

Ryan Howser

From: CK Gausepohl <ckgause@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2023 8:48 AM
To: Carrie Geitner; Stan VanderWerf; Longinos Gonzalez, Jr; Cami Bremer; Holly Williams
Subject: Colorado Pumkin Patch

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El Paso County Board Members

It has come to my attention that there will be a discussion concerning the Colorado Kids Ranch Pumpkin Patch on Tuesday. While I would love to be there to support this organization, I cannot attend, so please receive this email in place of my presence.

This organization's prioritization and support for families with special needs has been and continues to be a real blessing to the entirety of Colorado Springs. Offering free admission to these families and ensuring that there are activities that are friendly for all children make this a friendly and safe place for all children and families.

My family has attended the Pumpkin Patch for the past 3 years. The experience is second to none here in Colorado Springs and serves as a landmark for the greater Colorado Springs area. The operation of the patch is superior to all such operations I have visited all over the United States. The personnel are friendly, and there are adequate staff for monitoring activities and ensuring safe parking. The traffic flow is efficient and smooth, avoiding any back-ups (I have never experienced a single one). **In a few words, this operation is dialed in!**

It is sad that a small number of people are targeting this business while larger projects, such as the new Amphitheater that will affect traffic throughout the year, continue to be pushed through. While I know that traffic is the main concern, I have seen time and time again this organization handle the influx of visitors perfectly and without impact to the surrounding area.

I place my full support behind this **veteran-owned** business that has the good of the community, the building of families, and good wholesome fun as its central tenants.

If you have any questions or would like to further discuss this matter, please reach out to me at ckgause@gmail.com or 760-310-7576.

Respectfully
Lt Col Chris Gausepohl, Katherine Gausepohl and Family