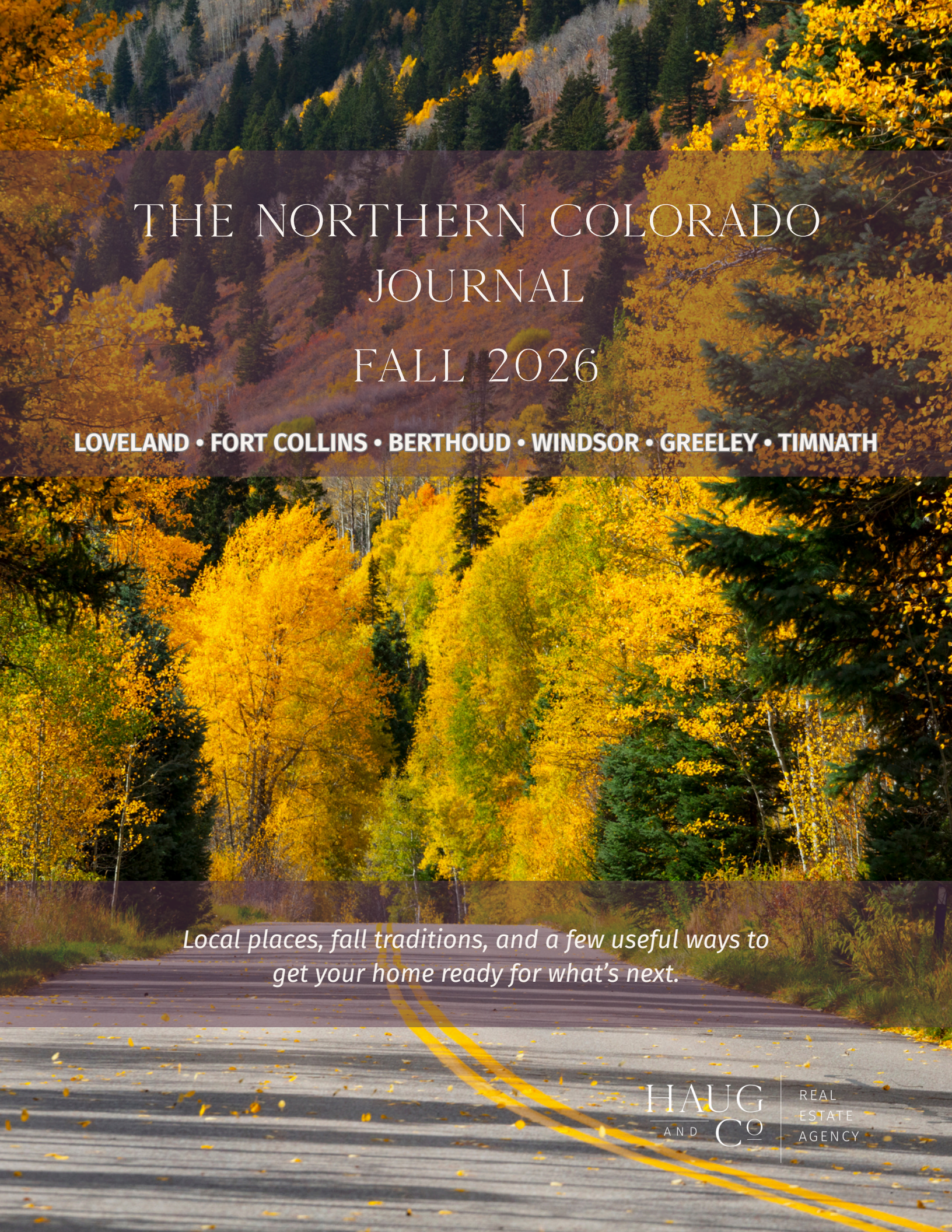


THE NORTHERN COLORADO JOURNAL

FALL 2026

LOVELAND • FORT COLLINS • BERTHOUD • WINDSOR • GREELEY • TIMNATH

Local places, fall traditions, and a few useful ways to get your home ready for what's next.

