



# Tracks

A Publication of the TrailMark HOA—A Covenant Controlled Community

**FEBRUARY 2009**



**WWW.TRAILMARKHOA.ORG**

## Littleton Snow Removal Policies

The City of Littleton is responsible for the streets in our area. Their policy is to plow only the main streets where school buses travel. The only time they plow residential streets is when they become impassable. Periodically, they will come by and sand the shaded icy areas.

Also, the Littleton City Municipal Code, Section 8-1-4(A), requires Homeowners or occupants of property to remove snow and ice from adjoining sidewalks within 24 hours after each snowfall.

To report violations or problem areas such as bad streets or bus stops, please call City of Littleton at 303-795-3969. Thank you for your continued cooperation!

## PLANNING TO PAINT ??

You may obtain all approved TrailMark color chips by contacting Liana Carleo at Hammersmith 303-980-0700 or [liana@e-hammersmith.com](mailto:liana@e-hammersmith.com)



***Please remember,  
DRC approval is required.***

**TrailMark Homeowners  
Association  
P.O. Box 270566  
Littleton, CO 80127**

### Board Members

**President**.....Stephen McKeon  
**Vice President**.....Karen Millsbaugh  
**Vice President**.....Mike McMahon  
**Treasurer**.....Sharon Gambrell Elms  
**Secretary**.....Michael Glade

### TrailMark Committees

#### **Common Area Committee**

**Chair**.....Lesla Rangel

#### **Covenants Committee**

**Chair**.....Emre Baytok

**Newsletter Editor**.....Noreen Kelly

#### **Design & Review Committee**

**Chair**.....TrailMark Staff

#### **Finance Committee**

**Chair**.....Sharon Gambrell Elms

#### **Social Committee**

**Chair**.....Sandy Ocker

#### **Website Development Committee**

**Chair**.....Denise Kato

#### **Safety Committee**

**Chair**.....Mark Rogers

### Management Company

**Hammersmith Management,  
Inc., AAMC**

[www.e-hammersmith.com](http://www.e-hammersmith.com)

### Phone

303-980-0700

### Fax

303-980-0576

### E-mail

[clientservices@e-hammersmith.com](mailto:clientservices@e-hammersmith.com)

### Corporate Office-DTC

5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

### Community Manager

Beth Lovato, CMCA, AMS



## ROUND-UP

### WHAT'S GOING ON IN TRAILMARK?

The HOA Board and the TrailMark Metro District will be making some very important decisions this year and we are asking the neighbors of TrailMark to get involved and attend the meetings. It is your money and your community. So stay informed by attending both the HOA meetings and the Metro Board Meetings. Both entities meet at 6:30 pm at the Creative Learning Center on South Carr Street. As you read through the newsletter you will surely see some of the information that was discussed and decided upon at those meetings. We want and need your input. So make an effort to attend and voice your opinions so each Board can make the very best decisions possible.

TrailMark HOA Board Meetings are on the second Thursday of each odd month. So the dates are March 12<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>, July 9<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup>, and November 12<sup>th</sup>.

TrailMark Metro District Meetings meet on the third Tuesday of the even months. So the dates of the Metro meetings are February 17<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup>, June 16<sup>th</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup>, October 20<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup> -which is a joint budget meeting with the HOA and December 15<sup>th</sup>.

### ANNUAL WALKTHROUGH OF TRAILMARK PONDS AND RESERVOIRS

Members of Denver Botanical Gardens, TrailMark HOA and the TrailMark Metro Board Biologist, Blair Leisure, did their annual review of all of the ponds and reservoirs to determine if there was additional need to sample the water that is draining into the Denver Botanic Gardens. At this time, the representatives of DBG and our biologist said that there was no need for this year, 2009. The ponds look good and the solar aerator that was installed at the Beaver Pond seems to be doing its job to keep the pond more algae-free. She will continue to monitor the pond in the spring and summer. Ms. Leisure and Mr. Parsons, of the TrailMark Metro Board, will work on signage for all of the ponds to warn people to stay off of the ice in the winter. Ms. Leisure said that there will be other maintenance issues that she will bring up with the TrailMark Metro Board to consider for this spring and summer.

### TRAILMARK HOA SETTING GOALS

At the first meeting of the TrailMark HOA in January, it was suggested that the Board members meet with the TrailMark committees. It was suggested that each committee prioritize needs for the neighborhood and then reach their goals within their budgets. Board members will be meeting with those committees within the next month and then presenting the goals and budgets at the next Board meeting. Fiscal responsibility is on all of our minds these days. We, as an HOA Board, want to be diligent with the income we receive and the spending of each dollar.

### LITTLETON FIRE DEPARTMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT IS REVIEWED BY LITTLETON CITY COUNCIL

"Response times" is still an issue. Did you know that Littleton City Council approved a contract with Rural Metro Ambulance Service to keep TrailMark under the 12 minute response time for 90% of the time? The yellow and white truck should be in the area of Chatfield and Wadsworth or Chatfield and Pierce to be able to serve the needs of TrailMark residents. The TrailMark HOA will work to get more information on this service and how this links with the Littleton Fire Department. We want to know how this will work and are we indeed safer than we were before.

