

# "Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary." -Margaret Cousins

#### Letter to the Editor

There has been much discussion on the recent letters on the trash. Let me add some explanation and perspective.

The covenants state that trash needs to be in a closed container. The reason – maybe it was written that way to help keep things tidy, but in our neighborhood we have the wind and wild animals. Leaving trash uncovered invites the coyotes and bears to visit our trash. This creates a mess and encourages behavior in the wild animals that is detrimental to their health.

For years, the HOA has politely asked homeowners to handle their trash properly. Articles in the TrailMark Tracks, web postings, I think they even did a postcard. Yet, there are still homeowners who don't follow the covenants. Reading through the FB posts one states we "don't put lids on our cans because they are too full". Violation. Pretty simple.

I argue the point the trash violation letters are 'petty'. It's unfortunate that it takes the management company looking for violations and sending letters to get compliance. Could we have used "honey" instead of "vinegar" – tried that with notices in the TrailMark Tracks and an award program for residents. Didn't work – still violations. If we all just followed the rules or heard the requests that were in the TrailMark Tracks, we wouldn't need to pay our management company to do drive the neighborhood and issue violations.

Why now? Because the HOA negotiated the Alpine contract and the reduced price on trash cans. They HOA Board came up with an option to help the residents stay in compliance. Thank you HOA Board!

# Homeowners Association trailmark.org

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#### **Management Company**

Colorado Management, Inc. 13900 E. Harvard Ave., Suite 330 Aurora, CO 80014

Phone - 303.468.3746 Fax - 720.748.3021

Email - tlamar@coloradomanagement.com

Community Manager, Tina Lamar

We live in a covenant controlled community. We all try to do our best and what we think is right. So when we get a violation, we think it's wrong and maybe we get angry. If it's wrong, reply and it will be corrected. Name calling and bemoaning the policy or process will not solve the situation. If you really think there are issues with the HOA Board or the management company, get involved. Your Board volunteers more hours than you can imagine to support this community. Thank them!

Thank you HOA Board (present and last year) Karen, Mike, Wayne, Jason, Lesa, Doug. Thank you TMMD Board Mike, Rick, Jack, Sherm, and Cathy. And thank you to the volunteers on the committees that support the HOA and the TMMD. I know you all have something better to do with your free time. Thank you for choosing to spend your free time to help the community.

# Winter Roundup

Your TrailMark Board Members send you "warm wishes" for 2012. Shoveling snow this last week was quite a chore but it was also nice to see that we are still looking at a few more months of moisture and sledding for the kids. Just a reminder: check the TrailMark website or Facebook to get quick answers to your questions. Recently, we posted information regarding the City of Littleton's Snow Plan and a postponement to Saturday for trash pickup because of the major snowstorm during the first week in February.



We hope that most of you have placed your recycles and trash in covered containers. This will help with our windy conditions on trash days and deter animals and birds who like a free meal. Thank you all for helping us to keep our neighborhood clean and beautiful.

The HOA meets on the second Thursday of odd numbered months at 6:30 pm at the Day-



care. If you have time, given family schedules, please join us. If not, check the minutes of the meeting on the TrailMark HOA website about two weeks later.

Beginning in April, the TrailMark Metro District Board members and the HOA Board members have "Coffee in the Park" on Saturday to answer questions that neighbors might have. It is very informal and folks often ride up on their bikes or walk over to join the group. There are signs posted alerting you to the Saturday the event will happen. The dates of the Saturdays for 2012 are April 28th, June 30th and August 25th. All "Coffee at the Park" activities begin at 10:00 am. Run, ride or walk on over to playground and join us.

Recently, members of the HOA and the TMMD met with Mayor Debbie Brinkman; Council Member, Bruce Stahlman; City Manager, Michael Penny and Fire Chief John Mullin regarding

TrailMark's ISO Fire Rating and response times to TrailMark. City officials stated that they are working with Lockheed Martin and also with West Metro Fire District to help the City of Littleton come up with a plan that will improve the ISO rating and also improve response times. Members of the HOA and the TMMD emphasized that the only way that response times could be improved significantly was to have a fire station that was closer to TrailMark. HOA and TMMD members are committed to continuing the dialogue with the City of Littleton.



Watch for the dates of the EasterEgg Hunt,

our 3 Summer Concerts and the Independence Day Bike Parade. We will post these on the Trail-Mark website, Facebook and also in the Spring Newsletter.