HAUG AND CO REAL ESTATE AGENCY



A NOTE FROM LAUREN

Around here, fall means getting back into a routine—although with three boys and football season, I use that word loosely. The calendar fills up, the evenings get cooler, and we try to squeeze in one more hike before the weather changes.

I put this journal together with our team to share some of our favorite local places, a few outings worth making time for, and a useful checklist for getting your home ready for winter.

I hope you find something new to try, somewhere worth revisiting, or a reminder that saves you a little trouble down the road.

Enjoy the season,

Lauren



THE SEASON, LOCALLY

“Some of the best parts of living here fit between the things already on your calendar.”

Fall in Northern Colorado keeps us guessing.

One day, we’re enjoying lunch in the sunshine; the next, we’re searching for the ice scraper.

We know the routine: keep a jacket handy, winterize the sprinklers, and soak up the warm afternoons while they last.

What makes this place special is how much we can enjoy close to home—from morning hikes and downtown lunches to Friday night games under a blanket.

Even in the middle of busy weekends, there’s always room for a farm stand stop, coffee with a friend, or a walk before dinner.

It’s those everyday moments, familiar places, and local faces that make Northern Colorado feel like home.

THE LOCAL RHYTHM

You can usually tell fall has arrived before you look at the calendar. It's the cool morning that turns into a warm afternoon. The blankets coming along to a football game. The first night everyone agrees it's time to turn on the heat.

SLOW MORNINGS

- Coffee outside in a sweatshirt before the sun warms up
- The first morning the furnace kicks on—and that smell
- A Saturday bakery stop when nobody has to rush to the next thing





WEEKEND WANDERINGS

- Catching the last of the color along the Poudre
- Hiking Devil's Backbone or Horsetooth when the air is finally cool
- Walking through downtown Berthoud or Windsor and stopping wherever looks good



FAMILY TRADITIONS

- Pumpkin patches, corn mazes, and hay somehow making it all the way home
- Downtown trick-or-treating and school harvest festivals
- Friday night football, with enough blankets for everyone

COZY NIGHTS

- An evening around the fire pit, when local restrictions allow
- A big pot of soup on the stove
- Watching the first snow fall, even when you know it won't stick



CAN'T-MISS MOMENTS

There's plenty happening close to home this fall. Here are a few dates to circle.

October 30: Fort Collins: Tiny Tot Halloween

This popular community tradition provides a safe, family-friendly trick-or-treating experience along the sidewalks of Old Town.

November 1: Fall Back

Enjoy the extra hour if the kids let you. While you're changing the clocks, test the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, too.

November 6: Downtown Holiday Lighting Ceremony

Kick off the holiday season in Old Town Fort Collins with an evening of festive lights, downtown charm, and community cheer.

November 13: Night on the Town, Downtown Loveland

Make an evening of it: visit the galleries, wander into a few shops, and see what's happening downtown

November 28 & 29: Small Business Saturday

Do some holiday shopping at the local businesses that make our downtowns such good places to spend an afternoon.



FALL WEEKENDS WORTH PLANNING AROUND



A Day at the Pumpkin Patch

Every family has its pumpkin patch priorities. Maybe you're there for the corn maze. Maybe it's the hayride. Maybe you just need a pumpkin for the porch and would like everyone to make it back to the car without a meltdown.

If you can, go early on a weekend or try a weekday afternoon. Wear shoes that can get dusty, and give the kids time to choose their own pumpkins. The lopsided one usually has the most personality anyway.

Looking for a pumpkin patch near you? Find more local options in our Northern Colorado Pumpkin Patch Guide:

SCAN ME



Holiday Lights Downtown

The first evening of holiday lights is a good excuse to slow down for a couple of hours.

Get dinner downtown, walk past the shops, and stop to talk when you run into someone you know. You don't need a big plan. Sometimes a cold evening, a hot drink, and a few blocks of lights are plenty.

THE H&CO EDIT

A few local favorites from Lauren, Jennifer, & Pam.



Pumpkin Patches

- Osborne Farm, Loveland. A local favorite. Pam's words: "LOVE."
- Something From the Farm, Fort Collins. Lauren's family went every fall when the kids were little, and it's still a favorite.
- Anderson Farms, Erie. Worth the drive for a full fall day.