Submitted By:  
Karen Millsbaugh



# FEBRUARY 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	<b>Groundhog Day</b> 	3 Common Area Committee Mtg Littleton City Council Mtg	4 Design Review Committee Mtg	5	Free Day Botanic Gardens/Chatfield 	7
8	9	10 Board of Director's work session	11	<b>Lincoln's Birthday</b> 	<b>NO School:</b> Chatfield-Falcon-Shaffer 	<b>Valentine's Day</b> 
15	<b>Presidents' Day</b>  <b>NO School:</b> Chatfield-Falcon-Shaffer	17 Littleton City Council Mtg TrailMark Metro Board Mtg <b>NO School:</b> Chatfield-Falcon	18 Design Review Committee Mtg	19	20 	21
<b>Washington's Birthday</b> 	23 Covenants Committee Mtg	24	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> 	26	27 	28
<b>AMERICAN HEART MONTH</b>						



# MARCH 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Common Area Committee Mtg  Littleton City Council Mtg	4	5	6 Free Day Botanic Gardens/ Chatfeld 	7 Free Day Denver Art Museum
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins 	9	10	11 Design Review Committee Mtg	12 TrailMark Homeowners Association Mtg	13 	14
15	16 Newsletter Articles deadline 	17 St. Patrick's Day  Littleton City Council Mtg	18 Free Day Denver Museum of Nature & Science	19	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING  Communications Mtg 3pm	21
22	23	24	25 Design Review Committee Mtg	26	27 	28
29	30 Covenants Committee Mtg	31	 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH			
	ALL SCHOOLS SPRING BREAK MARCH 30 - APRIL 3					



# TrailMark Metro District - Additional Facilities Update

More than a year ago the TrailMark Metro District (TMMD) Board, at the direction of the community, looked into acquiring the “School Site” to add facilities to TrailMark. After several meetings with the School District and the City, we are in the final process of reaching an agreement to “share” the site with the School District. With that said, we now need to answer the question: Just how much development do we wish to accomplish?

The Board is proceeding with the development of a site plan and having some initial facility design work done so that we can better define the costs involved with the building and operating of such facilities. There will be significantly more information on the design and costs of such facilities in the months to come. It is the Board’s intention to poll the community on which facilities they would like to have built, after an informational campaign to better inform the community of their choices.

With the details of the cost and design still being developed, let’s talk about what we do know. First and foremost, the facility will NOT INCREASE TAXES. The facilities will slightly decrease the amount of the tax reductions the Board has undertaken. In 2008, the Board cut Metro District taxes by approximately 11% (7.6 mills) and eliminated the \$192/year Recreation Fee that was collected by the District. In 2009, the Board has again cut these taxes by an additional 18% (12 mills). The Board believes we have been prudent with your (and our) money and intend to continue to do so. The facilities would be funded utilizing the approximately \$500, 000 in reserves that the Metropolitan District has accumulated in the last three years, and then financing the remaining costs.

This financing would be paid using a fund of approximately \$100,000/year, which roughly translates to \$125 (\$95 after tax deductions) or 3.6 mills for the average household in TrailMark. This

would continue to be assessed until the financing is paid off, at which time the taxes will again be reduced.

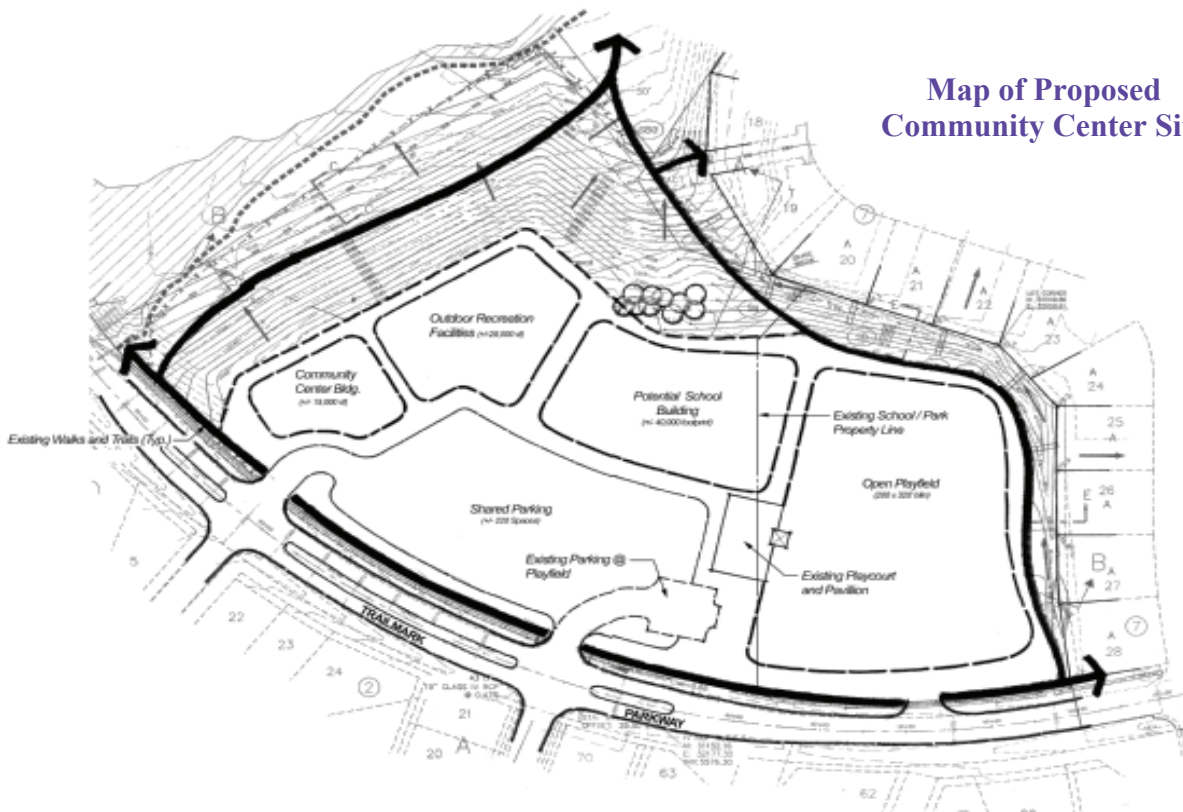
Let’s talk a bit about which facilities are being considered. First and foremost, the Board is planning a meeting facility with a master plan for expansion to add additional facilities. This facility would measure 10,000 square feet in size and would contain a kitchen and restrooms. Potential additions, if desired by the community, would be a “Work-out Facility” located in one end of the building with a separate access. Also under discussion are items such as a pool or spray park, tennis courts and/or a small skate park. As for the pool, the Board is reluctant to build one based on the inputs we have received from SSPRD, Foothills and others who operate pools. Pools are moderately expensive to build, are very expensive to insure and operate, and over the long haul, become money pits (their words). This said, the Board would build a pool if a majority of the community desires we do so in the upcoming polling process. If a pool/spray park is not built as part of an initial phase, a location for one in the future will be part of the master plan.

