

TrailMark Tracks

February 2013

A photograph of a brown elk standing in a grassy field with trees in the background. The elk is facing left, looking up at the trees. The background is filled with green foliage and trees.

**West Metro Responds to TrailMark
Things To Do in Denver
Pick Up Puppy Poop!**

Give thanks for what you are now, and keep fighting for what you want to be tomorrow. ~Fernanda Miramontes-Landeros

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trailmark.org

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Community Manager, Natasha Henricks

Upcoming TrailMark Events:

You're invited! TMMD Board Meetings are Public:

The Metro District regular meetings are held on the third Tuesday in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and on Thursday November 14, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., at the TrailMark Learning Center. The meetings are open to the public and your attendance is welcome!

Attention TrailMark kiddos!

Please mark your calendars for the annual neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on Saturday, March 23rd, at 9:30 a.m at Hogback Hill Park.

2013 Volunteer Clean-up will be June 1st:

Initially starting from a suggestion from a TrailMark student, the TMMD board has made Volunteer Clean-up of Fairview Reservoir a tradition! Join your neighbors at the park to help do your part to keep our neighborhood beautiful on June 1st from 9:00-11:00 a.m..

Come to a Saturday Coffee in the Park:

In an effort to provide residents with additional access to the board, the TMMD board hosts Coffee in the Park on a few Saturday mornings during the summer months. These gatherings are a good additional opportunity for you to ask questions about the Metro District, meet board members, voice ideas and provide feedback. Coffee in the Park will be held on April 20th, June 22nd and August 24th this year.



City of Littleton

The Littleton City Council approved an Intergovernmental Agreement February 5 between West Metro Fire Protection District (West Metro) and Littleton Fire Rescue (LFR) for first responder fire and emergency medical services for the TrailMark and Loch Moor subdivisions. The agreement took effect on Wednesday, February 6 at 8 a.m. The agreement also calls for LFR employees to utilize West Metro's state-of-the-art training facility and participate in training sessions.

In return for these services, LFR will compensate West Metro an annual fee that will be determined based on the assessed valuation of the TrailMark Subdivision multiplied by West Metro's 12.382 mill levy.

The TrailMark subdivision is comprised of 801 homes south of C-470 and west of South Wadsworth. Loch Moor is a small residential area of 56 homes at the southeast corner of South Wadsworth and West Quincy. Based on the proximity of West Metro's stations to the subdivisions, it is anticipated that residents will experience faster response times.

Communications Director Kelli Narde, 303-795-3720
Fire Chief John Mullin, 303-795-3800

West Metro Fire Rescue Now Provides Fire & Rescue Service for the TrailMark Community



On Tuesday, February 5, the Littleton City Council approved an Intergovernmental Agreement between West Metro Fire Protection District (West Metro Fire Rescue or WMFR) and Littleton Fire Rescue (LFR) for first responder fire and emergency medical services for the TrailMark subdivisions. Now, when you call 911 in your community, West Metro Fire Rescue Firefighters will be responding to your home and your neighbors' home. The Intergovernmental Agreement took effect on Wednesday, February 6 at 8 a.m.

What does this mean for you and your family? When you call 911, West Metro Firefighters will be responding to your home. It has been determined after careful research and analysis; West Metro Firefighters can reach your home in Trailmark almost a minute and a half faster than the closest Littleton Fire truck. This is also based on the proximity of West Metro Fire's stations to the subdivisions.

You may see both West Metro Firefighters and Littleton Firefighters working together on an incident. Our top priority is protecting the lives and property of West Metro Fire's citizens and now the City of Littleton's in the TrailMark subdivisions.

Will I have an increase on my taxes? There will be no increase to your taxes.

Why did this happen? Is Littleton Fire Rescue going away? It is the best interest of the citizen's located in TrailMark for West Metro Firefighters to respond to your community. In TrailMark, you may still see Littleton Fire Rescue respond to a call however, West Metro Firefighters and Paramedics will generally be the first ones to respond.

Who is West Metro Fire Rescue? West Metro Fire covers 110 square-miles including the City of Lakewood, Town of Morrison, southeastern Jefferson County and parts of Douglas County. Generally, it runs from 27th Avenue on the North, to C-470 and the hogback on the west, C-470 on the south, and Sheridan on the east. The southern tip of West Metro's District is in Roxborough. West Metro Fire Rescue has 15 fire stations with the closest stations to TrailMark are Station 14 at Kipling and Chatfield, Station 13 at Ken Caryl and C470 and Station 15 in Roxborough.

