4th of July Celebrations in Denver

If you live in the metro Denver area, you have a lot of choices for your 4^{th} of July celebrations 2014.

Let's start in my hometown of Parker. The Town hosts an annual event — Let Freedom Sing! — at Salisbury Park, 11920 Motsenbocker Road, beginning at 6 p.m. on July 4.

The festivities offer much more than an awesome display of fireworks set to patriotic music. Folks of all ages can enjoy complimentary bounce houses, slides, games, a big slide, climbing wall and human hamster balls.

There also will be fantastic music provided by Rocky Mountain Brassworks and Boogie Machine, as well as great food, including Old Time Kettle Korn, Swirls frozen yogurt, Snow Business shaved ice, East Coast Italian ice, burgers, dogs, tacos, burritos and more.

General admission is free and limited parking is available at Salisbury Park for \$5 cash. You can bring coolers and picnic items, but no alcohol, tents or canopies.

Other communities in the south metro area — including Lone Tree, Castle Rock and Highlands Ranch — offer similar celebrations. Just Google the community you live in for the latest information available.

Fireworks also will be featured at major sporting events over the holiday weekend, including after the Rockies and Rapids games.

The Rockies' fireworks show will follow the July 3 and July 4^{th} games against the Los Angeles Dodgers at Coors Field in Denver. Rockpile tickets start at \$4.

The Colorado Rapids' fireworks show will follow the team's July 4 game against the Columbus Crew at Dick's Sporting Goods Park in Commerce City. Tickets start at \$29.

Denver's professional lacrosse team — the Denver Outlaws — also will have fireworks within the bowl after its July 4 game against the Boston Cannons at Sports Authority Field at Mile High in Denver. Tickets start at \$26.

If you want to start early and see "the big city's" display, you can head to Denver's Civic Center Park at Broadway and Colfax for Denver's annual Independence Eve Celebration on July 3 at 8 p.m.

Of course, I love Parker's local festivities the best. It's just a lot easier to get a great show in my hometown than traveling into Denver. But the option is yours.

Whatever you decide to do, please enjoy and be safe!