Submitted by your TrailMark HOA Board Members: Jason, Wayne, Mike, Lesa and Karen

#### Common Area Commíttee

Since we are not involved in snow removal, winter is a quiet time for the Common Area Committee (CAC). The good news is that we did not have much wind damage to our Christmas decorations at the entrance to Trailmark in spite of mother natures' best efforts. The wreaths and garland were removed by our committee members and spouses, while the lights on the trees were removed by our contractor.

The project for the Port-o-Let cover at Hogback Hill Park will resume and be completed this Spring, since there are no Port-o-Lets at the park in the winter anyway, there is no urgency.



Ideas for any improvements or small amenity projects are always welcome. The HOA is working on a master plan for our community. If you can think of anything that would improve our open space community, please attend the HOA meetings and present any ideas you may have. It is your community, so let us hear from you.

Also this Spring will bring some new and replacement trees and bushes in needed locations. Until then, enjoy our bright and shiny winter, and be safe on the sled hill!

April 7th - Easter Egg Hunt - 9:30am Hogback Hill Park

Get ready for the Trailmark Summer Concert Series;

June 24th - Dan Navarro

July 22 - Mojomama

August 26th - Trailmark's very own Emma Henry





Do you like the Concerts, 4th of July events, Corn Maze, and other neighborhood events? VOLUNTEERS needed to help these events go on. Help a little or a lot. Please email Juli Hill, at juliwh@msn.com, if you would like to get involved.

# South Suburban Board of Directors Election

A South Suburban Board of Directors election for two director positions will be held on May 8, 2012.

South Suburban Park and Recreation District is accepting nominations for two Board of Directors positions from qualified members of the community.

Interested candidates must be a registered voter in Colorado. They must be either a resident of the District for at least 30 days, or an owner or a spouse of an owner of taxable real property or personal property situated in the District.

A self-nomination and acceptance form must be filed with the District on or before 5 p.m., on March 2, 2012 for inclusion on the ballot. Forms and more information about the election are available from Nancy O'Connor, designated elected official, South Suburban Park and Recreation District, 6631 S. University Blvd., Centennial, 303-798-5131.

The five-member, board of directors is elected at large to four-year terms, on a non-partisan basis. The Board of Directors meets on the second and fourth Wed. evening of each month at Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 S. University Blvd. Additional study sessions or special meetings are called as needed. The Directors are compensated up to \$1,600 per year.

Current board members include Kay Geitner, Sue Rosser, John Ostermiller, Pam Eller and Mike Anderson. Kay Geitner cannot run due to term limits. Sue Rosser is eligible for reelection at the

#### President's Day Camp for Kids

Kids ages 6-12 spend a full-day of exploring nature at the South Platte Park,3000 W. Carson Dr., Littleton, 303-730-1022, finding native animals and playing wildlife games, then go inside to warm up for crafts and snacks. All-weather program unless dangerous conditions. Send child wearing clothes to get wet/dirty, sturdy shoes (no sandals), sunscreen, hat, insect/West Nile precautions, raingear, warm jacket, snacks, LUNCH, water. Sign in at Nature Center classroom, Mon., Feb. 20, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fee: \$32/\$26 Resident. Register at www.sspr.org.

#### **Give Me Shelter Hike**

May 2012 election.

Bring your favorite stuffed animal on a hike and create it shelter as you see how real animals survive winter at South Platte Park,3000 W. Carson Dr., Littleton, 303-730-1022. All ages, ages 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Sat. Feb. 18, 1:30 – 3 p.m. Fee: \$9 adults; \$7 youth; \$24 household (2 adults; 3 youth at same address); Residents: \$6 adults; \$5 youth; \$17 household (2 adults; 3 youth at same address). Register at www.sspr.org.

#### **Power Cycling**

6-week class for the cycling enthusiast and/or competitive athlete at Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 S University Blvd., Centennial, 303-798-2476. Program will focus on stamina, power and performance enhancement. Rides will include endurance, intervals, pedal stroke focus and leg strength. Heart rate monitors are strongly encouraged. Cadence drills and power output will be implemented. This class is taught by a Certified USA Cycling Coach. Thu, Mar 15-Apr 26, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Fee: \$55/\$50 Resident. Register at www.sspr.org.

For more information and events, visit www.sspr.org.

