

TRAILMARK TRACKS

Spring 2011

Seriously??? page 7

**Best place
on Earth!!!** page 12-13

Bull Snakes 101 page 21

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Letter from the Editor

TrailMark in the Spring. Ahhh – It's time to get outdoors, enjoy the spontaneous neighbor conversations, and enjoy our trails and outdoor activities.

I, like many of you, take advantage of our open space trails. You will either find me biking or walking our three Labradors. They love the trails and our walks probably more than I do. It's a change of scenery for them with many smells to sniff and other trail users to meet.

This time of year, we are also working in our yard beautifying it after the long winter. We take pride in our gardens and our grass. I like when our grass is green and free of blemishes.

Dogs are a big part of our life, but not everyone's life. There are many aspects of being a good dog owner, but I am using this space to talk about one area – cleaning up after your pet. When my dogs 'do their business' on the trails, I pick it up and put it in one of the many trash cans that are located along the trail. My dogs do not relieve themselves in my lawn – I have a special place in our yard for this necessity and I do that specifically because I don't like the blemishes they leave on the lawn.



I live on a corner lot. As I've been working in the yard these past couple of weeks, I was amazed by the amount of dog excrement I picked up in my yard and the rocks on my side yard. The side yards and the mailboxes are part of the homeowner's yard. They are not HOA property.

Be a good neighbor. Use the trails responsibly. Clean up after your pet. Don't let your pet relieve themselves in your neighbor's yard. Dog lovers and non-pet people will all be appreciative.

TrailMark Spring Roundup 2011



The wind is still blowing and the trash and trash cans are still flying. We are asking all neighbors to cover their trash and recycles. We are hoping that all neighbors will label their lids and trash/recycle cans with a name and address so that we can find homes for all of the cans and lids that travel pushed by our mountain winds. We commend all of the neighbors who are home on Fridays who help keep our blocks and neighborhoods picked up. You are all doing a fabulous job! Summer should be here soon.

The HOA and TMMD Boards have jointly sent out letters to the homes that will be

involved in the **exterior fence-painting** for this year. Weather-permitting, painting will begin the first week in May. We ask that all decorations, such as birdfeeders, wind ornaments and the like be removed so that the painting can be done in an efficient manner. TrailMark is a beautiful place and we are helping to keep it that way.

Have you noticed the **new mulch** that was placed around the trees and bushes along TrailMark Parkway and also Independence Street? It has been quite awhile since the mulch has been “refreshed.” The trees and bushes were trimmed and the mulch adds a new look to our roadways. We are also planning on beautifying the two message boards at the parks. New background paper and announcements of the Summer Events and Sponsors will be completed within the month.

The **Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday, March 23rd was a resounding success. The kids were treated to a run for the eggs and 2000 eggs were collected in a record 2 minutes! Some of the kids had their faces painted and Hogback Hill Park was also visited by the Chick-Fil-A Cow who brought breakfast sandwiches, fruit and juice to the kids and parents who attended. What a wonderful way to kick off spring!

Inform your neighbors about the **new TrailMark website** and also about the electronic newsletter. It is the only way the HOA can inform our community about upcoming events or news flashes concerning safety within the TrailMark area. Look for us on the web. Place our web address, trailmarkhoa.org as a “favorite” and check it once or twice a month. We are always adding items that may be of interest to your family.



Despite the chilly morning, TrailMark kids and families enjoyed the 2011 Easter Egg Hunt with smiles!

Submitted by the TrailMark HOA Board: Mike, Wayne, Doug, Lesa and Karen

City of Littleton

YOU'RE INVITED: District IV Community Meeting on May 24th at 7 pm at Littleton City Center in the council chambers. Topics: Improvements to South Platte Park, top gun from Century Link will discuss their presence in Littleton (and it's major), what we are doing to recruit a new city manager, meet our new Community Development Director, and a presentation on the work being done to create a bike and pedestrian plan for Littleton. There will also be information on summer road closures and plenty of time for your questions.

STAY TUNED: Issues on the council's agenda over the next few months:

- Littleton Fire Rescue - new proposed contract
- \$10 million expenses at sewer plant - to do or not to do
- Downtown parking no longer subsidized by the city...now what?