Many questions have been asked about the use of a meeting facility within TrailMark. As active as this community is with such things as Concerts-in-the-Park, Balloon Festival Breakfasts, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades, etc., we believe a facility would enhance these activities and provide for even more events throughout the year. In addition, groups such as the Boy Scouts and craft dealers have expressed interest in renting such a facility, along with birthday parties and wedding receptions. It would also provide a home for the Metro Board, TrailMark Homeowners Association (HOA), Star Canyon HOA’s and their committees within TrailMark.

Please continue to watch TrailMark *Tracks* and your mail for additional information in the coming months.

*TrailMark Metro District Board of Directors*

**Map of Proposed  
Community Center Site**





## Covenant Corner

*A space for the Covenant Related Information*

This month, The Covenant Committee is highlighting several areas where we have been seeing a greater number of violations recently. This information is intended to help homeowners comply with the covenants signed when their home was originally purchased. A neighborhood with strong covenant compliance not only keeps its value because of ascetic appeal, but provides a safer environment for us all.

**Snow Removal:** Did you know that it your responsibility as a homeowner/resident to clear your sidewalk of snow within a reasonable amount of time after every snowfall? This includes the front and side of your house (if you live on a corner lot). A note to homeowners who have mailboxes by the side of their house: this is actually on the easement of your lot, and you are required to clear snow from the mailbox area.

The City of Littleton enforces this ordinance (8 – 1 – 4: PUBLIC WAYS KEPT CLEAR). If you are convicted of violating this ordinance, you could receive a fine of \$300. Further, you can be civilly liable for damages if someone should fall and be injured, on your un-shoveled sidewalk.

For the safety of us all, please get out and shovel your sidewalks. If you are unable to shovel your sidewalk because of injury or disability, please be aware that there are neighborhood kids who are willing to do odd jobs (please note the classified ads and “Teen Services” list in the TrailMark Tracks).



**Inoperable Vehicles:** Hopefully, none of us has something that looks like this parked car outside our house. However, please be aware that there is a City of Littleton ordinance, as well as a TrailMark covenant that restricts the type of vehicle that can be parked in view of your neighbors, and how long it can be parked. If a vehicle does not have current license tags, is incapable of being driven, or is an unsafe vehicle; it is a ordinance as well as a covenant violation and the owner can be ticketed by the City of Littleton, as well as fined by the TrailMark HOA. The City of Littleton can impound any car (such as the above) that is left on the street for more than 24 hours.

The Covenant Committee will be watching for these types of vehicles, and car owners could receive a violation notice, as well as a visit from the City of Littleton.

If you have further questions regarding what is acceptable and legal, please do not hesitate to email the Covenant Committee at [covenants@trailmarkhoa.org](mailto:covenants@trailmarkhoa.org).

**“Stuff” that needs to be put away:** If you have street standing basketball nets, bicycles, trash cans (or just piles of trash), recycling bins or other items of this nature – be aware that they CANNOT be left in view from the front of your house. [An obvious exception is your trash can/recycling bin on trash day \(which is Friday\)](#). The listed items need to be placed in the garage, or behind your fence. The Committee has received many reports of basketball hoops left on the sidewalk and blocking walkways. As for trash (on other than trash day), keep it in your garage. Not only will this help our neighborhood to be more sightly, it will also keep animals such as coyotes and raccoons from strolling through looking for an easy meal.

For the safety and appearance of our neighborhood, please help by putting your items away.

Information provided by the Covenant Committee

## Common Area Committee Update

The Common Area Committee is currently engaged in a project to identify orphan areas within TrailMark that are in need of landscaping attention. We are going to prioritize the areas for improvement and decide upon a uniform appearance that keeps the natural arid Colorado ranch grassland theme of TrailMark. Once this is complete we will embark upon planned improvement to those areas. If you know of an area that needs attention, please give us the location. It can potentially be added to our list of orphan areas once we sort out which entity has jurisdiction over the area in question.

The areas beyond the fences and by the trails are **not** part of your yard. They should **not** be used as dumping grounds for plant refuse or any trash. They should also not be planted with any additional bushes, trees or grasses. The areas in the rough are mowed a few times each year to reduce the appearance of neglect and decrease the risk of surprises by rattlesnakes. This mowing is not meant to give these areas a manicured appearance. There is no trimming done at the fence lines or along the curbs.

The grant for the improvement of the Southwest Corner has been approved and you should see work started on that project by early Spring. It will include a table shelter and some additional trees and shrubs.

We will continue the landscape improvements in TrailMark and the project to hide or blend the utility box areas. If you have any questions or concerns about the open space, please contact us via email from the [TrailMarkhoa.org](http://TrailMarkhoa.org) website.

## A Doggie Dilemma!

There seems to be a mistaken idea about our "open space" around the TrailMark and Star Canyon areas. Just because an area is not landscaped, or seems to belong to a specific home, some of our pet owners believe that it is "doggie open space" to be used at will by their animals.

**Please be aware that there is no such thing as "doggie open space",** around TrailMark. The Arboretum at Chatfield, of course, is under the auspices of the Denver Botanic Gardens and is managed and supervised by their personnel. Even during such events as the Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch, the area is to be treated with care and consideration. The areas around our lake and holding ponds are kept in a "natural state" so that as homeowners and neighbors, we can enjoy our walks with "nature". Our extensive path system, which is the reason many of our homeowners moved here in the first place, has been developed by, and is maintained by the South Suburban Parks and Recreation. The open areas around the condominiums and patio homes are considered "common elements" of the homeowner associations.