#### TrailMark Metro Board

a quasi-governmental agency within our community that can and does use parts of your property taxes to pay off the bonded debt used for building our community infrastructure. We have responsibility for the ponds and reservoir within TrailMark. We also share responsibility for the fences with the TrailMark HOA.

Last year was quite active for the pond maintenance and improvement. We added an aeration system to Fairview Reservoir #1, which you may have noticed with the twelve holes in the ice. This aeration has helped considerably in controlling algae growth and in supporting the fishery. The Department of Wildlife did a survey and found the hatchlings doing quite well and they did not have to restock the fish. That being said, we did introduce additional grass carp to help control the plant growth.

Beavers and muskrats have been an issue at Fairview #2, commonly known as the "Beaver pond". We had some of them trapped and moved, but we were also informed that as long as there is a food source (i.e. trees) that we will continue to have beavers. So we are embarking on a project to wrap any remaining trees we wish to save from the beavers.

Mosquito control formerly was the responsibility of Jefferson County. With budget cutbacks at the county it was one of the services that was eliminated. We felt it was important to the TrailMark Community for us to continue mosquito mitigation, so we contracted with Ottertail to spray as needed for the control of the mosquitoes at the ponds.

Water quality, algae control and other pond issues were contracted to Aquatics Associates starting in the spring of 2011. They have done a great job of keeping the algae under control using various methods and testing the water quality, especially important in Fairview Reservoir #1.

There is also an ongoing legal

issue regarding water rights between Centennial Water/ TMMD and the Bo-The TrailMark Metro District is tanical Gardens. So we do have recurring legal expenses on this issue.

> All totaled, we have spent almost \$60,000 on the items mentioned above last year. In addition, fence painting and maintenance was just over \$28,000 last year.

> We have renewed our contract with CRS, our management company for 2012. They have kept their costs in line and have been helpful and very thorough in helping us manage the TMMD.

> Two board members, Sherm Steed and Jack Parsons will be leaving the board in May after serving for at least eight years each. Many thanks to them for their contributions to the TrailMark Community during their tenure. We need to fill those two vacant positions. If you are interested in running for the board and qualify by being a resident in TrailMark, you will need to fill out a Self-Nomination This form will be available on the TrailmMarkHOA.org website (TMMD Tab). The Self-Nomination Form must be received between February 9 and March 2, 2012. The election is scheduled for May 8, 2012.

> Contact information - please direct questions or concerns to the TMMD at board@tmmd.org or call our management company, CRS of Colorado at 303-381-4960.

### Star Canyon Condos

The composition of our board has changed. Tom Moulton has resigned. Lynn Ester has agreed to fill his spot for the remainder of his term. Petra Turpin and Chris Bader are the other two board members and Chris has assumed the presidency.

Welcome to new homeowner Tabitha.

We have several new families in the community and some have asked about trash pick-up. Our trash day is Friday. If a major holiday falls on Friday, Alpine Waste & Recycling will pick up the next day. Beginning

January 1, 2012, residents who do not have trash and recycle containers with lids may be cited by our master association, TrailMark.

DRYER VENT ALERT: The condos are now 10 years old. If you have not had your dryer vent cleaned out, you should consider it, as a significant percentage of house fires are caused by clogged dryer vents. Recently we had our roofs inspected and the roofer mentioned that he saw several blocked vents. For your convenience we are listing 3 websites of BBB rated companies in the area that do dryer vent cleaning: www.dryerventdoctor.com. www.coloradoairducts.com, www.codryervent.com.

Just a reminder...street parking on Freiburg Dr. is primarily for visitor parking. It is not for overnight parking by homeowners. Please see the Rules & Regulations for the Star Canyon Condos. If you don't have a copy, contact Caron Realty (communityquestions@att.net) or go to the TrailMark website (trailmarkhoa.org) and click on the Star Canyon drop down menu to pull up a listing of documents pertinent to the condos. Street parking in the winter impedes the efficiency of snow removal.

Kudos to Scott Reeh for his help with the refilling and placement of sand buckets around the community. His brawn was much appreciated!

The monthly "Happy Hour" continues to be a successful venue and has given "newbies" a chance to become acquainted with some of their neighbors. We are also using this venue to update homeowners about issues/happenings in the community. There will be HOA Board representation at each event.

Our book club meets monthly on the last Friday of the month. If you are interested in joining the group, contact blmcginnis2@aol.com. have started our third ladies canasta group! We may wind up having a canasta tournament...stay tuned! If you are interested in subbing or joining a group or perhaps starting a group, contact blmcginnis2@aol.com.