STAY INFORMED: www.littletongov.org



Do you enjoy the outdoors? Is the sunny weather tempting you to bike to work or get out for a ride on the weekends? Road bikes, mountain bikes, cyclocross bikes? Warmer weather is here and we have the perfect group for YOU!

Email Robert at thenaturalway@earthlink.net for more information on TrailMark's Biking Club!

We understand the maintenance requirements of single-family homes and strive to be a valued part of your periodic painting needs. We take our time to insure that your demands are met. Our responsible, well trained work force provides top quality customer service.



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"Shaker Painting painted our house in March 2011. We wanted to do something a little different, but still stay within the guidelines of the TrailMark HOA. Shaker worked with us on our custom painting. As a result, my house looks perfect! I think the end product we received exceeded the quality I've seen on other paint projects in the neighborhood. I highly recommend Shaker painting."

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Don't take yourself too seriously.

I read an interesting blog on whether there is room for humor in communications with our customers. My first thought was, heck yes, there is room for humor. I thought about my clients, many of whom are overworked and stressed - they definitely need a little levity. Then I thought about the corporate job I had and this image of seriousness I was expected to maintain. What a conflict!

I'm at a bar in Conifer listening to a band. I don't know what dragged me away from my couch and the promise of sleep with an early bedtime, but I'm glad I went out. There was a woman there that was captivating and had people watching - I'll call her Mountain Girl. Her smile was a mile wide and never ending. You could see the good life she lived written all over her face. She talked to all in the bar, whether she knew them or not. She danced and moved to the music with her own beat. Some saw a worn out Mountain Girl who had lived a hard partying life. I saw a person who loved and lives life. She definitely didn't take herself too seriously.

Don't take yourself too seriously.

I just got back from a trip where I had the chance to visit my friend Paul. When we get together and share what's happening in our lives, I marvel at the amount of activity Paul has in his life and how he remains calm through it all. A great marriage, three boys, a new puppy, extended family close by, active in the community, runner, employee - It's like nothing fazes him. He has this inner calm that just resonates and I think it comes from him not taking himself or life too seriously.

What does this have to do with Marketing? I think about my audience; people like Mountain Girl and Paul are the people I'm trying to reach (well maybe not Mountain Girl, but definitely Paul). So can Paul use a little levity in his life? Would he like things a little less serious while still getting the message across? Would he rather get his content in a less serious manner?

I think yes.

Now there are always prospects who want information presented to them in a no-nonsense manner. I can give them that - it's a technical data sheet, a great SE, access to Engineering. But there is definitely room, and a long overdue place, for content that delivers the message with a little less seriousness.

Try it, it will humanize you and allow you to build your relationship with your prospect on a whole new level. Let a little of your personality out - they will see you as a person and not just someone selling them something. Let fun "slip" into your PowerPoint. Maybe your website has a spot for a funny anecdote alongside the serious customer win story. THIS will be remembered and set you apart from the others trying to get your prospects attention.

Because at the end of the day B2B is still targeting a human being and most people have a sense of humor. Take yourself a little less seriously.

Submitted by Kim McMahon of McMahon Consulting who provides marketing services to business in the high tech industry and event management / execution in the Denver area. Spending the day talking tech, she let's fun slip in customer communications whenever she can.

Greetings from the Covenant Committee!

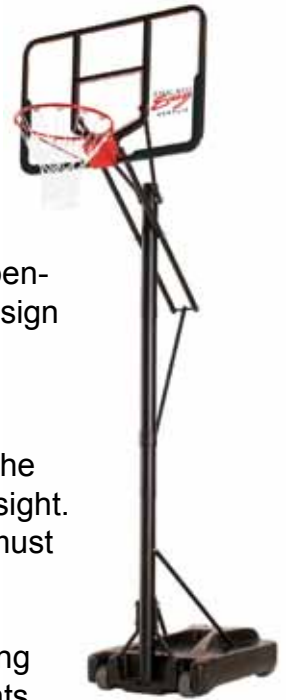
The items below are common questions that arise this time of year.