West Metro Fire Rescue is a full service fire department providing structure fire protection, advanced life support (ALS) on all units, ALS transportation, and special teams that include hazardous materials; water rescue; technical rescue; and, wildland firefighting. West Metro Fire maintains ALS on all apparatus and has 221 paramedics throughout the ranks. The District has an Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating of three.

For more information, visit westmetrofire.org or call West Metro Fire Rescue at 303-989-4307.



Star Canyon Condos

We have several new homeowners to welcome: Sophie Gross, Joy McCrary, Michelle & Gary Welch, Gigi Embrechts, Elaine Johnson, and Mike & Linda Thurber. New renters are Andy & Teresa Marquez. Additionally, Carolyn and Jack Fay are now full-time residents, having sold their home in AZ. WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU!

Our Annual Meeting was held at the end of November. The 2013 budget was approved and beginning January 1, we will move forward with our plans for the coming year. These plans include concrete repairs, seal coating, exterior painting of selected buildings, fence painting, cleaning of rain gutters, and completion of a reserve study. Many thanks to Cyndi Parazak who has agreed to chair the Reserve Study Committee. Members of the committee include Charlene Baca, Brian and Bunny Foxhoven, and Marcia Marquez. Betty McGinnis is the HOA Board representative to the committee and Lynn Ester will serve as an Ad Hoc Liaison. Chris Bader was elected to a second term on the HOA Board, so the board members remain the same, including Chris, Petra Turpin and Betty McGinnis.

Within the next few weeks you will be receiving information from our management company, KC & Associates (KCA), about the new website for Star Canyon Condominiums. On this website you will have access to community documents, recent announcements, financial information, an events calendar, account information, Eforms, and an address book. There are several other features available that have not been included in this brief update. Please pay particular attention to the information from KCA as they will be providing you with the information that will allow you to enter the website.

As you know, there are certain things for which you must submit an Architectural Improvement (ACC) request for board approval, i.e., window replacement, storm doors, garage doors, A/C units (replacement & new), patio blinds, satellite dish installation. The HOA Board has developed some written guidelines that will make it easier for you to obtain approval for these items. These guidelines will be posted on the website but if you need the info now, please contact Betty McGinnis at 303-200-0019 or blmcginnis2@comcast.net.

Ongoing social events include the monthly Happy Hour and Book Club. New homeowners are invited to attend these social events. It is an excellent way to become acquainted with those in the community. For more information, contact Betty McGinnis. Several of the ladies attended an "English Tea" at Mrs. B's Tea Parlor in old town Littleton on Dec. 14. Many thanks to Sharon Elms who arranged this outing.

Some of our homeowners are part-time residents and we have had some "grumbles" from a few of them about people parking in their driveways. It's a little irritating to arrive here and find you can't get into your garage because another homeowner has parked in your driveway. Additionally, please make sure service people (carpet cleaners, etc.) park in your driveway, not the neighbors', unless you have cleared this with your neighbor...a little common courtesy goes a long way!

Be careful on our icy streets! This past Christmas when it snowed, the snowplow was unable to clear the streets because of the number of visitor cars parked on the street. Consequently, we had a snow build-up that turned icy. Walk with care and drive with care!



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.

Neighborhoodly Comments

By Sharon Gambrill Elms

We have been so fortunate, so far, this winter in having had only a few days of really frigid, icy days. However, it seems that quite a few homeowners who walk their dogs, feel that the snow and ice are reasons to not clean up after their pets. It is really disgusting to walk along the trails and find "poop piles" alongside and even right in the middle of the trail and/or sidewalks.

I walk the trails around Star Canyon every day and am finding new "piles" almost every day. As a dog owner who makes it a practice to always clean up after my pet, I don't understand why it is so difficult for others to do the same. This may sound like a "sexist" comment, but per my observation, it seems that the gals are more conscientious in cleaning up than the guys. What's that about?

I read a really good article about why we need to clean up after our pets. First, it is incredibly unsightly to have piles of excrement in our landscaping. Secondly, there is the possibility of the spread of disease. Dog feces are one of the most common carriers of heartworms, whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, parvo, corona, Giardiasis, Salmonellosis, Cryptosporidiosis and Campylobacteriosis. Thirdly, dog "doo" does not disintegrate into the soil. Most of us feed our dogs a processed dog food (they do not have a diet of fresh meat, etc.) This processed diet creates stools of matter that do not go back into the soil. Unlike our goose droppings that do disintegrate. Please, please clean up after your pets!