# Jeffco Redistricting

If you have been in Jefferson County for any length of time, you most likely know that every 10 years, the county goes through a redistricting process and new representatives are assigned the new districts. TrailMark was a part of the new district assignments this year. Formerly in District 6, the TrailMark neighborhood is now a part of District 1. Diana DeGette is now the congressional representative as Coffman is no longer representing Jefferson County.

Also, it is to be noted that for the 2012 election, the number of voting precincts is being reduced from 326 to 260, with the largest precinct containing 1,750 voters. This will help reduce ballot styles and cut costs within the county.

For more information, see "Redistricting Carves Up Jeffco", published January 19, 2012 in the Denver Post.



# Roxborough Marketplace Liquors Welcomes Trailmark HOA!

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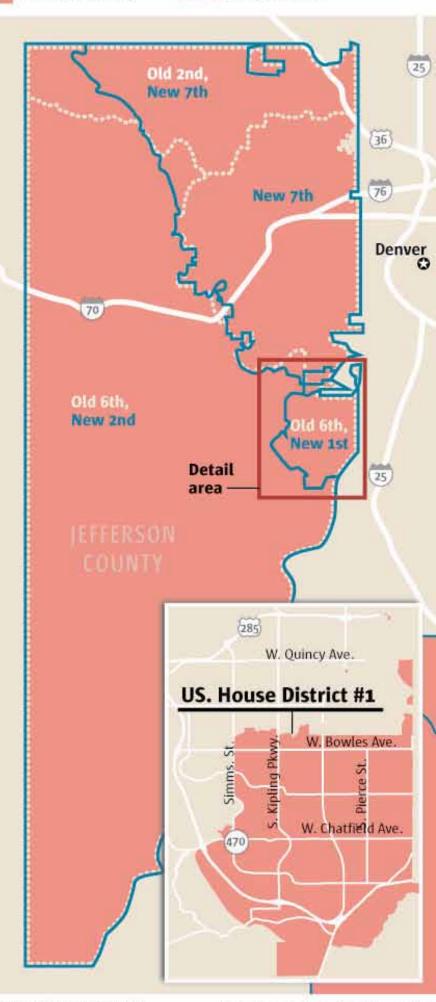
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Hours: M - F (10 - 10), Sat (9 - 10), Sun (12 - 6)



New boundaries

Old boundaries

## Star Canyon Patío Homes

#### **Board Banter**

NO PARKING SIGNS: Residents will note that NO PARKING signs have been installed on the north side of Johnson St. just east and west of Johnson Ct. Eliminating parked cars in this area will allow a clear view of Johnson St. by cars exiting from Johnson Ct. The board has asked Caron Realty to remind the condo residents of the NO PARKING signs on Johnson St. and to notify the condo owners that Johnson Ct. and Iris Ct. are private streets and they are subject to towing. Both streets are narrow and have to accommodate emergency vehicles.

WINTER WATERING: Residents will be notified by Associa, our management company, the dates for winter watering. Trimming dormant trees has been completed for the fall season.

SNOW REMOVAL: Last winter we recommended several changes to Schultz Industries, our snow removal contractor, regarding snow removal in Star Canyon. Following are the changes that have been implemented. The contractor shall shovel snow from driveways, sidewalks, and porches at an accumulated depth of 3" and from streets at an accumulated depth of 4". The sequence of plowing & shoveling will be changed from snowfall to snowfall. Thus, if your street is cleared last during the current snowfall, it will be first during the subsequent snowfall. The direction of plowing the streets will be alternated so that the piles of snow will be more evenly distributed on both sides of the street. We will have 5-6 men hand shoveling the driveways and sidewalks rather than 3 in order to speed the process. To the extent feasible (depending upon when the storm starts and the snow depth) we will make every attempt to have the streets plowed by 6:30 AM. Shoveling the driveways and sidewalks may take somewhat longer.

STAR CANYON BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Harry Brunett, President hbrunett@gmail.com
Marilyn Hubbard, Vice President mchris1014@gmail.com
Ed Shans, Treasurer ws2ic@comcast.net.

As always, for prompt attention to your concerns contact Milagros Matos at MMatos@associacolorado.com or (303) 232-9200.

