



Town of Estes Park  
P.O. Box 1200  
Estes Park, Colorado 80517  
[www.estes.org](http://www.estes.org)

Kate Rusch  
Public Information Officer  
[krusch@estes.org](mailto:krusch@estes.org)  
970-577-3701

June 5, 2015

### **Attend the George Hix Riverside Plaza dedication June 17 Bronze saddle sculpture unveiled**

Community members are invited to join Estes Park Mayor Bill Pinkham, Town Trustees and members of the Hix family for the official dedication ceremony for the George Hix Riverside Plaza June 17 at 10 a.m. Riverside Plaza is located on the Riverwalk at the confluence of the Big Thompson River and Fall River. The ceremony will include the unveiling of a new piece of public art – a bronze sculpture of a saddle by artist George Walbye.

In 2013, the family of George Hix and former Estes Park Town Administrator Gary Klaphake requested the Town consider renaming Riverside Plaza for Hix. Hix, who passed away in 2010, was a prominent businessman and community servant. He served on the Town Board for 16 years and was one of the founders of the Estes Park Urban Renewal Authority, which was responsible for the creation of Riverside Plaza following the Lawn Lake Flood. At its July 23, 2013 meeting, the Town Board approved the request for memorial recognition.

The Hix family commissioned a piece of art for public enjoyment to mark the dedication of the park. The bronze saddle sculpture to be unveiled was created by Loveland artist George Walbye. The sculpture is modeled after Walbye's personal saddle. In his youth, Walbye was a wrangler at Stead's Ranch, a Dude Ranch once located in Moraine Park. This particular sculpture was commissioned due to Hix's love of horseback riding and the artist's close ties to Estes Park.

For more information, please contact the Town of Estes Park Public Information Office at 970-577-3701. To receive Town news and /or meeting agendas by email, please visit [www.estes.org](http://www.estes.org). More Town news is available at [www.facebook.com/townofestesparkco](https://www.facebook.com/townofestesparkco) and [www.twitter.com/townofestespark](https://www.twitter.com/townofestespark).

**END**