As a homeowner in the Star Canyon Condominium area, I have noticed that teen bicyclists have been riding down our sidewalks, sliding down our path by the pond/waterfall, and "ramping" over rocks and landscaping. I'm sure that it's more fun to speed over our narrow, curvy sidewalks than in the streets, quickly apply brakes on the pathway spewing gravel around, and ramping down from the trail through the condominium landscaping. Sooner or later, however, one of our more elderly homeowners is going to be hit and injured, and/or the cyclist is going to hit a rock and be thrown off his bicycle. Please ride your bicycles in the streets or on the paths around the TrailMark area.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District

Join a Golf League for the 2013 Season

Applications are now being accepted for men and women leagues for the 2013 season. League play is available for players of all abilities and is offered at many different times and days. Most leagues play March-October. For more information, contact the Pro Shop of the course you would like to play: Family Sports Center Golf Course, 303-649-111; Littleton Golf and Tennis Club, 303-794-5838; Lone Tree Golf Club and Hotel, 303-799-9940 and South Suburban Golf Course, 303-770-5500.



Calling all Summer Campers!

South Suburban will offer a variety of summer day camps to keep kids active, safe and entertained. Choose from athletics, golf, arts, performing arts and more. Register online at www.sspr.org under Camps for Kids in mid-Feb. Hurry, these popular camps fill up fast!

Fun in Denver

Swing Dancing at the Mercury Cafe! Classes at 5:30 and 6:30 followed by live swing band and dance. All ages and abilities welcome; no partner needed. \$9.00 includes lessons and dance. Food and drink can be purchased. *Most* Sunday nights. Check the Mercury Cafe website to confirm.



FREE Night at Children's Museum of Denver Families can play for FREE the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Denver Home Show The only place for you to experience what's new in Home, Remodeling, Home Decor, and More! Tickets: \$11 Children 12 & Under: FREE March 15-17, 2013

Colorado Rockies Home Opener

Colorado Rockies vs. San Diego Padres. April 5, 2013 at 2:10pm.



Denver Restaurant Week, two-week celebration of the culinary scene in Denver. Participating restaurants will offer a multi-course dinner for the fixed price of \$52.80 for two, or \$26.40 for one (plus tax & gratuity). February 23-March 8

TrailMark Metro District

How long does it take for an ambulance or fire truck to get to your house when you call 911? Here is an update on our emergency response time problem: West Metro Fire & Rescue is coming to TrailMark.

The issue of slow emergency response times to TrailMark is not a new one for the City of Littleton. Ever since TrailMark was annexed by Littleton, the time it takes for an ambulance or fire truck to arrive in TrailMark has been excessive, due mostly to the fact that the closest Littleton Fire Rescue (LFR) station is so far away (approximately 6.2 miles from the back of the neighborhood). According to 2011 data, in the absolute best-case scenario, it takes LFR 9-10 minutes to respond to TrailMark (22% of the 2011 responses took this long), and 77% of the time the LFR response takes 10-13+ minutes. In an emergency situation, responses of this length are extremely dangerous and can be life-threatening.

Former Littleton City Councils have periodically addressed the poor emergency response time issue. This issue has become "hot" at various times [after the 2004 Christmas day fire at Star Canyon, and after some residents experienced a hike in their insurance premiums (resulting from downgraded ISO ratings), and after the 2011 house fire] but inevitably, the City has failed to provide a meaningful solution. Various studies have been conducted (i.e. a 2008 study of response times) and various options have been presented. Building or relocating a fire station closer to TrailMark has repeatedly come up as an obvious solution,

however, the City has thus far only attempted a host of temporary "fixes" (such as placing a private ambulance at Chatfield and Wadsworth or assigning an extra ambulance at the closest LFR station).

In 2011 a Task Force comprised of TrailMark residents was created to work with the City to find a more meaningful and permanent solution to this problem. The majority of the Task Force believe the only wholly adequate solution is to build or relocate a station closer to TrailMark. In its 3 meetings with the City, the Task Force learned that Littleton is not considering (nor appears likely to ever consider) investing in building or relocating a fire station closer to the TrailMark community. As rationale against such an option, the City of Littleton has indicated the following: a) it has no money in it's budget for such an investment, and b) it views Trailmark as "only 800 homes" (which further skews the city's cost/benefit analysis of building/relocating a station.)

While the Task Force has not met with the City since late Summer 2012, the Task Force has become aware that the City is entering into a "Service Agreement" with West Metro Fire and Rescue (WMFR) wherein, as part of the agreement, WMFR will provide primary emergency response to the Trailmark community. The other part of the agreement involves LFR using WMFR training facilities. The total cost of the agreement is around \$317,000 annually. The WMFR station that will be servicing Trailmark is closer than the LFR station that has historically serviced Trailmark. The WMFR is 4.8

miles away vs. the LFR station which is 6.2 miles from the back of the neighborhood. The City expects the agreement with WMFR to improve TrailMark's response times somewhat, though they have not stated the improvement in minutes and seconds.