Basketball hoops are allowed by the covenants to be placed in the front yard, provided that the backboard is installed on a separate free standing post and is set perpendicular to the street. Basketball hoops that are installed in this manner must have Design Review Committee (DRC) approval.

Portable basketball hoops do not require DRC approval provided that:

- 1) The units do not block the sidewalks or street.
- 2) The unit is located at least $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the driveway away from the street. If the unit does not stay at this position, it must be stored out of sight.
- 3) The unit may not impede the use of the garage or driveway, and it must be standing upright.

Plans for **shed construction** must be submitted to the DRC for approval prior to being built. Please keep in mind that the City of Littleton also has building code requirements on the placement and construction of these sheds. As with any construction, plans may need to be submitted to the City of Littleton for additional approval. The DRC and City of Littleton Building, Codes and Inspection Department approve construction plans based on entirely different criteria, so approval by one entity does not constitute approval by the other. It is the homeowner's responsibility to research and submit plans to the appropriate approving body.



Recreational vehicles may be temporarily parked on the street. Littleton City Ordinance (9-1-6 (D)) identifies this time period as no more than 48 hours.

accumulating in our who are still in Trailmark on blowing through our community. placed on the curb uncovered, but from releasing into our community

Trash must be covered at all times, including trash collection day. As you may have noticed, trash is beautiful ponds and open spaces. Those individuals

Friday mornings can attest to the large amount of trash

This is partly due to trash and recycling containers being also full and covered trashcans blowing over. Please take the time to cover trash and recycling in addition to taking measures to prevent a blown over trash can

There are several of our covenants that are confusing or need clarification. The Trailmark HOA Board is willing to **review suggestions for improvement to our covenants**. The Covenant Committee is going to take on this opportunity for improvement and would like to have a representative and diverse group of volunteers to help in this task. If you can **donate a small amount of time** to assist in this project, please email covenants@TrailMarkhoa.org for more information.

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Summer Hours: M-F 1-9 pm, Sa-Su 10 am-9 pm

(Weather Permitting; Subject to change)

5098 S. Windermere (NE Corner of Belleview & Windermere) 303-797-3796

T-Ball Baseball Softball

Boys & Girls Leagues
June 6-Aug 4

T-BALL:

Kindergarten-boys and girls combined

MODIFIED T-BALL:

Grade 1-boys and girls combined

DIVISION I:

Grades 2 & 3-Baseball & Softball

DIVISION II:

Grades 4 & 5 Baseball & Softball

- Fundamentals and strategies
- Equal playing time and sportsmanship strongly emphasized
- Participants need glove and wear tennis shoes or rubber cleats
- Volunteer coaches needed!

Fee: \$70 (\$55 District Rate)



For more
information call
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visit
www.sspr.org.

Field locations
at
Hog Back Hill Park
in TrailMark

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36-Hole Adventure

- Birthday/Business parties
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- Group Rates

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Summer Hours: Su-Th 10 am-10 pm F-Sa 10 am-11 pm

18 Hole Fee: Youth \$4.25/\$5.50, Adult: \$5/\$6.25

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Happy Spring from your Trailmark Metro Board!

Ponds - Treatment: TMMD has contracted with Aquatic Associates to manage all Trailmark ponds. Keeton Industries has been contracted to install an aeration system in Fairview Reservoir. Bids were reviewed during the February meeting and presentations were made by both companies at the April meeting. Electric and solar power were considered for the aeration system. The costs of solar installation far exceeded the cost to run the system with conventional electric power.

Fence Painting: A bid for fence painting from G & M Gantner, Inc. was reviewed and approved during the April meeting. Beginning May 2nd filings #1 and #5 will be painted. The TMMD and the HOA are responsible for painting and maintaining the common area fences.

School Site Update: A letter from the City of Littleton concerning the school site has been posted to the TMMD website. The letter states that Jefferson County Schools will not release their interest in the school site unless there is a specific development plan for the site. The letter also explains the protection under Littleton City codes on the property being developed with anything other than a school or park.

