for many years to come. The neighborhood was kept in mind with each construction decision. Starting and ending times are staggered to minimize traffic congestion, additional crosswalk striping was added to increase student safety, and a bus curb cut out takes buses out of traffic on Vista del Pico Blvd.



Inspiration View Elementary School is unlike any school in District 49. While all schools take safety and security seriously, IVES is the first elementary

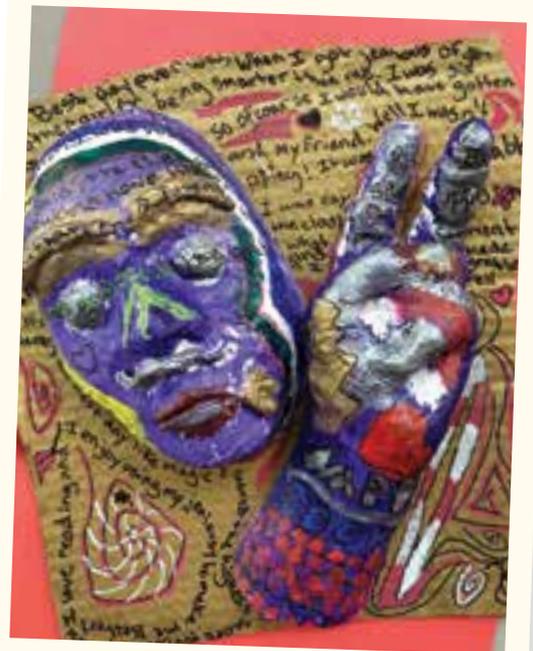
in the district to install the Blue Point Alert system. "Blue Point does for law enforcement what fire alarms do for the fire department," according to their website ([bluepointalert.com](http://bluepointalert.com)). We hope we never have to use this critical incident response tool but we are glad to have that. This system and reinforcement film on our windows are items the D49 Enhanced Security Community Advisory Team (ESCAT) recommended to the D49 Board of Education.

IVES is also unique in our arts integrated approach to teaching and learning. For this programming, IVES installed state of the art theatrical lighting and sound system. The goal of such a system is for our students to learn real world technical skills to design and run sound and lights for shows. The digital arts are a booming business. Not everyone wants to be on the stage but the show cannot go on without technical experts behind the scenes. We hope the community can benefit from our special spaces.

Partnering with IVES this year are local arts organizations. Colorado Springs



Children's Chorale, Ormao Dance Company, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, and Missoula Children's Theatre are some of the organizations students will interact with either as audience members or active participants. We are fortunate to be a school participating in the regional



## IVES Teacher Spotlight



**Kimberly Escobido,  
Second Grade Teacher**

IVES is proud to have Mrs. Kimberly Escobido, Banning Lewis Ranch resident, as a teacher and parent. Like all of our teachers, Mrs. Escobido comes with a wealth of experience and knowledge. She graduated from CSU-Pueblo with her Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies with a minor in Elementary Education and University of Phoenix where she earned her Master of Arts in Education focusing on Curriculum and Instruction. "I am beyond excited to be joining the Inspiration View Elementary staff and faculty. What attracted me to IVES is the arts integrated approach," says Kim. She has 13 years of experience as a 1st and 2nd grade teacher. "When I am not teaching, I love to travel and explore. My husband and I have been married for 11 years and have a wonderful family of 2 girls, a basset hound, and a cat. And, I love the ARTS! My family is part of a non-profit cultural group called Manava O Polynesia, where my family performs Polynesian Dance and Music." Inspiration View Elementary is also lucky to have the Escobido girls as IVES Flyers.

Kennedy Center Partners in Education grant as well, which supports schools to integrate arts in instruction. Our students are learning self regulation and reflection through the tools of an actor: body, voice, imagination, concentration, and

**As you can tell, Inspiration View is pleased to add to District 49s portfolio of schools and to offer a unique community for students to learn and grow.**



KRISTY RIGDON, IVES PRINCIPAL

cooperation. Additionally, classroom teachers and studio teachers are creating arts integrated units of instruction. Kindergarteners learning shapes also learn about the work of Kandinsky. Second graders create dance to show their understanding of changes in matter. Fifth graders writing personal narratives and created casts of their hands.



# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## The Pop Colorado Springs Treat Shop



Local owners, Cristal and Bill Breitbeil established The Pop in 2016, formally The Tiny Bubbles Company LLC off North Academy Boulevard, just south of Dublin Blvd.

They have always specialized in soft drink beverage favorites, affectionately called “pop”, and specialty coffees, teas and energy drinks to complement their home-made treats. The Pop is well known for their custom cookies made on-site each day featuring frosted sugar cookies, chocolate chip or peanut butter. They also offer Mini muffins, bagels and bagel sandwiches.

The Pop is family owned and operated. You will find owner, Cristal, there almost every day. She is a local graduate of Thomas B. Doherty High School and dedicated to serving the residents of Colorado Springs.



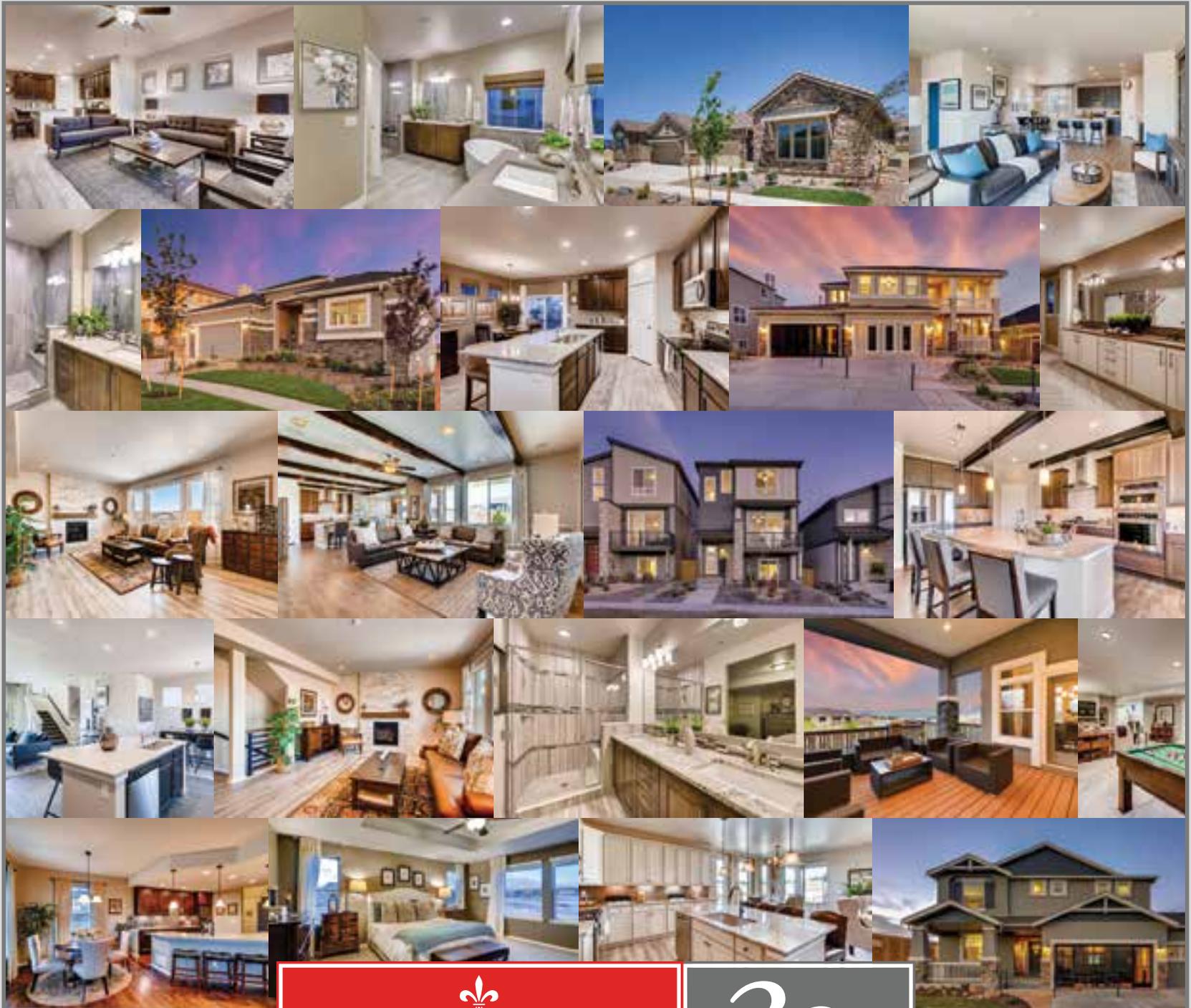
This winter, The Pop will be offering their chocolate covered sugar cookie again, also known as the tuxedo cookie, as well as an oatmeal cookie.