So please be aware, that in all "open areas" around TrailMark, your pet is not to be allowed to roam free. The City of Littleton and Jefferson County Open Space **require that all dogs be on a leash.** Even on very cold days, it is not appropriate to allow your dog outside, while you remain warm and cozy inside. And of course, **you are required to pick up after your animal!**



In our "open space", in our non-landscaped areas, on our paths and trails, in our common areas, when you allow your pet to run free and use the areas as "doggie open space", you are infringing on the right of your neighbors to have a clean and pleasant environment.

## Star Canyon Patio Homes

The HOA Board Meeting was Jan. 22. Items Included in the **Board Banter** from Jerry Mastenbrook:

**Covenant Change.** Watch your mailbox for information regarding the proposed covenant change to exclude exterior siding, window wells and exterior rock facing from HOA responsibility. These exclusions will allow us to maintain current fee levels and moderate future increases. A special meeting will be held to vote on these changes.

**New Community Manager.** Please join us in welcoming our new community manager, **Milagros Matos**. Originally from Puerto Rico, she grew up in Philadelphia and later attended North Carolina A&T State University. For the last seven years she lived in San Antonio where she was a realtor and managed HOAs. She is replacing Mike Chapman. Milagros may be reached at [MMatos@associacolorado.com](mailto:MMatos@associacolorado.com) or by phone at (303) 232-9200.

**New speed limit signs.** Speed is great on the internet, in Indianapolis and in outer space. But not on Star Canyon streets. Later in the year new **15 mph speed limit signs** will be erected on the Star Canyon private streets of Iris Ct and Johnson Ct in an effort to encourage motorists to reduce their speed in our community.

Have you checked out the new **Star Canyon** directory? Thanks to Joanna Pugh for keeping it updated. If you need information about Star Canyon, you need to contact the board: send an email to: Milagros Matos, [MMatos@associacolorado.com](mailto:MMatos@associacolorado.com), and cc to [jeff.pugh@hispanic-contractors.org](mailto:jeff.pugh@hispanic-contractors.org) (Jeff), [louzier@hotmail.com](mailto:louzier@hotmail.com) (Lou), or [jobsrus@qwest.net](mailto:jobsrus@qwest.net) (Jerry). You can also reach Milagros at: 303/232-9200.

Our Community website is: [www.associacolorado.com](http://www.associacolorado.com) Click on "Community Websites" & choose Star Canyon. You must set up your account. Your street number is your User Name to register. This website is a good tool to obtain information such as Covenants & Bylaws. Be informed!

**TrailMark Trivia:** *This is the most common name for goldfish in America. See answer below.*

### SOCIAL HAPPENINGS:

The Dec. Lunch Bunch/Book Club luncheon at Gabriel's in Sedalia was a great success. It was a beautiful day and the service and food were great. What a nice surprise to see Kathy Burke again!

The Lunch Bunch for February will be for guys and gals. On Feb. 21 we have a 12:00 reservation at The Celtic Tavern near Belleview and Prince at Riverside Downs. Please RSVP to Peggy at [copeggy@msn.com](mailto:copeggy@msn.com) by February 17.

The **Star Canyon Dinner** Group is moving to the **SECOND SATURDAY** starting March 14. Peggy will follow soon with more info.

Our star athlete **Tony Riccio** has been named **MVP** for his Senior Softball League team the Colorado Cougars!!!

**The Star Canyon Book Club** had a good discussion in January about Pillars of the Earth. The Feb. meeting will be at Joy Carlson's to discuss Ride of Our Lives by Mike Leonard. The March meeting will be at Peggy Fitzgerald's. The book will be Broken for You by Stephanie Kallos.

**Bunko (or Zilch/Farkel)** is the first Tuesday of each month. Upcoming hostesses are: Feb. 3, Joan Flenner; March 3 Kay Schans; April 7 Donna Shuford. Bev Zier is the contact person for this activity if you would like to be put on the sub list. You might be the winner of one of the "big" money prizes.

**Mahjongg** is now the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 1:30. The next games will be January 28. Marilyn Hubbard or Joan Flenner are the gals to contact for more information. It is such a fun, fun game!

**Movie Club:** Contact Joan Flenner or Karen Milsbaugh for information on a movie outing.

**Men's Breakfast** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning of each month. Bernie Gehan is the contact person.



Trivia answer: **JAWS !!**



## News From the Star Canyon Condominiums

### From the Board:

**Review of the Reserve Study Complete:** Earlier this year, the Board had contracted with Aspen Reserve Specialists, to do a review of our Reserve Study, originally completed in 2007. We are happy to report that as of January 1, 2009, we are considered 89% funded. Basically, this means that we have 89% of the funds needed to cover projected future capitol improvements. As most of you are aware, our percent of funding is one of the factors that can impact the resale value of your home. This, along with continued repair and maintenance of our property, is important to us all.

In 2008, several projects were initiated which required Reserve Funds. For example, we painted three buildings, did repair work on stucco, did crack seal and asphalt overlay on Freiburg Drive, did some concrete repair and replacement and replaced approximately 7 trees, with another possible 5 next summer. In 2009, we will repaint the last 3 buildings of our paint cycle.

This spring, board members and our property manager will again "walk the property" to determine if other maintenance/repair work needs to be done. If you have noticed any area of concern, please contact Caron Realty and ask that it be added to the list for consideration.

**Online Access to Star Canyon Documents:** Community Documents are now available on the Web! Our governing documents for the Star Canyon Condominiums can now be found by going to the TrailMark webpage at [www.TRAILMARKHOA.org](http://www.TRAILMARKHOA.org), selecting "Star Canyon" from the options available on the left hand side of the webpage, then selecting from four Star Canyon Condominium documents. Our Bylaws, Covenants, Amendments and Articles of Incorporation can all be viewed and printed from this page. Special thanks to the TrailMark Board of Directors and our own Kim Hayes for making this available to our community!

