



Tracks

A Publication of the TrailMark HOA—A Covenant Controlled Community

OCTOBER 2008



WWW.TRAILMARKHOA.ORG

*Date: Saturday, October 25th
Time: 6:00PM - 9:00PM*

The Fort



Attention Volunteers!

*We are celebrating all volunteers
of our Homeowners Association.
Without you, we can do nothing.
Read all about it on page 6.*

TrailMark Homeowner's Association, Inc. Budget Ratification & Annual Meeting

DATE: Thursday, November 13, 2008

TIME: Registration begins at 6:15pm
Meeting begins promptly at 6:30pm

PLACE: TrailMark Learning Center
9743 S. Carr Way

The meeting will be held in conjunction with the
TrailMark Metropolitan District Board Meeting.

TrailMark Homeowners Association

**P.O. Box 270566
Littleton, CO 80127**

Board Members

President.....Stephen McKeon
Vice President.....John Birkey
Vice President.....Karen Millspaugh
Treasurer.....Sharon Gambrell Elms
Secretary.....Michael Glade

TrailMark Committees

Common Area Committee

Chair.....Lesla Rangel
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**

Phone

303-980-0700

Fax

303-980-0576

E-mail

clientservices@e-hammersmith.com

Corporate Office-DTC

5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Community Manager

Beth Lovato, CMCA, AMS

Information submitted by:
Karen Millspaugh




OCTOBER 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 DRC Mtg 	2	3 Cripple Creek Fall Festival 	4 Cedaredge Apple Fest & Cripple Creek Fall Festival 
5 Cedaredge Apple Fest & Cripple Creek Fall Festival 	6	7 CAC Mtg & Littleton City Council Mtg 7pm 	8	9 Yom Kippur Board of Director's Work Session 	10 Cripple Creek Fall Festival 	11 Cripple Creek Fall Festival
12 Cripple Creek Fall Festival 	13 Columbus Day 	14  Full Moon	15 DRC Mtg 	16	17	18
19	20	21 TrailMark Metro Board Meeting 6:30pm & CAC Mtg & Littleton City Council Mtg 7pm 	22 Chatfield HS, Falcon Bluffs MS & Shaffer ES -	23 Chatfield HS, Falcon Bluffs MS & Shaffer ES -	24 Chatfield HS, Falcon Bluffs MS & Shaffer ES -	25 BOO AT THE ZOO 9A-5P 
26	27 Covenant Committee Mtg 	28 New Moon 	29	30	31 Halloween 	



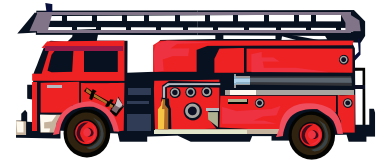
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 DAY LIGHT SAVINGS ENDS/FALL BACK 1 HOUR 	3	4 Falcon Bluff MS & Shaffer ES No School & CAC Mtg & Littleton City Council Mtg 7PM & ELECTION DAY	5 DRC Mtg 	6	7	8 Georgetown's Bighorn Sheep Festival 10A-4P 
9	10	11 Board of Director's work session 6:30pm VETERAN'S DAY 	12	13 TRAILMARK HOA ANNUAL MEETING & TrailMark Metro District Board Meeting FULL MOON	14	15
16	17 Article's Due for TrailMark Tracks Newsletter 	18 CAC Mtg & TrailMark Metro Board Mtg 6:30pm & Littleton City Council Mtg 7PM 	19 DRC Mtg 	20	21	22
23 30	24 Covenant Committee Mtg 	25	26 Chatfield HS, Falcon Bluffs MS & Shaffer ES	27 Chatfield HS, Falcon Bluffs MS & Shaffer ES	28 Chatfield HS, Falcon Bluffs MS & Shaffer ES	29
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> NO SCHOOL  </div>						

Round-up cont.