Be sure to order your frosted holiday cookie treats early, by calling 719-650-1908.

The Pop is located at:  
1802 Dominion Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Follow them on Instagram, Facebook or on the web at:  
[www.thepopcolorado.com](http://www.thepopcolorado.com)





  
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# SCHOOL ENROLLMENT



## Enrollment at Banning Lewis Academy

The Open Enrollment window is yearly from November 1st – February 28th.

Please submit an application online by visiting [www.BLRAcademy.org](http://www.BLRAcademy.org) and clicking the "Admissions" tab.

Completed applications received during the Open Enrollment window will be entered into the enrollment lottery on March 12th.

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**Banning Lewis Academy offers enrollment opportunities based on priority.**

**Priority status is defined as following:**

1. Banning Lewis Ranch Development Residents
2. Sibling Status
  - a. Status given to a new applicant if their sibling is currently attending Banning Lewis Academy
  - b. Status given to a new applicant if their sibling has been offered enrollment and has not declined
3. Students currently enrolled in a public charter school
4. Students who reside within School District 49 geographical boundaries
5. Students who reside outside of School District 49 geographical boundaries

At the lottery, wait-lists will be developed for any grade levels with more applicants than seats available.

Applications may be submitted after the close of the open enrollment window and applicants will be added to the wait list in order of receipt within priority.

As seats become available, wait-listed applicants will be contacted promptly with an enrollment opportunity.

Please join us for one of the following Information Nights to learn more about what continues to make Banning Lewis Academy the school of choice.

- Banning Lewis Ranch Academy (Kinder. - 5th)  
7094 Cottonwood Tree Drive  
Thursday, January 23, 2020 - 5:30pm -7:00pm  
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 - 5:30pm - 7:00pm
- Banning Lewis Preparatory Middle School (6th-8th)  
9433 Vista Del Pico Blvd.  
Thursday, January 9, 2020 - 5:30pm - 6:15pm  
Tuesday, February 4, 2020 - 5:30pm - 6:15pm
- Banning Lewis Preparatory High School (9th - 12th)  
9433 Vista Del Pico Blvd,  
Thursday, January 9, 2020 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm  
Tuesday, February 4, 2020 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

**For enrollment questions or to schedule a tour, please contact the enrollment registrar, Vanessa Carlson, at 719-638-3040 x 253 or email [VCarlson@BLRAcademy.org](mailto:VCarlson@BLRAcademy.org)**

# HOLIDAY DESSERTS

## DESSERTS THAT SHINE



### Looking for an easy, but impressive holiday dessert?

**Try Cherries Jubilee!** Don't be intimidated by the flames. Turn the lights down low before you set the dish on fire and your guests will remember it always. And it's not as hard as you might think.

#### Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1/2 teaspoon grated orange zest
- 1 pound Bing or other dark sweet cherries, pitted (frozen ones work well)
- 1/4 cup kirsch (or cherry brandy)
- 3 cups vanilla ice cream



#### Directions:

Mix together the sugar and cornstarch in a wide saucepan. Stir in the water and orange juice; bring to a boil over medium-high heat, whisking until thickened. Stir in the cherries and orange zest, return to a boil, then reduce heat, and simmer for 10 minutes. While the cherries are cooking, spoon the ice cream into serving bowls. Remove the cherries from the heat. Pour in the kirsch or brandy, and ignite with a long lighter. Gently shake the pan until the blue flame has extinguished itself. Spoon the cherries over the bowls of ice cream. Serves 6

**Cautionary note:** The flames may get quite high when flambéing, so pay attention to anything flammable above and around where you ignite the cherries. When the initial large flame has died down, a small blue flame will continue to burn for several seconds. Shake or stir the cherries gently to expose more alcohol to the flame, being careful that they do not burn. The goal is to have the small, blue flame burn for as long as possible, thereby reducing the raw alcohol flavor, caramelizing the sugars, and entertaining your guests!