**Fight the Ice:** If you are having trouble with ice build-up on your driveway or sidewalk, please feel free to use the self-service sand/de-icing material located in the white buckets in the garage areas. Please be sure to replace the bucket lids tightly, as high winds have a tendency to carry the lids far, far away! Thank you!

**Parking:** We would like to thank everyone for working with the board on this issue. We know that it isn't always easy, but your neighbors do appreciate it. We have heard from several people that it has been great to have parking space left for guests. However, **it is especially important** during our snowy times **to keep the street clear of cars and trucks**. This is true of both Freiburg Drive and Johnson Street. If our snow removal contractor cannot adequately clear our streets, it contributes to our ice buildup. Please continue to use your garages and driveways for parking your vehicles.

**New Board Member:** By the time you read this article, we will have held our Annual Meeting and a new board member will have been elected. We will publicize that information in the next issue. Your participation in the work of the Condominium Homeowners Association is very important, and we ask for your continued (or, in the case of new homeowners) your new involvement. Remember: If you don't participate, you shouldn't gritch!

**A Thank You:** The Star Canyon Condominium Homeowner's Association owes a BIG debt of gratitude to Shelley Sendelbach, our out-going board member who has served over three (3) years on the board (longer than any other board member). We wish her well as she takes some time off to concentrate on career and FUN activities.

### Social Activities:

**Sweetheart Wine Tasting Party** – to be held on **Friday, February 13, 2009**. Everyone is invited to come and bring their favorite red or white wine. There will be prizes for the "Best" red and white wine, as well as the favorite label as voted by the party attendees. The fun will start at 7 P.M., at Lynn Ester's place, 9895 W. Freiburg Drive "G".



**Book Club** – continues through the year, with an eclectic selection of books. Please call Penni Moulton at (303) 862-8834, for information regarding the current selection and hostess. Meetings are usually held on the last Friday afternoon of the month (except around Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's), beginning at 1 P.M.

**Bridge Group** – with the Patio Homes ladies will be on **Wednesday, February 11, 2009**. This is a group of players "just for fun", not for "serious". We will be meeting at 9875 S. Iris Court. Please call (303) 670-0890 for further information.

## **Safety Tips from the Safety Committee:**

- ☑ Everyone should have a smoke detector and a carbon monoxide detector that is run off A/C with a battery back up. Night Hawk makes a good product that can be purchased @ Home Depot, Lowes, etc. (We are aware that currently it may be difficult to find a carbon monoxide detector.)
- ☑ Change furnace filters at regular intervals.
- ☑ Clean dryer vents and lint traps in hot water.
- ☑ Have a fire extinguisher with at least 10lb ABC.
- ☑ Use extension cords that are same diameter as the appliance cord.
- ☑ Use candles only under proper supervision.
- ☑ Have an Emergency Survival Kit containing water, food, and a flashlight.



**When calling 9-1-1, call from a land line** vs. cell phone.  
Landlines go directly to Littleton Police.

## **Update on the Hildebrand Ranch Open Space, Surrounding TrailMark**



After all the last of the required permits were issued last week, we have given Road and Bridge Notice To Proceed on the HRP Entry Drive and Parking Area project. They are starting with the crossing of Deer Creek. As of today the old unsafe bridge will be demolished and removed.

Depending on weather, the installation of the concrete box culvert will begin in the next few weeks. We will now be viewing this as a working construction site and will try to keep the public out of this area. Any support that Open

Space staff can provide in promulgating this message will help make the progress safely. We are providing Road and Bridge with a quantity of our area closed signs and having them install construction fencing to indicate the closure.

Road and Bridge is going to be using the small barn as a storage area for construction materials and Storm Water Management Documentation. They have installed a hasp and lock to help secure this area.

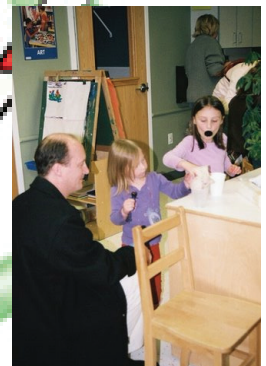
The Road and Bridge portion of this work will go into late spring of 2009. After Road and Bridge finishes the stream crossing, drainage and access improvements, then a separate contract will be processed for a paving contractor to install the interlocking concrete pavers. Open Space crews will then complete the project with signage and fencing.



TRAILMARK  
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION  
"Gingerbread Festival"



More pictures on page 12...







# TRAILMARK HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

"Gingerbread Festival"

So Much Fun!!!



## Name the South Suburban Athletic Field

Presented by the TrailMark Social Committee

*CONGRATULATIONS !!!*

South Suburban Parks & Recreation has selected the name  
"Hogback Hill Park" for the soccer fields, shelter and  
parking lot area in TrailMark.

This is the name submitted by our own Allison Phillips.

*Allison, thank you for your Community Spirit!*







# TRAILMARK HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

"Gingerbread Festival"

**What a great time!!!**



The festivities were again held at the TrailMark Learning Center and we had a great turn out. There were gingerbread houses made, cookies frosted and ornaments decorated....we learned that we have many young, creative artist and architects living here in TrailMark....and their parents are pretty talented too! We may have to have a parent contest next year. There was a coloring contest and many tasty goodies; sundaes with tons of toppings, hot chocolate and cider. ***A special thanks to the TrailMark Learning Center and the TrailMark Social Committee for sponsoring this year's event.***