Response Times and a Neighbor's Question about Un-Incorporating:

A neighbor writes: "At the risk of sounding like some kind of revolutionary, has anyone considered un-incorporating from Littleton?" This has been discussed frequently; however, let's take a look at some of the facts. Let's look at the Jefferson County Mill Levy Detail on the tax statement for the year 2007:

Tax District #4905	Mills
County	24.3460
School	48.1180
Littleton	6.6620
Ken Caryl Water & Sanitation	0.0000
Regional Transportation District	0.0000
South Suburban Parks & Recreation	6.8680
TrailMark Metropolitan District	58.6180
Urban Drainage & Flood Control District	0.5070
Urban Drainage 7Flood S. Platte	0.0610



So what does that mean for the cost of fire, police and public works? The Littleton mill levy of 6.6620 is on the assessed value of our homes. Therefore, the City of Littleton collected about \$170, 760.00 in 2007, for all of TrailMark. If we were to un-incorporate from Littleton, we would not have to pay the 6.6620 mills, but we would have to contract with another Fire District for fire protection. West Metro is the closest fire District to TrailMark, and their mill levy is 13.45 mills. That mill levy is roughly, twice that of Littleton. Even if we unincorporated from Littleton and went with West Metro Fire District – there is very little likelihood that we would ever have a fire station closer than the two we have currently (one at Wadsworth and Chatfield and one at Blakeland and C470).

It seems that TrailMark does not generate enough revenue to warrant building a closer fire station, and more importantly paying the salaries to staff an additional facility.

Another cost, if we were to de-annex from Littleton, would be the loss of services from the South Parks and Recreation District. That District has provided the development and maintenance of the trail system around TrailMark, as well as developing our parks and recreational areas within TrailMark. TrailMark Metro District does not have the equipment or man power to assume this responsibility. Also, it is the understanding of the TrailMark Metropolitan Board, the City Council of Littleton and the TrailMark Board that it would take a ballot initiative of all of Littleton to pass on un-incorporation/de-annexing. We would need a 60+% approval from all Littleton homeowners. The attorney fees would be another cost consideration. If TrailMark would initiate the process, it could become very costly.

Let's remember that when the City of Littleton annexed the land we live on – known as 'Chatfield Greens' at the time – it was done under the assumption that Hildebrande Ranch property, now open space, would be part of the annexation, and that there would be thousands of homes, not 830.

Therefore, the question still remains: What can we do to decrease emergency response times to TrailMark and possibly save lives? Homeowner's input and suggestions are still welcome and vital.

Information submitted by:
Karen Millsbaugh



The Solar System at the Beaver Pond is now Running:

The four aerators are active from 2 P.M. until 10 A.M. the next morning. You can observe the activity in the pond during those hours. Between 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. the aerators are turned off so that the batteries can recharge. Those four hours are the optimum opportunity for good sunlight for recharging. Soon, the solar unit will be enclosed with a 6' privacy fence, for esthetic considerations.

Information submitted by:
Sherman Steed

The TrailMark Volunteer Recognition Party is Now Officially Set!

The TrailMark HOA Board of Directors is currently mailing invitations for a Recognition Party at The Fort restaurant to be celebrated on Saturday, October 25, 2008. All 2008 volunteers should be receiving a formal invite in the mail and will be asked to RSVP by October 1, 2008.

The Board continues to be impressed with the intensity, creativity and commitment of the volunteers within our community. At this time, we currently have over 60 individuals associated with our community that take the time to volunteer and make it a better place. We believe that it is very important to recognize and thank these individuals as they continue to volunteer with no expectation of recognition or reward.

Please note that we are always looking for more people to participate and bring in new ideas. To volunteer or gather more information about your neighborhood, please check out our website at www.trailmark.org. Opportunities to participate and help your neighbors continue to exist within the following committees: Common Area, Communication/Newsletter, Community Center, Covenant Control, Design & Review, Finance, Safety and Social.

Again, volunteers should RSVP to trailmarkparty@comcast.net by October 1, 2008. If you did not receive an invitation and have been a 2008 volunteer, please send an email to the same email address and please let us know.

Sincerely,
Your HOA Board of Directors



TRAILMARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Notice Budget Ratification & Annual Meeting TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc.

In accordance with Article 9, Section 9.12 of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc., the 2009 BUDGET RATIFICATION & ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP is duly announced. This meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at the TrailMark Learning Center located at 9743 S. Carr Way. Please arrive early to register. Registration will begin at 6:15 p.m., as the meeting will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to (1) elect three homeowners to serve on the board; (2) to ratify the 2009 budget; and (3) to hold a Homeowners Forum to address your concerns.

If you are interested in a board position, please complete the enclosed Self Nomination Form and return it via e-mail or facsimile to Beth Lovato at: Beth@e-Hammersmith.com or Fax 303-980-0576. Mailing address is 5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900, Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc., strongly encourages all homeowners to attend the Budget Ratification & Annual Meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, please complete the enclosed proxy authorizing representation on your behalf. **Quorum requirement is ten percent (10% or 81 homes) of homeowners present or represented by proxy.**

Mail or fax your proxy to Hammersmith Management on or before November 13, 2008 to: 5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900, Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111 or Fax 303-980-0576 – ATTN: Beth Lovato.