Communications – New Website: The shared TMMD/HOA website is up and running. Please visit at www.Trailmarkhoa.org. Meeting agendas, minutes as well as pertinent legal documents can be viewed at the site. Let us know your thoughts and questions by clicking on the contact us link to send us an email.

The TMMD semi-monthly regular meeting dates for the remainder of 2011 are; June 21; August 16; October 18 and December 20. There will also be a budget meeting on November 15. All meetings are currently scheduled for 6:30 PM at the TrailMark Learning Center.

The TMMD and HOA Boards will continue to hold the Coffee at the Playground gatherings in May, July and September. Please look for the signage the week before the gatherings. This is a good opportunity for those residents who are not able to attend either the TMMD or HOA regular meetings to get questions answered or to bring items to the attention of board members.

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

Common Area Committee

New Trees: It is Spring! The grass is greening up, and it's time to plant trees. The members of the CAC applied for a matching Grant and we were awarded some matching funds from Jeffco to allow us to plant an additional eight trees in the common areas. We are on a program to annually add trees strategically around TrailMark, to enhance the appearance and to give the birds new places to roost. Have you also noticed the new mulch on all the beds lining our major arterials? It is your HOA taking care of business.

Utility Box Painting: We are still identifying and painting utility boxes so they blend in more naturally with the surroundings. I am sure you all still enjoy the appearance of the Danzig Corner Project we completed last year to hide the utility boxes with fencing, vegetation and trees.

Port-o-let Enclosure: We have attained a matching grant with Jeffco and SSPRD to build a permanent enclosure for the ubiquitous port-o-lets that have become a permanent part of Hogback Hill Park. By building the enclosure it will improve the appearance of the park and eliminate the potential tipping of the port-o-lets in the wind, or by an errant vehicle in the parking lot.

Dog Waste: Many people use the trails, and it is great to see all the wonderful dogs with their owners in the community using the trails. There are bag stations and trash receptacles throughout our trail system. PLEASE...PLEASE SCOOP THE POOP. If you don't do it, who do you think will clean it up? Our children and our adults step in it. It draws flies.



And the next time your dog gives you kissesDo you know what they have been eating?? Please respect each other and our community by being a responsible pet owner and a responsible parent by teaching your

children to clean up after your pet.....even if nobody is watching.

Contact your Common Area Committee via the new website: commonarea@TrailMarkhoa.org

We live in the BEST place on earth!!!!



RIGHT HERE IN TRAILMARK!

6/10 and 6/11, Community Yard Sale

Summer Concert Series @ at Hogback Hill Park:
5/29, 7/17, 8/28 at 5:30 pm

Buena Vista PaddleFest: May 27-30

Considered the kickoff to the always-anticipated Colorado rafting season, Buena Vista invites lovers of rapids to the banks of the Arkansas River, one of the nation's most popular whitewater destinations. Festivalgoers can check out clinics, gear swaps, concerts and a disc-golf tournament. All the activities center around the fest's main event — the Buena Vista Pro Rodeo. This freestyle competition among the world's top playboat athletes will take place at the Buena Vista Whitewater Park as part of the 2011 USA Freestyle Kayak Point Series. ckspaddlefest.com



8th Annual Chili Pepper & Brew Fest



The International Chili Society holds its two chili competitions and tastings in Snowmass, while microbrewers face off in a prestigious summer ale competition with two brew sampling sessions for festival-goers, featuring 50 plus breweries. New this year, there will be a European and exotic beer tasting tent, making the weekend one of the premier music and beer festivals in the nation. Fanny Hill rocks with hot music all weekend.

June 3-4, 2011, Snowmass Village Mall www.snowmasschiliandbrew.com



August 20th

Lose track of time while sampling Colorado wine and listening to live music.

www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org

Colorado Railroad Museum Wine and Music Train

5280Fest

Saturday, July 30th, 10am-4pm

The Premier Modern Custom Auto Show in Colorado for 2011. 5280Fest will be held in Westminster, CO and will feature modern customs, tuners, imports, domestics, trucks, bikes and exotics.

Come join us for a free day full of amazing cars, beautiful models, great food, fun prizes and more! www.5280fest.com/



Check out TONS of super FUN family/kid friendly activities at www.denver.org/

Get out and enjoy it.