**Congratulations to the coloring contest winners....Prizes were awarded to the following:**

**7 year olds:** Ashlyn (11)  
Cynthia (13)  
Nick Heil (10)  
Abby B. (9)  
Lizzie Blashke (7)

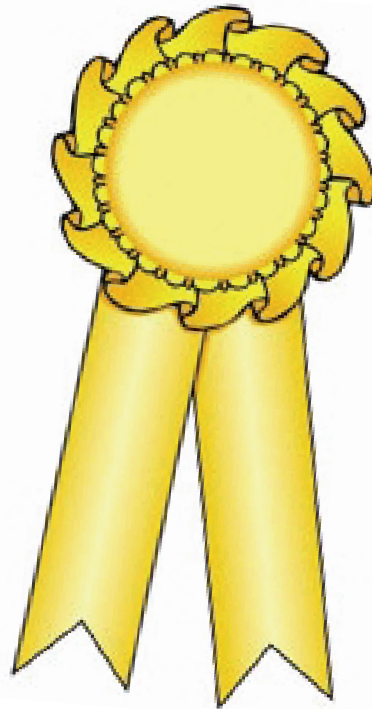
**6 year olds:** Jasmine Plancarte  
Justin Keith  
Devin Keith  
Sydney Armstrong  
Mia Lonegran

**5 year olds:** Victoria McBroom  
Callan Bendall  
Sammy Scheal  
Katherine Weymiller  
Kaedyn Forsyth

**4 year olds:** Dani Armstrong  
Carter Scheal

**3 year olds:** Sammy Weyhmiller  
Sienna Bendall

**2 year olds:** Evie Chambers  
Aiden Spore



**THANKS AGAIN TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS:**

Janet Weymiller, Jan Akers, Sandy Ocker, Dale Ocker, Chris Ocker and the TrailMark Learning Center staff.



The TrailMark HOA & Social Committee  
is pleased to announce the winners of the  
4th Annual  
Holiday Lighting Contest!!!

We would like to thank all that participated in decorating their homes. Our neighborhood has never looked so bright and festive. This year was especially tough to judge. Special thanks to all who voted and to the Judges for all the miles they drove.

**Winners were awarded \$25 Home Depot gift cards as well as signs to display in their yards with the category won.**

## Congratulations!!!

- **Most Brightly Lit Winner: 9143 W Finland Dr – Marty Family**

**Honorable Mention:**

9510 W. Belfast Dr  
9839 W. Cambridge Pl.

- **Most Festive Winner: 9640 W Dover Way**

**Honorable Mention:**

9756 S Holland St  
9565 W. Cannes Dr

- **Most Animated Winner: 9785 W. Baden Dr**

**Honorable Mention:**

9143 W Finland Dr  
9185 W Freiburg Pl

- **Judge's Choice: 9595 S Field Way – Cartwright Family**

**Honorable Mention:**

9651 W. Edenburg Pl  
9838 S. Johnson Way

- **People's Choice: 9756 S Holland – Elbeck Family**

*Start thinking about 2009...*

**We are looking at having a couple of new categories for 2009.**

**Suggestions have been:**

**Most Traditional, Most Unique and Most Over-the-Top**

**Thanks again to all who decorated their homes so beautifully.**

## School News

### Chatfield High School

<http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/high/chatfield/>

303-982-3670

- ✍ February 9 – Progress Reports available
- ✍ February 11 – Parent Teacher Conferences, 3:30 to 8:00 pm
- ✍ February 13 – **NO SCHOOL** - Staff Development
- ✍ February 16 – **NO SCHOOL** - Presidents' Day
- ✍ February 17 – **NO SCHOOL** - Comp Day for Conferences
- ✍ March 3,4,5 – CSAP Testing
- ✍ March 10,11,12 – CSAP Testing
- ✍ **March 30 – April 3 – Spring Break**
- ✍ April 10 – Progress Reports available

### Falcon Bluffs Middle School

<http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/middle/falconbluffs/>

303-982-9900

- ✍ February 11, 12 – Parent Conferences by Request, 3:30 – 7:30 PM
- ✍ February 13 – **NO SCHOOL** – Teacher Inservice
- ✍ February 16 – **NO SCHOOL** - Presidents' Day
- ✍ February 17 – **NO SCHOOL** - Comp Day for Conferences
- ✍ February 21 – Indoor Garage Sale Fundraiser, 8:00-3:00
- ✍ **March 30 – April 3 – Spring Break**

### Shaffer Elementary School

<http://sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=242>

303-982-3901

- ✍ February 10 – Spring Conferences
- ✍ February 11 – Early Release, 1:00 PM; Spring Conferences
- ✍ February 13 – **NO SCHOOL** – Conference Comp Day
- ✍ February 16 – **NO SCHOOL** - Presidents' Day
- ✍ February 17-20 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading CSAP
- ✍ February 17 – PTA Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A, 5:00-8:00 PM
- ✍ February 27 – Report Cards
- ✍ March 2- 6 – CSAP Testing, Grades 3-5
- ✍ March 9-13 – CSAP Testing, Grades 3-5
- ✍ **March 30 – April 3 – Spring Break**



## **An Author in Our Midst!**

One of our very own TrailMark neighbors is a published children's book author. Kathleen H. Beach, along with her daughter, Stephanie B. Weeber, have written a "flip-over" book about the delights and misunderstandings of being a flower girl and ring bearer for an aunt's wedding.

Kathleen and her daughter have written together since 2005, and for their new book, enlisted the artistic skills of Maryann Leake Baisley. Kathleen previously taught English in Jefferson and Douglas Counties, as well as in Littleton Public Schools. Stephanie is in her third year of teaching second grade at a charter school in Loveland. Maryann is a nationally recognized artist, whose watercolor pencil drawings "capture the innocence and imagination of the characters".

Madison's Mixed-up Flower Girl Magic and Aiden's Amazing Ring Bearer Act are this talented trio's first children's book together and promises to be a delightful read for "children of all ages".

## TIPS ON CO-EXISTING WITH COYOTES



Right now coyotes in our area are exhibiting “normal” behaviors, and yet they are becoming more comfortable around people. Although there are no recent incidents in the Littleton area, other parts of our state have experienced incidents which have led to bites and sometimes attacks on small pets resulting in death. In order to co-exist, we must change coyotes and our own behaviors now.