If you have questions, please call Beth at Hammersmith Management, 303-980-0700.

c/o Hammersmith Management
5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

TRAILMARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

PROXY

FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 13, 2008

The undersigned, having received Notice of the Annual Meeting of Members of TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc., ("Association") and revoking all prior proxies, does hereby appoint _____ as my Proxy to act for and in the name of the undersigned at the Annual Meeting on November 13, 2008, and at any adjourned sessions thereof and to cast the vote(s) of the undersigned. If I have not filled in the preceding blank, but have signed this Proxy, I hereby appoint the Association's President, or in his absence, the Association's Vice President, as my Proxy, to cast my vote(s) at the Meeting.

Appointment of this proxy is revoked by the person appointing the proxy: (a) attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person; or (b) signing and delivering to the secretary or other officer or agent authorized to tabulate proxy votes either a writing stating that the appointment of the proxy is revoked or a subsequent appointment form.

PLEASE SIGN, DATE, AND RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M., NOVEMBER 13, 2008 TO HAMMERSMITH MANAGEMENT IF UNABLE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING. PROXIES RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE COUNTED, REGARDLESS OF THE REASON FOR THE DELAY.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2008.

Voting Member's Name(s) (please print): _____

Signature(s): _____

Voting Member's Address: _____

TrailMark Homeowners Association, Inc.
Hammersmith Management
5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
Fax 303-980-0576, Attn: Beth Lovato

TRAILMARK HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTION

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name _____ Phone (H) _____

Address _____ (W) _____

_____ E-Mail _____

Why do you want to serve as a Director?

Please return this form no later than November 13, 2008 to:

TRAILMARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
c/o Hammersmith Management, Inc.
5619 DTC Parkway, Suite 900
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Forms may be faxed to 303-980-0576.

If not elected, would you be willing to serve on a committee? _____

Update from the TrailMark HOA Common Area Committee

Fall is here, the leaves are changing, the Rabbitbrush is blooming and grass seed heads wave in the cool breezes as our beautiful community begins to reveal its unique seasonal character. The TrailMark Common Area Committee accomplished a lot this season and is still working hard to get a number of projects wrapped up before the snow flies.

The new playground equipment for tot aged children at TrailMark Park by Fairview Reservoir was completed this summer. Drinking fountains for humans and furry friends alike were installed at both the TrailMark Park and Hogback Hill Park. These improvements are thanks in part to matching contributions from the TrailMark HOA and Jefferson County Open Space in 2007 as well as the efforts of South Suburban Parks and Recreation.

We planted a number of trees and shrubs in the neighborhood, some of which were replacements and others were new. New irrigation was installed to the shrubs along the north side of TrailMark Parkway between Hogback Hill Park and the northwest corner of the community. Boulders and ornamental grasses were added to help screen the new up lights at the wall between Fairview Reservoir and TrailMark Parkway entrance. Thanks to a generous new homeowner for contributing two of the larger river boulders which really make it unique. We are also currently in the process of looking at different solar lighting options for the secondary neighborhood entry monuments.

We had new trash cans installed throughout the open space. Please remember to always pick up after your pet and use the trash cans to keep our community nice and clean.

We finally received approval to install fencing to screen the utility boxes at Carr and TrailMark Parkway to soften their visual impact. We painted these and the ones at Danzig and TrailMark Parkway to match the fencing color. The common area fencing was stained this year as well.

Evergreen trees are also going to be planted at this intersection to help with screening and aesthetics. Evergreen trees will also be planted to screen the portelets in Hogback Hill Park. These are from matching grant funds we received from South Suburban Parks and Recreation.

We are applying for a grant through Jefferson County Open Space and South Suburban Parks and Recreation this year to improve the southwest corner of TrailMark at the terminus of Johnson Way. Improvements will include shade trees, horseshoes, an informal gazebo and a minor trailhead with access to the Jefferson County Open Space trail system.

The committee is obtaining approvals to add banner poles to the lights along TrailMark Parkway that can feature key neighborhood event announcements and replace the ones stuck in the ground periodically. Announcements generally include HOA meetings, concerts in the park, Balloon Festival events etc.

We plan to focus on planting more shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennials at the stone neighborhood entry monuments next spring and at the south corner of the main entry off of Wadsworth. The CAC welcomes your suggestions for improving the common areas in our community and always needs volunteers. Have a great fall season!