#### SOCIAL HAPPENINGS:

Ladies Luncheon

Thursday, Feb. 23, Grappa Mediterranean Bistro

Tuesday, March 20, Macaroni Grill Friday, April 27, Cantina Laredo

Wednesday, May 23, Serendipiti Tea House

Wednesday, June 27, Pinehurst patio by the pool

Dinners

Saturday, March 10, Celtic Tavern

Saturday, April 14, The Keg

Saturday, May 12, The Perfect Landing

Saturday, June 9, Rockyard Grill & Brewery, Castle Rock

Remember, all dates and places are subject to change. Keep an eye on your e-mail.

The dates for our Holiday Celebrations are set also: Holiday dinner, Saturday Dec. 8, Pinehurst Country Club Ladies Luncheon, Tuesday, Dec. 11, Gabriel's, Sedalia

These activities continue:

**Book Club** 

Men's Breakfast

Bunko

Mahjongg Has changed to the 3rd Wednesday at 1:00. If this works better for your schedule and you would like to play, contact Joan Flenner.

submitted by Joy Carlson; jcarlson1347@comcast.net



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# TrailMarket Statistics January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011

STYLE	SQUARE FOOTAGE	FLOOR PLAN	AVERAGE SALES PRICE	AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET	NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	AVERAGE PRICE PER FINISHED SQ. FOOT
2 Story	1531 – 2346	Antero	\$305,000	79	1	\$130.00
2 Story	1676 - 2277	Huron	\$0	0	0	\$0
2 Story	1813 – 3285	Shavano	\$348,780	105	4	\$138.00
2 Story	1961 – 3484	Crestone	\$363,717	232	3 1 Backs To Open Sp	\$136.00
2 Story	2100 – 3781	Windom	\$381,846	119	3 2 Back To Open Sp	\$144.00
2 Story	2373 - 2508	Heartwood	\$0	0	0	\$0
2 Story	2567 – 4348	Rosewood	\$431,000	78	1	\$99.00
2 Story	2667 – 4484	Edgewood	\$482,000	7	1 Backs To Open Sp	\$107.00
2 Story	2894 – 4545	Cherrywood	\$433,500	98	3 2 Back To Open Sp	\$145.00
Ranch	2087 - 4090	Cypresswood	\$0	0	0	\$0
Ranch	2063 - 4334	Sandalwood	\$417,000	81	3 2 Back To Open Sp	\$138.00
2 Story	2780 - 3279	Hunter Bluff	\$0	0	0	\$0
2 Story	2923 – 4258	Willow Grove	\$470,000	98	1 Backs To Open Sp	\$110.00
2 Story	3098 – 5034	Timber Ridge	\$415,000	50	1	\$124.00
2 Story	3222 – 4504	Savannah Falls	\$515,000	4	1 Backs To Open Sp	\$158.00
2 Story	3215 - 5152	Regal Meadow	\$525,000	74	1 Backs To Open Sp	\$104.00
Ranch	5456	Pine Hollow	\$0	0	0	\$0

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW AVERAGE**

- **❖** SALE PRICE: \$405,492
- ❖ DAYS ON MARKET: 104
  ❖ PRICE PER FIN. 60, FOOT.
- ❖ PRICE PER FIN. SQ. FOOT: \$131.04
- \* TOTAL SOLD: 23 (11 Back To Open Space)
- **❖** ACTIVE LISTINGS: 9

(1 home presently under contract in TrailMark)

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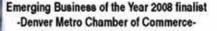
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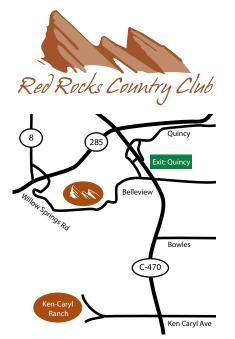
Warm up with carnival games, putting and driving contests, hot beverages, beers, refreshments and **Chili Cook Off samples**. The Clubhouse restaurant will also be open during the event.

\$5 admission fee benefits the West Metro Fire Foundation and includes chili samples (Children ages 5 and under free).

Schedule, details and Chili Cook Off registration at www.redrockscountryclub.org

Sunday, March 4, 11 am - 3 pm

#### **Proceeds benefit**





#### Directions:

- From C-470, take the Quincy/ Belleview exit.
- · Follow the signs to Belleview.
- Turn right (west) at the roundabout.
- Drive 2 miles west on Belleview
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