While coyotes resemble the size of a German shepherd, they only weigh about the same as a border collie (30-40 pounds). Coyotes are not malicious, scary creatures stalking us. Coyotes are wild animals attempting to survive on natural instincts (such as preying on rabbits, ducks and small rodents - voles and mice) in an environment where more and more homes are built in their natural habitat. Coyotes seek easy meals where injury to themselves is limited. This can mean your beloved pets.

The first behavior we can change is our own, **STOP FEEDING THEM!!!!** When you leave pet food, trash, or simply intentionally leaving food around, you are tempting them into our area. Because they are looking for “easy” prey - having access to food with little risk to injury - you have essentially given them reasons to search in our area for food. The best solution in the long-term is for each individual to take personal responsibility for keeping not only pets and people safe but also for keeping our wildlife *wild*.

Here are things you can do:

- **Never feed them** (this includes foxes, squirrels or other wild animals). Report violations to the Division of Wildlife.
- Feed your pet indoors or take the leftover food in immediately.
- Set your garbage and recycle material out the morning of pickup, not the night before.
- Keep all cats indoors - cats can be preyed upon by owls and cats prey upon our beautiful songbirds.
- Do not leave small dogs out at night.
- Keep pets on a leash - small pets will be more protected and keep larger pets from attacking coyotes which make them feel so they attack back to defend themselves - but mostly to keep coyotes from getting accustomed to pets.
- Keep small children close-at-hand at all times when outdoors.
- If you are followed by a coyote, harass them by yelling and throwing rocks.
- Vary your routine when walking so that the coyote does not learn a pattern to follow.
- If coyotes are spotted near a playground or school during the time when people are present, notify the police.
- If you are approached by a coyote acting aggressively (baring teeth, growling, etc.) stand your ground and fight back - remember these animals are the size of a border collie. If you can, call 9-1-1 for help.

Source: [www.littletongov.org](http://www.littletongov.org)

If you or someone you know have had **first-hand experience** with a coyote within the city limits of Littleton, the City Council would like to hear from you.

Go to the website at

<http://www.littletongov.org/feedback/coyoteFeedback.asp> and fill out the Incident Report Form.



## SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS AND RECREATION

### **Celebrates 50 Years of Serving You and Offers Discounts:**



South Suburban is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year of serving YOU! To thank you for your support, we're offering special discounts throughout 2009. Come enjoy 50¢ Fridays at your neighborhood recreation facilities. On Friday, February 13, 50¢ Friday will be held at Family Sports Center, 6901 S. Peoria St., in Centennial. Skating enthusiasts of all ages can attend the 10 am and 1 pm and 8 pm public sessions for 50¢ as well as rent skates for only 50¢. Slide on in for some low-cost seasonal fun and visit [www.sspr.org](http://www.sspr.org) to learn more about each unique, monthly 50¢ Friday as well as other exciting 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration activities.

### **Take Pride in Your Community Apply for South Suburban's Matching Gift Program**

South Suburban Parks and Recreation's Board of Directors has allocated \$10,000 for its annual Matching Gifts Program. This program matches donated dollars with District funds, resulting in double the money available for the development and improvement of community parks, trails, facilities and programs. Neighborhoods, homeowner associations, sports groups, businesses, service clubs, individuals and other community organizations are encouraged to make an application for matching funds to complete their community projects on District-owned or leased property. Applications for \$2,000 or less are more likely to be approved for funding.

South Suburban will continue a water conservation program in conformance with any watering restrictions that may arise in Spring 2009. The District is accepting **Matching Gift applications** for tree plantings and landscape improvements.

Requests must be **submitted by Friday, March 13, 2009**, and it is preferred that the funding match be in dollars, but consideration will be given for documented in-kind services. Projects must be completed by December 31, 2009 including all final billings and reimbursements. Applications may be picked up at the South Suburban Administrative Office, 6631 South University Blvd. or downloaded at [www.sspr.org](http://www.sspr.org). Anyone interested in additional information may contact Nancy O'Connor, at 303-798-5131.

### **Online Registration Starts Now for South Suburban's Spring/Summer Classes**

Online registration is underway for South Suburban Parks and Recreation's spring and summer classes. District residents can register for all classes on a first come, first-served basis, and residents are encouraged to register online as soon as possible because popular programs fill up fast. The online catalog offers the first opportunity to view the new schedule of classes; the printed catalog of activities will be mailed out to residents' homes in March. Non-District residents may pre-register with the understanding that their registrations are processed on a space available basis beginning March 24.

At South Suburban you'll find recreation fun for everyone: sports, art, swimming, fitness, nature, outdoor recreation, hockey, day camps, golf and much more. For easy, convenient online registration, and to review all South Suburban has to offer, visit [www.sspr.org](http://www.sspr.org).



## TrailMark Community Social Events for 2009!!!

The Social Committee is hard at work putting together another exciting year of events.  
*Come join the fun!!*

Here's a preview of what we're working for this year:

- ✱ The **Concert dates** have been set and we have a great summer in store. Save the following dates:



**June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009... we are still working on the event**

**July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009...Rhythm Angels**

**And**

**Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009.....back by popular demand is  
Opie Gone Bad**

- ✱ **Community 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Picnic and more!!!**
- ✱ **Trail mark Players' Classic Golf for Children's Hospital** - Has been set for September 10, 2009 at the South Suburban Golf Course

**Other events in the works with dates to be announced are:**

- ✱ **The Community Garage Sale**

**And**

- ✱ **The Corn Maze Night.....**with the budget cuts and higher expenses for the TrailMark Community, there may be a nominal fee for this event this year.



**Watch the TrailMark calendar for more dates and events!!!**

The Social Committee is always looking for new ideas and events. If you have an idea please contact the committee at [Social@TrailMarkhoa.org](mailto:Social@TrailMarkhoa.org). We look forward to hearing from you. Just a reminder that we can't do these events with out your help!!! Please **VOLUNTEER**...we have a lot of fun and it is a great way to meet your neighbors.