John M. Birkey, ASLA
Vice President, Trailmark HOA Board
Common Area Committee Representative





We are encouraging everyone to get out and **VOTE!**

The last day to register for the **November 4, 2008, General Election** is October 6, 2008.

If you are registered and want to vote early, Early Voting Dates are October 20 - 25 and 27 - 31.

TrailMark residents can vote early at the:

- (1) Columbine Library, 7706 W. Bowles Avenue, Littleton
- (2) The Motor Vehicle Registration Office, 6004 S. Kipling Parkway #A and
- (3) in the Conference Room on the first floor of the Jefferson County Administrative Building (the Taj Mahal) at 100 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden.

The Polling Place for residents of TrailMark is Falcon Bluffs Middle School, 8449 S. Garrison, Littleton. (A homeowner cannot vote early at Falcon Bluffs.)

If you wish to demonstrate your choices by a sign in your yard - according to the attorneys for TrailMark - you may place a sign for every candidate and every ballot issue on your own property. Signs can be **put out 45 days before the election** and **must be taken down within 7 days after the election**. **You MAY NOT place signs in/on common areas.**



If you have further questions regarding voting please call the Jefferson County Clerk and Recorder - Elections at 303-271-8111.

MORE VOTING INFORMATION

In TrailMark, we are in:

- * **U.S. Congressional District 6**
- * **State Senate District 22**
- * **State House District 25**
- * **County Commissioner District 03**
- * **RTD District N**



To be able to Register to Vote: You must be

- **A U.S. Citizen**
- **Register to vote no later than 29 days before the election**
- **18 years old on or before the date of the election in which you want to vote**
- **Reside in Colorado and at your present address at least 30 days before the election**
- **Complete the fields marked "Required" on the application, including your complete address with apartment or unit number**

For more information visit: www.govotecolorado.com



Dear Mr. Tracker

Dear Mr. Tracker:

I was wondering where I can find information on the rules concerning who owns/has access to greenbelts in the community. I looked in the website FAQs and in the Covenants, but I could not find specifics (sorry if it is there and I missed it). In particular I'm wondering where property lines are between patio homes and the greenbelts that run behind and between them. Are these greenbelts community property or owned by the owners of the patio homes? I'm just trying to find out whether I can walk and run through these greenbelts, but I'd like to respect yard and property boundaries as well. Thanks.

A Concerned Homeowner

Dear Concerned:

The greenbelts and lawns outside of specific property lines are owned by the Star Canyon (patio homes and condos) HOAs. However, the trails are open to all. As long as you stay on the trail, you will be respecting yard and property boundaries.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tracker

Dear Mr. Tracker:

I apologize if I'm belaboring a point, but let me just make sure I'm clear; trails are OK, but the grassy areas between the trails and the patio homes are not? I have a toddler with whom I like to run around in the grass - given snake concern and her uneven toddling, I want to keep her on even, manicured grass and not on the xeriscaped grasses/shrubs immediately alongside most of the trails. If I understand you correctly, if we want some open space bigger than our yard to do this, our only option is to walk all the way to the park for this kind of space, and the long greenbelts alongside the patio homes are completely off limits (unless we were to live in the patio homes, correct?)

A Concerned Homeowner

Dear Concerned:

You are correct. The common area in Star Canyon is completely maintained by the HOA dues of the patio homes and condos (which is in addition to the dues paid by the patio homes and condos to TrailMark HOA.) Therefore, it is not part of the South Suburban trail system nor a part of the TrailMark Common Area. The trails through Star Canyon are also maintained by the Star Canyon HOAs, but we do not restrict our neighbors from using the trails. I hope this clarifies your questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. Tracker

Dear Homeowners: We have observed people leave the trail and enter into the center area of the patio homes and go through their "back yards" (only a few feet from the homes and decks). Several of them even have their dogs off their leash and the dogs go off the path, and both have been seen within 5 feet of a homeowner's bedroom window. Please remember to respect property owners' rights. Mr. Tracker

What do you get when you cross a snowman and a Vampire??

A. Frostbite!

Knock Knock Who's There?

Boo

Boo who?

Don't Cry, its just a joke!

What do goblins drink when they are thirsty?

A. Ghoul-Aid!

What did the mother ghost say to the baby ghost?

A. Fasten your sheet belt.

How do you mend a broken Jack-o-lantern?