Another simple, but simply spectacular, dessert is poached pears in wine. It's a great way to use one of fall's favorite fruits. It's simple but elegant. Break out your prettiest dessert dishes.



### POACHED PEARS

#### Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups red wine
- 3/4 cup sugar
- Juice of one lemon
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 4 ripe pears (any kind)

#### Directions:

In a saucepan off the heat, combine all ingredients except pears. Mix well. Peel pears and leave whole, including stem. Add pears to sauce and bring to a boil, then lower heat and simmer gently for about 25 minutes, or till pear can be pierced easily with the tip of a knife. Turn pears occasionally to cook and color evenly. Cool and place on a serving place with a little of the reduced sauce and whipped cream, if desired. Serves 4.

# A JOY-FILLED HOLIDAY: WALKING THROUGH THE GATES OF GRATITUDE



Gloria Winters is a doctor of physical therapy who specializes in orthopedics and exercise Physiology. She is the chief medical officer for the YMCA of the Pikes Peak region with a focus on health care integration in the community. Contact her with questions at [gwinters@ppymca.org](mailto:gwinters@ppymca.org)

**Life is hard. There is no other way to put it. Hope can be fleeting. We look at the destruction around us and experience a significant portion in our lives as well. How are we supposed to thrive in the roller coaster of today's circumstances? How do we experience joy in the busy hustle and bustle of the holidays?**

**What if walking through the gates of gratitude changed our perspective and allowed us to live life more fully alive - allowed us to experience awe and wonder?**

What do you think about when you see a rainbow or sunset? Are you startled anew at the beauty of the sun's rays reflecting a kaleidoscope of colors? How about the stars in the night sky? Do you see points of light or do you marvel at the mystery of supernovas, black holes and quarks? How about each snowflake that falls- a unique gem. What a profound mystery.

Betty Smith writes in *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, "Look at everything always as though you were seeing it either for the first or last time. Thus is your time on earth, filled with glory."

Gratitude is the affirmation of goodness and an acknowledgment of where goodness comes from. It is the quality of being thankful and showing appreciation. It is a mindful acknowledgment of all that we have been given. When we focus on the abundance in our lives, we discover a greater capacity for generosity, cheerfulness, and contentment.

Expressing gratitude is a rewarding habit that affirms the grace of the giver. Gratitude opens our hearts, encourages us to savor each gift that comes our way, and frees us from comparison and jealousy. It lets us celebrate today and is a reminder that one can always find a reason to be glad.

The benefits of gratitude have been studied for many years by renowned psychologist Dr. Robert A. Emmons of the University of California, Davis. The results of his research show a myriad of benefits: Physical : stronger immune systems, less aches and pains, lower blood pressure, exercise more often and take better care of health, sleep longer and wake more refreshed.

**Psychological:** higher level of positive emotions, more alert, alive and awake, more joy and pleasure, more optimism and happiness.

**Social:** increased helpfulness, generosity, and compassion, more forgiving and outgoing, reduced feelings of loneliness and isolation.

Walking is a choice. Gratitude is a choice. We must choose to put one foot in front of the other and walk through the gates of gratitude. Only with purposeful intention will we be able to live more fully alive.

As George MacDonald said, "what we need is more life - more of the life-making presence in us making us more, and more largely alive."

**I challenge you to find practical ways of bringing gratitude into your life during this holiday season.**

**It will always lead you to JOY.**



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### Group Exercise Schedule - January 2020

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15am	Full Body Strength		Full Body Strength		
9:00am		Interval Training Laura		Interval Training Laura	
9:30am	Toddler Time (ages 1-5)		Toddler Time (ages 1-5)		Squats & Tots Abigail
10:00 am	9:30 - 11am	Flow Yoga Gabi	9:30 - 11am	Flow Yoga Gabi	9:30 - 10:30am
11:15 am	Pilates Sculpt Michelle		Pilates Sculpt Michelle		
4:30 pm	Line Dancing Jenny		Line Dancing Jenny		

### YMCA Kids in the Kitchen Camp coming January 2 & 3 at the Ranch House.





## Colorado Springs Switchbacks New Head Coach

**T**he Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC announced that the club has appointed Alan Koch as the second permanent head coach in club history. Koch joins the Switchbacks FC with extensive experience in the USL Championship after earning the league's Coach of the Year award with FC Cincinnati in 2018.