Dear Mr. Tracker:

I have a concern about trampolines. My concern is that many of these trampolines are not staked or otherwise secured to the ground. Shortly after the recent windstorm in TrailMark, I noticed trampolines in the street and hanging from fences. I am very concerned about the safety hazard of an airborne trampoline. I have seen where these flying trampolines have rolled onto and damaging fences.

What can be done to get homeowners or residents to secure their play equipment, especially trampolines?

Concerned Citizen of TrailMark

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Concerned Citizen of TrailMark:

Although we have not requested items such as trampolines be secured to the ground, we have requested playground equipment be enclosed. We live in a very windy area. The last wind storm caused many items to go airborne. Please be considerate of your neighbors and secure large items. The next wind storm may cause damage to the common areas or worse, injury to others. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Tracker

## TrailMark Teen Services



This listing is a free service for TrailMark residents. If you would like your name added/deleted/or changed, please email [communications@trailmarkhoa.org](mailto:communications@trailmarkhoa.org). Appearance of an individual in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the information, goods or services offered therein.

(B) Babysitting (L) Lawn care  
(P) Pet/House sitting (S) Snow removal

ADVERTISE FOR AS  
LITTLE AS  
\$25

### Newsletter Deadlines

Please note that if you would like to submit an article or idea for the newsletter, please e-mail it to [communications@trailmarkhoa.org](mailto:communications@trailmarkhoa.org) **before the 25th of the previous month.**

The TrailMark newsletter is published every even month. (Note: **Advertisements are still due by the 15th of odd months.**)

### **HOLIDAY LIGHTING**

Homeowners please be aware the all holiday lighting is to be removed from the property no later than 30 days after the holiday.

To avoid receiving a violation letter please insure that lighting has been removed.

## TrailMark Mommies Club

Do you have an infant, toddler or preschooler?? TrailMark Mommies Club is a great place to connect with other Moms and Children in the neighborhood for fun play dates, outings and information on local happenings! We are always welcoming new members, stay at home or working Moms, and are hoping to get more activities going soon!



To join go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TrailMarkMommies> and click on the blue button that says "Join this group" or call Sarah Russell at (720) 839-1015 for more information.



### **Classified Advertising**

The newsletter committee is excited to announce classified advertising will be back in your bi-monthly newsletter. *The service is for TrailMark residents only and the following rates apply:*

- \$1.00 per line
- Maximum 3 lines (personal ads only)
- Each line has 50 characters maximum
- No enhancements available

Mail payment to: TrailMark HOA, P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127. Please e-mail your advertisement, [nkelly@mywdo.com](mailto:nkelly@mywdo.com).

## TrailMark Tracks Advertising Pricing

The TrailMark Newsletter is a free bi-monthly publication exclusively for the 800 plus residents of the TrailMark HOA.

### **Rates Per Issue**

Business Card Size	3 ½"(w) x 2"(h)	\$25.00
¼ Page	4"(w) x 5"(h)	\$50.00
½ Page	8"(w) x 5"(h)	\$75.00
Full Page	8"(w) x 10 ½"(h)	\$100.00

(Please note: Effective August 2005, there will be a 2 page ad limitation, which will be decided upon how many requests are received, first come first serve.)

### **NEW INFORMATION ABOUT INSERTS:**

**We are no longer accepting advertising or other material as an insert into the newsletter.**

**Ad copy:** It is preferable advertisements be e-mailed in the form of a .JPG, .DOC or Publisher 2003 to [communications@trailmarkhoa.org](mailto:communications@trailmarkhoa.org). Payments are to be mailed to: TrailMark HOA, P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127. Payments must be received at the P.O. Box by the submission deadline. *Please write on the outside of your envelope that the payment is for advertising in the newsletter.*

Do not fax ads, as we cannot guarantee quality of reproduction. All ads must be black and white only, and copy ready.

The TrailMark Newsletter is scheduled to be published in February, April, June, August, October & December.

**Make checks payable to:** TrailMark HOA, NO CASH Please mail your check to TrailMark HOA, PO Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email the committee at:  
**[communications@trailmarkHOA.org](mailto:communications@trailmarkHOA.org)**.

**Thank you to all of the TrailMark advertisers for helping to support our community newsletter!!**

**THANK  
YOU**

## **TRAILMARK AD PLACEMENT FORM**

When submitting an ad for publication in the *TrailMark Tracks* newsletter, please fill out this form and include it with your check. Ads can be in three formats (electronic – sent directly to [communications@trailmarkhoa.org](mailto:communications@trailmarkhoa.org) - as a jpeg or word doc file or Publisher 2003). Filling out this form ensures that your payment will be properly credited and that you will receive a copy of the newsletter in which your ad is placed. Thanks!

Name of Submitter:

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Name of Company:

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Mailing Address:

---

Contact phone number:

---

Email address (if you'd like e-mail notification that Your ad payment was received):

---

Ad Size/Check #/ and Amount:

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The TrailMark Tracks Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the TrailMark HOA board, Hammersmith Management, Inc. and the Communication Committee. Newsletters are published on even months, and the deadline for articles and advertisements is the **15<sup>th</sup> of each odd month. PLEASE NOTE: ALL ARTICLES AND ADS MUST BE IN THE 24TH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING MONTH'S NEWSLETTER.** All items must be approved by the TrailMark HOA board. Please submit items to the TrailMark HOA in the form of a Word/JPG/PDF file attachment, to [communications@trailmarkhoa.org](mailto:communications@trailmarkhoa.org) or mail to P.O. Box 270566, Littleton, CO 80127. Appearance of an advertisement or article in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the information, goods or services offered therein. It is intended as informational only.



TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 270566  
Littleton, CO 80127

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February 2009



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## **TRAILMARK HOA MEETINGS**

**Meetings are held every other month on the 2nd Thursday  
of the month and always at 6:30 P.M.**

***March 12, 2009***

**&**

***May 14, 2009***

**Meetings are held at the TrailMark Learning Center  
9743 S. Carr Way**

*Please remember there are no adult chairs available,  
bring your own if you like.*