A. With a pumpkin patch!



TrailMark Players' Classic to Benefit Children's Hospital

The third annual TM Players Classic was held at the Arrowhead Golf Club, Friday September 5th with a shotgun start. This year's event had 29 players in the scramble format and it was a perfect day despite the weather.. The winning foursome with a net 60 was Mike Fischer, Chris Renelt, Brian Bishop and Shawn Fischer. They just edged out the team of Dale Ocker, Erick Seefried, Steve Wogsland and John Fields who came in with a net 61. **Over \$ 1, 200.00 was raised for Children's Hospital.**

Our thanks go to the following:

Hole Sponsors:

Columbine Copy and Printing – Ben Henry
The Metz Family
Advanced Dental Solutions – Dr. Kevin Dawson
Home Care Resources – Debbie Calahan
Cherry Creek Mortgage – Tom Schreiner
Prestige Real Estate Group – Lou Royston
Burt Toyota – Shane Schnacker
Chic-fil-A
TrailMark HOA

Silent Auction:

Burt Toyota – Shane Schnacker
Blaster Bouncer Jumping Castles
Old Vine Liquors
Curves For Women
Club USA
Silpada Designs
The Whitaker Collection
Chi-fil-A
Tru Green
Arrowhead Golf Club

THE WINNERS!!!



Our thanks go to Lou Royston, Lynda Fields,
Sandy Ocker and Erin Peterson for making this third annual event a success.



TRAILMARK HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Come join your neighbors and celebrate the holidays
"Gingerbread Festival"



Thursday, December 11, 2008

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

TrailMark Learning Center
9743 S Carr Way

Come decorate gingerbread houses and cookie, enter coloring contest, make holiday treasures and other fun activities to be announced. We will have hot chocolate, cider and many tasty treats.

Pick up your ballot to vote in the Holiday Lighting Contest

Check the TrailMark website or
December Newsletter for more details!

Come enjoy the many activities and help out the less fortunate by participating in the community food drive... Bring canned or non perishable items and toiletries.

TrailMark Social Committee Presents TrailMark 4th Annual Holiday Lighting Contest



The TrailMark HOA is pleased to announce the 4th Annual Holiday Lighting contest. Get ready to put sparkle, shimmer, spirit, and shine into your holidays and transform your home into the best dressed place in TrailMark. Winners will be judged in three categories. Most Brightly Lit (think like Clark Griswold in *Christmas Vacation*), Most Festive (the home with the most all-around holiday spirit), and Most Animated (the most moving/flashing decorations). Every home in the neighborhood is eligible to win. There is no need to enter. Contest winners will receive a sign to display in their yard noting their category win, as well as a small gift. Last year's winners received \$25 gift certificates to Home Depot. **Remember to turn your lights on by 6pm December 15th through December 18th.** Winners will receive their yard signs and gifts on Sunday, December 21st and will receive recognition in the February 2008 newsletter. Have fun and please be careful. *Be sure to pick up your ballot to vote for the Community's favorite at the Holiday Party December 11th at the TrailMark Learning Center, 6-8pm.*

CORN MAZE

The 4th Annual Corn Maze was held Thursday Sept 18th at the Botanic Gardens @ Chatfield. We had 1100 register for this year's event. There was hotdogs, Poppin Stuff Kettle Korn, DazBog coffee & pastries and a lot of fun. The TrailMark HOA provided barrel rides for the kiddies and hay rides. This year's maze was very challenging and the kids enjoyed the mini maze (and some of the adults too).

This is one of the more heavily attended events each year but we are in danger of losing it. Although a lot of fun was had by all, we will again lose our \$500 deposit, for the second year in a row, due to damage caused by TrailMark residents. It falls to each of us to be vigilant and not allow these things to happen.

A BIG THANKS to the following for stepping in and making the Corn Maze a success...



Dale Ocker, Sandy Ocker, Steve Wogsland, Justine Wogsland, Rick Handley, Gabrielle Handley, Kathy Rose, Sharon Gambrell Elms, Victoria Haynes, Greg Akers, Jan Akers and Ana Tolentino. Without these volunteers we could not have this event, but we need more TM residents to volunteer. We can not keep working the same group of volunteers all the time.

Please step up and help. See all the great pictures on page 24 & 25.

Star Canyon Patio Homes

- No news this time from the HOA Board.
- Our officers are Jeff Pugh, Lou Zier, and Jerry Mastembrook.
- The sprinkler schedules are being cut back with fall and winter on the way.