Star Canyon Condos

The new HOA board members took office in February: Tom Moulton as president, Trent Meisner as VP and our newest board member, Petra Turpin, as secretary.

We welcome our new homeowners: Sandy, Joe, Cindy, Scott and Lynn. We also welcome back our snowbirds, Wayne and Phyllis.

On Saturday, April 23, we held our 7th monthly Happy Hour. This social function has provided a great opportunity for new residents to get acquainted.

Condo activities for the gals include Book Club, Movie Wednesday and occasional trips to Castle Rock Outlet Mall for shopping and lunch. If anyone is interested in joining us for one or more of these activities, please contact Betty McGinnis (blmcginnis2@aol.com).

In May, our property management company, Caron Realty, will be conducting the annual property walk-around to identify things that might need attention. If you have any concerns about any areas on the property, please contact Caron Realty (720-283-3300) and let them know.

TRASH ISSUES: Recently, the wind has been playing havoc with our trash barrels. Please print your address and unit number on both the barrel and the lid so that the Good Samaritans who retrieve wayward barrels will be able to get them back to the right buildings.



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What is Long-Term Care?

You probably know someone who has needed long-term care. Maybe you have witnessed a family member, friend or colleague struggle with the emotional and financial issues that can come with a long-term care experience. The truth is, no matter when the need arises, because of age, disability, or because of an unexpected illness or accident, long-term care can affect any age group, any social strata, and any geographic location. But what is it and how can you plan for it?

What is Long-Term Care?

Long-term care is help you may need due to a lengthy illness, an unexpected injury or accident, or a severe cognitive disorder such as Alzheimer's disease. It's assistance with the everyday tasks, or the activities of daily living (bathing, eating, dressing, toileting, transferring, and continence). Long-term care may be provided in a variety of locations, from nursing homes and assisted living facilities to adult day care centers and even your own home.

Who needs Long-Term Care?

Most of us strive to live active, healthy lives well into our later years, and indeed as a society, Americans are living longer than ever before. This extended longevity is one of the things that drives the grow-

ing need for long-term care – the longer we live, the better the odds that we may need long-term care services. It is predicted that in the year 2020, some 12 million older Americans are expected to need long-term care¹.

While the majority of long-term care services is provided for seniors, a surprising amount of long-term care services are provided to younger people. In fact, the U.S. Government Accountability Office estimates that 40% of the 13 million people receiving long-term care services are between ages 18 and 64².

Who pays for Long-Term Care?

Long-term care can be expensive, financially and emotionally. An unexpected need for long-term care can have a significant impact on a family's assets and lifestyle. Close to one-fourth of all nursing home costs are paid out-of-pocket by individuals and their families³.

Many people mistakenly believe that their health insurance will cover the cost of long-term care. Others believe that Medicare or Medicaid will cover long-term care expenses. While Medicare does provide health coverage for seniors, it is limited in the coverage it provides for long-term care. Medicaid will pay for the cost

of long-term care, but you must qualify by meeting strict income and asset eligibility requirements.

Long-term care insurance could be a solution.

Long-term care insurance can be a very smart way to address the challenges from a long-term care need. Long-term care insurance can help pay for nursing home care, as well as, a variety of home and community based care services. Long-term care insurance may not be for everybody, so if you are considering a policy, read it carefully and be sure to work with an insurance agent who understands long-term care issues.

With long life comes long-term planning. Make a plan for you and your family today. For more information on long-term care insurance, please contact Doug Filter, High Point Financial Group, LLC at 303.531.8855.



1 Health Insurance Association of America. A Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance. 2007. Page 2
2 Health Insurance Association of America. A Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance. 2007. Page 2
3 Health Insurance Association of America. A Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance. 2007. Page 4

New York Life Insurance Company long-term care insurance is issued on policy form series ILTC-5000 and INH-5000 with a state identifier and edition date. Example: Examples: for Idaho ILTC-5000 (ID) (1001) and INH-5000 (ID) (1001) and for North Carolina ILTC-5000 (NC) (Rev. 0606) and INH-5000 (NC) (Rev. 0606) and for Pennsylvania ILTC-5000 (PA) (1001), FLTC-5000 MLP (PA) (0503), for Tennessee ILTC-5000 (TN) (1001) and INH-5000 (TN) (1001) and for Texas ILTC-5000 (TX) (0305) and INH-5000 (TX) (0305). New York Life Insurance Company, 51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010.