Koch earned the 2018 USL Championship Coach of the Year award in his second year at FC Cincinnati's helm by leading the club to a 23-3-8 overall record as they set USL single-season records for points (77), wins (23), and games unbeaten in the regular season (23) en route to winning the USL Regular Season Championship.

"I am excited to join the Switchbacks and be a part of a very special project. There is a lot of assessing and evaluating that needs to happen in the short-term as we begin to put in place the plan for the 2020 season," said Koch. "I am also thrilled to be part of the next phase of the club as we prepare to move into the new downtown stadium in 2021. We will work incredibly hard to achieve the goal of getting the club back into the playoffs."

Koch has experience coaching at nearly every level of the U.S. Soccer pyramid including time with Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Whitecaps 2, and FC Cincinnati.





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"We selected Alan because not only is he an amazing coach with USL Championship Coach of the Year credentials, but he's excited to paint Colorado Springs black and blue as we crescendo into the most important outdoor sports project in the history of Colorado Springs,"

Switchbacks President, Nick Ragain

---





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**Jeanette Napier**  
**Loan Officer**  
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# Banning Lewis Ranch Contacts

## Northtree Ranch House

6885 Vista del Pico Blvd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80927  
Phone: 719-522-2432  
Fax: 719-522-2433

## Banning Lewis Ranch Metropolitan District

Districts 1-7

Josh Miller - District Manager  
c/o Clifton Larson Allen  
111 S. Tejon Street, Suite 705  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Phone: 719-635-0330 x37226  
Fax: 719-473-3630  
Email: [Josh.miller@CLAconnect.com](mailto:Josh.miller@CLAconnect.com)

## Trash and Recycling Services

Home Builders Services  
Phone: 720-547-8600

## Covenant Control and Enforcement

MSI  
8610 Explorer Drive Suite 130, Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
Phone: 719-260-4548  
Fax: 719-578-5611  
[banninglewisranch@msiho.com](mailto:banninglewisranch@msiho.com)

## Design Review Committee

Please submit plans to:  
Banning Lewis Ranch  
Metropolitan District #1  
8390 E. Crescent Parkway, Suite 600  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

# COMMUNITY CONTACTS & GUIDES

Got a question, suggestion or just need to talk? Here's who to contact...

## RANCH HOUSE ACCESS CARD:

Pick up your access card for the Ranch House Recreation Center at the Ranch House Call (719) 522-2432 for more information.

Northtree Ranch House Recreation Center amenities are included as part of the Banning Lewis Ranch Metro District Operating Fee.

## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

### UTILITIES

#### Gas/Electricity/Utilities/Water

Colorado Springs Utilities  
[csu.org](http://csu.org)

#### Trash & Recycling Service

Home Builders Services is included as part of your Metro District Operating Fee  
(720) 547-8600

#### Key Pickup for Mail Service

United States Postal Service  
[usps.com](http://usps.com)  
(719) 638-1781

Mailbox keys can be picked up at the Ranch House.

### HEALTHCARE

Penrose St. Francis Medical  
[penrosetfrancis.org](http://penrosetfrancis.org)

Memorial Hospital Central  
[memorialhealthsystem.com](http://memorialhealthsystem.com)

Memorial Hospital North  
[memorialhealthsystem.com](http://memorialhealthsystem.com)

Colorado Springs Children's Hospital  
[mhchildren.com](http://mhchildren.com)

### SHOPPING

First and Main Town Center  
[firstandmaintowncenter.com](http://firstandmaintowncenter.com)

Shops at Briargate  
[thepromenadeshopsatbriargate.com](http://thepromenadeshopsatbriargate.com)

Powers Peak Center  
at Woodmen and Powers Road

### GROCERY STORES

King Soopers  
at Stetson Hills and Powers Road

Target Super Store  
at Carefree and Powers Road

Costco  
at Barnes and Powers Roads

### MISCELLANEOUS

Colorado Department of Wildlife  
[wildlife.state.co.us](http://wildlife.state.co.us)

US Fish & Wildlife Service  
[fws.gov](http://fws.gov)



# Halloween Hayride

October 31, 2019