The Task Force estimates that having WMFR respond to TrailMark could

improve response times by 30 seconds to 3 minutes. The majority of the Task Force members maintain that the only truly adequate solution for TrailMark's response time problem is to build or relocate a station closer yet to Trailmark. However, given that the City has not ever, over the course of this 13-year-long issue, taken steps toward building or relocating a station closer to Trailmark, as well as the City's current stated budgetary circumstances and view of Trailmark as "only 800 homes," the improvement in response times TrailMark will receive as a result of WMFR providing service is "as good as it gets" for the foreseeable future. It is anticipated that, upon finalization of the agreement between the City and WMFR in February, WMFR will reach out to the TrailMark community to present information and answer questions regarding the logistics of its service to TrailMark.

2013 TMMD Mill Levy Remains the Same as 2012: The 2013 TMMD mill levy will remain set at 35 mills. This is the same levy assessed in 2012. This assessment figure allows TMMD to continue to pay down its existing bond debt (another of TMMD's primary functions) as well as meet its other necessary functions. Additionally, TMMD has established an Asset Replacement Reserve in anticipation of longer-term and costly essential expenses such as complete fence replacement.

Recognition & Appreciation Bench: After having been vandalized, the bench installed on the South side of Fairview reservoir will be receiving a makeover. Rather than listing individual former board members by name, the bench will have a single plaque which recognizes and expresses gratitude for all of those individuals in TrailMark who have ever volunteered their time in an effort to make our community a better place.

If you have any questions regarding Trailmark Metro District business, you can contact our manager, Cathy Noon of Community Resource Services of Colorado at (303) 381-4960 or email us at board@tmmd.org.



Star Canyon Patio Homes

Return of Trailmark Trivia: 6% of people say they do this at a movie theater*

* Dates for Star Canyon Social Events

Tuesday, February 26-Ladies Lunch at Wystone's Teas (Belmar)
Friday, March 22-Ladies Lunch at The Briarwood Inn
Saturday, April 13-Dinner at The Keg (Colorado Mills)
Monday, April 29-Ladies Lunch at P.F. Chang's (Park Meadows)
Friday, June 14-Ladies Lunch at Pinehurst Country Club Patio
Wednesday, July 10-Ladies Lunch at Runway Grill (Rocky Mountain Airport)

Summer Barbecues

(July 13----August 10----September 14)

These activities continue:

Book Club, 2nd Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

Men's Breakfast

Bunko, 1st Tuesday, 6:45 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MARILYN HUBBARD HAS STEPPED DOWN FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. JERRY MASTENBROOK IS STEPPING IN UNTIL THE NEXT ELECTION. jobsrus@qwestoffice.net

- 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.

submitted by Joy Carlson; jcarlson1347@comcast.net

*Stay until the very end of the credits (thanks to Dom Testa and the Mindbender, Mix 100)

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TrailMark

Market Statistics
January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

STYLE	SQUARE FOOTAGE	FLOOR PLAN	AVERAGE SALES PRICE	AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET	NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	AVERAGE PRICE PER FINISHED SQ. FOOT
2 Story	1813 – 3285	Shavano	\$359,554	82	13 5 Back To Open Sp	\$149.00
2 Story	1961 – 3484	Crestone	\$387,250	5	2 1 Backs To Open Sp	\$144.00
2 Story	2100 – 3781	Windom	\$393,460	188	5 3 Back To Open Sp	\$135.00
2 Story	2567 - 4348	Rosewood	\$447,865	47	2	\$141.00
2 Story	2667 - 4484	Edgewood	\$447,000	46	1 Backs To Open Sp	\$167.00
2 Story	2894 – 4545	Cherrywood	\$450,667	88	3 2 Back To Open Sp	\$136.00
Ranch	2063 - 4334	Sandalwood	\$387,666	237	3 1 Backs To Open Sp	\$101.00
2 Story	3222 – 4504	Savannah Falls	\$521,954	5	2 2 Back To Open Sp	\$160.00
2 Story	3215 - 5152	Regal Meadow	\$500,650	192	4 2 Back To Open Sp	\$106.00

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW AVERAGE

- ❖ SALE PRICE: \$409,150
 - ❖ DAYS ON MARKET: 112
 - ❖ PRICE PER FIN. SQ. FOOT: \$137
 - ❖ TOTAL SOLD: 35 (17 Back To Open Space)
 - ❖ ACTIVE LISTINGS: 1
- (0 home presently under contract in TrailMark)

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