

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mishawaka Amphitheatre will unveil a monument to the High Park firefighting effort in a ceremony at the venue on Saturday, May 11 at 12:30 pm. Mish GM Dani Grant remarks..."We will never forget the danger presented by this fire and the heroic efforts of firefighters who toiled day after day to protect the Mishawaka and all property in the Poudre Canyon. This monument will stand as a lasting gesture of our appreciation. We're pleased to unveil the monument as a fresh summer season at Mishawaka begins."

The monument was commissioned by Grant and husband Matt Hoeven soon after the fire was controlled last summer. The sculpted original artwork was created by Jackie Sindelar and Chris Gugelman. Sindelar is also employed by Mishawaka as a bartender. She says..."The project is so important to us because we know so many people that lost so much in the fire and also so many great people who fought the fire. Having an art piece dedicated to all the hard work hopefully will never let people forget the tragedy and triumph that this fire brought. Having the opportunity to display this piece of art at the Mish makes it even more special and personal on so many levels. Chris and I both have a huge place in our hearts for the Mish."

The public is welcome to view the Memorial at the dedication ceremony or any time thereafter at its permanent location near the front entrance to the Mishwaka restaurant.

Earlier on May 12...Colorado Tree Farmers, led by Wes Rutt, hosts "Be Prepared," a community event to help people be better prepared to reduce the damage to their property and to increase the odds that their homes can be saved during the upcoming wildfire and flood seasons in the High Park Fire burn area. Ward Mountain Ranch, Stove Praire Rd., 9:00 am to noon. See program details below...

Other community partners participating on this day where preparedness meets celebration include...Poudre Canyon Fire Department, Colorado State Forest Service, Poudre Canyon Emergency Services and Larimer County.