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TrailMark

Market Statistics
January 1, 2011 – March 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	1813 – 1952	Shavano	\$335,000	243	1	\$103.00
2 Story	2567 – 2807	Rosewood	\$431,000	78	1	\$99.00

NEIGHBORHOOD OVERVIEW AVERAGE

- ❖ SALE PRICE: \$383,000
- ❖ DAYS ON MARKET: 161
- ❖ PRICE PER FIN. SQ. FOOT: \$101.00
- ❖ TOTAL SOLD: 2
- ❖ ACTIVE LISTINGS: 8
(4 homes presently under contract in TrailMark)

Call me if you need more information or if you would like a FREE market analysis on your home.

303-904-4364

www.sunnysdenverhomes.com

I Am Never Too Busy For You or Your Referrals! Thank You for Passing My Name Along!

Compliments of: **Sunny Puckett**



Based on information from Metrolist, Inc., for the period of January 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011. This representation is based in whole or in part on data supplied by Metrolist, Inc. Metrolist does not guarantee nor is in any way responsible for its accuracy. Data maintained by Metrolist may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.

Star Canyon Patio Homes

Board Banter

The unusually dry spring has led to a delay in our community taking on that fresh green look that we are accustomed to seeing this time of year. A little patience on all of our parts coupled with some timely rain and the expert care that EDI provides will no doubt soon restore our beautiful neighborhood.

Rounds two and three of our exterior house painting agenda are slated for May and July. We will then have repainted all 68 homes in Star Canyon. Our schedule calls for us to take a two year hiatus before beginning the painting cycle once again in 2014.

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

DECKS

You may know that some of us are having serious problems with our decks. This is due to some sub-standard materials and shortcuts done at the time of construction. Jack Mulligan, Lou Zier, and Tony Riccio can answer some questions and also have photos they can send you.

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS:

Some of you may not know who makes up our Social Committee. They are:

Joan Brunett

Gabrielle Handley

Sharon Rosen

Barb Smith

Let's not forget to thank them for their hard work.

Dinners:

Cafe Prague, June 5

We'll be having our summer BBQ's again this year at Hogback Hill.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 10 for our annual **Holiday Dinner**. It will be at the always beautiful **Pinehurst Country Club**.

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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Bull Snakes 101

- Bull snakes have no rattle and keep their tale close to the ground. Rattlesnakes have rattles and elevate their tale
- Bull snakes are generally cream or pale color, while rattle snakes are darker
- Bull snakes body is more stream like, thinner narrower towards tail, Rattlesnakes thicker especially mid section
- Bull snakes head is identical to the size of its body and has circular eyes, rattlesnakes have a triangular head with vertically oriented eyes(like a cat)
- Bull snakes lay eggs, rattlesnakes have live birth
- Bull snakes are our friends, bull snakes keep the mice and food items in check which help keep the rattlesnakes away.



Bull Snake: Good Guy



Rattlesnake: Bad Guy

Shaffer Elementary

May 18 - District Early Release, 1pm
May 27 - 5th Grade Continuation
May 30 - Memorial Day, No School
May 31 - Last Day of School
June 1 - Possible Snow Day Make-Up
<http://sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/education/school/school.php?sectiondetailid=3248&>



Falcon Bluffs Middle School

May 18 - Early Release, 12:25
May 26 - 8th Grade Continuation
May 30 - Memorial Day, No School
May 31 - Last Day of School

sc.jeffco.k12.co.us/falcon



Chatfield Senior High School

May 19 - Senior Awards Night, 7pm
May 20 - No School
Graduation at Red Rocks, 2pm
May 26 - Final Exams
May 27 - Final Exams
May 30 - Memorial Day, No School
May 31 - Final Exam Make-Ups

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Congratulations Class of 2011!