Coffee for Cold Mornings

- Feel Love Coffee, Loveland
- Dark Heart Coffee Bar, Loveland
- Fort Collins Coffee House, Fort Collins. Nothing fancy. Just good coffee and friendly staff.
- Kó-fē House, Berthoud
- Public Market & Coffee House, Timnath



Cozy Dinners

- Persimmon, Old Town Fort Collins. Tapas, tucked away. Maybe the coziest spot in town.
- Door 222, Loveland
- Henry's, Loveland. Comfort food on a cold night.
- Simmer, Fort Collins. Don't let the strip mall fool you. The food and service are great.



Start Your Holiday Shopping Here

- Curiosities, Old Town Fort Collins. Fun, unique gifts and great stocking stuffers.
- Little Piece of My Heart, Downtown Loveland. Quirky and fun, now on West 4th Street.
- Masonville Mercantile, Masonville

A DAY TRIP WORTH THE DRIVE

Estes Park in the Quiet Season

Estes Park feels different once the busiest summer weeks are behind us. It's an easy day trip when you want mountain air, a change of scenery, and no complicated itinerary.

Why go now:

- Take a slower walk through town and along the river.
- Stop for lunch or coffee without trying to fit everything into one day.
- Keep an eye out for elk from a safe distance.

Before you go

Check the weather and current road and park information, especially if you're hoping to drive into Rocky Mountain National Park. Give elk plenty of room, even if they seem perfectly content to pose for a photo.

What to bring

Layers, a warm hat, and something hot in a thermos. The weather can change quickly once you're in the mountains.



A SIMPLE FALL HOME RESET

These are the home maintenance jobs that are easy to put off until the forecast suddenly gets your attention. Save this checklist and work through it before winter settles in.

A little attention now can help prevent expensive surprises later.

1. INSIDE THE HOME



- [ ] Change the furnace filter and schedule service
- [ ] Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- [ ] Check for drafts around windows and doors
- [ ] Make sure your ceiling fans are set for winter
- [ ] Consider a radon test if your home hasn't been tested recently

2. OUTSIDE THE HOME



- [ ] Schedule your sprinkler blowout
- [ ] Disconnect and drain garden hoses
- [ ] Clear gutters after the leaves fall
- [ ] Check the weatherstripping around doors
- [ ] Find the snow shovel and ice melt while you still have time to find them

Keeping up with small maintenance now helps protect the value of your home — and keeps everything running smoothly through the seasons.



IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT MOVING THIS FALL

FOR BUYERS

Think about what you want in your next home. Our Home Buyer Heart to Heart can help you talk through your priorities.

FOR SELLERS

Schedule a consultation with our team before you tackle the project list. We'll help you sort out which updates are worth your time and money.

Wondering what a move could look like for your family? Let's talk it through.

"You don't have to be ready to move to start making a plan."

ROOTED IN NORTHERN COLORADO

At Haug & Co., we believe home is deeply personal.

We guide clients through buying and selling with clarity, care, and intention — always grounded in education, alignment, and thoughtful communication.

Our goal isn't just a transaction. It's helping people feel confident, supported, and at home — wherever life is leading them next.

Lauren,

Jennifer, & Pam

HAUG AND CO

REAL ESTATE AGENCY



The Northern Colorado

FALL BUCKET LIST

Stick it on the fridge and see how many you can fit in.

- [ ] Pick a pumpkin at a local patch
- [ ] Get lost in a corn maze—on purpose
- [ ] Hike Devil's Backbone or Horsetooth on a cool morning
- [ ] Drive Poudre Canyon while the leaves are changing
- [ ] Cheer at a Friday night football game
- [ ] Go trick-or-treating downtown
- [ ] Spot elk from a safe distance in Estes Park
- [ ] Have a fire pit night
- [ ] Make a big pot of soup and invite someone over
- [ ] Spend an evening at Night on the Town in Loveland
- [ ] See the holiday lights downtown
- [ ] Shop local on Small Business Saturday
- [ ] Write down three things you're grateful for this year

HAUG AND CO REAL ESTATE AGENCY