

From: Jacob Lyhne <coloradochiro1@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 8:48 AM
To: Carrie Geitner; Stan VanderWerf; Longinos Gonzalez, Jr; Cami Bremer; Holly Williams
Subject: RE: Colorado Pumpkin Patch

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To Whom This May Concern,

My name is Dr. Jacob Lyhne. For nearly 7 years my family and I lived across the road from the Chapman Family. We sought out this location for our young and growing girls because we craved the sense of community, Not only did we absolutely love the "country lifestyle" with such close proximity to our quaint downtown of Monument, but we truly embraced what it was be in a location that also respected and welcome neighbors that looked out for one another.

Shortly after we had settled into our home, activity began across the road that had otherwise been abandoned for quite some time (as we got to learn from our neighbors).

Our greatest fear was that a contractor or some development firm would be coming in to rezone this beautiful 40 acre parcel into an apartment complex!

We were THRILLED (to say the least) when we got word that a young family had purchased the property!!!

They brought charm, family-commitment, farm life mentality, an incredible neighborly connection and a sense of calm to our Canterbury Community despite not technically being actually a part of the HOA. We could tell from day one of meeting them that they truly were the type of neighbors and friends that small-towns thrive on.

The kind of family that was willing to help at any moment. In fact, John (the father) on numerous occasions came to our aid in helping cultivate our land or grate our arena to our horses as we did not own a tractor.

What did he charge us?

"Our friendship!"

That was his answer every time!

Once they let us know about their plans of bringing their family business of a pumpkin patch to their property, I recalled thinking "well, there will be some serious traffic at our corner!"

Year 1 we did notice that there was some traffic for about 45 days. Nothing that bothered us tremendously despite being the corner property that cars would turn at to get to their property, but noticeable in an otherwise quiet community.

In Year 2, our children were actually offered jobs (one paid, one volunteering due to young age) to partake in the Pumpkin Patch, which they really enjoyed. And did for several years thereafter!

It seemed like immediately that the Chapman Family wanted to embrace the youth of our community and get them involved in this incredibly important small business and teach them the morals and ethics behind running a wonderful family business.

I should also mention that my wife and I had a small business in Monument for 6 years, and some of the first families to support us were the Chapmans.

They have been wonderful neighbors for us, helped watch our property and livestock while we were out of town on trips, and they were all incredibly trusted with our valuables and pets, etc.

It would be an IMMENSE travesty to not allow the Chapman Family to continue what I believe is one of the few truly family-based events that brings our community together in allowing the Colorado Pumpkin Patch to take place annually. It's something that residents of this small community have been looking forward to for years.

Why would you shut this down?!?!?!?!?

I urge you all to look within your hearts and ask yourselves some simple questions:

"Why would we financially hurt this family?"

"What good will come of ridding our small community of this family-based tradition for young kids and families?"

"What powers or incentives are pushing this ridiculous over-reach of a family being well within their Right to run and operate a wonderful community tradition?"

Is it due to noise?

Let me tell you as someone that lived DIRECTLY across the street from them, it was NOT that disruptive, and it's once a year for several weeks! NO Big Deal!

Is it because of traffic?

Well, these are public roads right? They are County roads, so anyone can use them. Again...No Big Deal for the few weeks of activity!!!

What other motives are fueling this gruesome disrespect towards a family that is simply trying to bring joy and fun to our children?

What our community gains vs. maybe what a few narrow-minded souls "think" is so massively weighted in favor of the Pumpkin Patch that this whole issue is a waste of time, energy, and STRESS for this poor family that only seeks to do good for our community.

Let them be please!

Let them have their Right to run their business as they please, in accordance and in support of the community!

Do the right thing, would you please?

Regards,

Jacob Lyhne (and I speak for dozens that I know and have spoken with as well regarding this matter)