If you need information about Star Canyon, you need to contact the board: send an email to: **Mike Chapman**, mcahpm@associacolorado.com with cc: jpugh@springair.com; louzier@hotmail.com; and (Jerry) jobsrus@qwest.net. You can also reach **Mike Chapman** at: 303/232-9200 x244.

Our Community website is: 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!

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS:

We have a champion athlete in our neighborhood! Our good neighbor **Tony Riccio** and his **Colorado Cougars** recently won the **National Championship** in the **70+ AA Softball Players Assoc..** in Dalton, Georgia. This is the 2nd consecutive championship this year. **Congratulations Tony!!!**

The Lunch Bunch had a nice time at Baker Street Pub & Grill in Belmar in September. October 24 is the next outing with to place to be announced later. For more information, contact Gabrielle Handley

The **Star Canyon Dinner Group** has nothing planned as of yet. The discussion was to all go to a restaurant. Keep an eye out for an e-mail from Peggy.

The **Star Canyon Book Club** is reading Evening Class by Maeve Binchey for October. November thru December will be Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett. It is a fabulous book for anyone who has never read it. The discussion will be in January. As always, reading is optional. Contact Joy Carlson for more information.

Bunko (or Zilch/Farkel) is the first Tuesday of each month. Marilyn Hubbard will host in October. 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 the 4th Wednesday of every month, although dates will change for the holidays. Marilyn Hubbard and Joan Flenner are the gals to contact for more information. It is such a fun, fun game!

Movie Club is always looking for recommendations for good movies to view together. They try to catch the first showing of the day to get the good ticket prices. Contact Joan Flenner or Karen Milspaugh for information or movie input.

Men's Breakfast is the 2nd Tuesday morning of each month. Bernie Gehan is the contact person. The guys like to try different places each month.

A few notes about our **Holiday Celebrations**. Mark your calendars early to save the dates. The **Dinner Club** will meet on December 6 at the Chatfield Marina; cocktails at 6:00 pm.

The **Lunch Bunch/Book Club** is meeting at **Gabriel's** in Sedalia at 12:00 pm. Bring a sister, mother, or friend along for a great luncheon. All Star Canyon residents are welcome.

Joy Carlson jcarlson1347@concast.net

Colors of Fall



Picture Taken by: Joy Carlson

News From the Star Canyon Condominiums

From the Board:



Maintenance Update: It has been a busy summer with maintenance being performed all around the Star Canyon Condominiums. At the time of this printing, Diversified Caulking will be completing their work to repair major cracks and gaps in our concrete. This is an effort to help extend the life of our concrete. We have also replaced small areas of concrete where the ground had shifted severely. Freiburg Drive has also received some much needed 'TLC' with asphalt patching, crack seal and seal coating. It also provided entertainment for Joni's three pre-school grandchildren, who sat in their little lawn chairs eating popcorn, and watching with excitement as the large chunks of asphalt were being dropped into the dump truck – Oh, to be young again! We would like to thank all homeowners for their patience and cooperation during this maintenance.

Parking Rules: The Board has received several complaints concerning the parking issue on Freiburg Drive. We realize that parking has not been strictly enforced, and as a result, the issue of residents parking on Freiburg Drive has steadily increased. **Please Note** that according to the Association Rules and Regulations, resident's primary parking is the two spaces in your garage and secondary parking is the driveway of the garage. Freiburg Drive is to be reserved for short-term visitor parking, only. If you are currently parking your vehicle on Freiburg Drive, please begin parking in your garage and/or driveway.

Board Position: Star Canyon is a wonderful area with residents who volunteer their time to make it a better place to live! Would you like to become more involved in our community? We will be electing a new board member at our annual meeting in February. Please contact Caron Realty or a Board member (Shelley Sendelbach, Lynn Ester or Kim Hayes) if you are interested. We would be happy to answer any questions.

Landscape Update: It may officially be fall, but the Landscape Committee is still hard at work! If you take a walk around our property you'll notice some big improvement! The grass on the hill beside Bldg 9815 is finally beginning to fill-in, and some 'islands' in the driveway areas have been refreshed with new plants and rock.. Four Ash trees on the south side of Freiburg, which are infested with Ash Borer insects, are being replaced with 'Sensation Maple' trees which will give us beautiful fall color. All plants and shrubs are being fertilized and will receive a deep-root watering and fertilization. Even some mums and phlox have been planted beside Bldg. 9816 ('Thank You' Joan and Chris Bader). We certainly appreciate our Landscaping Committee (Betty McGinnis, Tracy Stainbrook and Bruce Hayes) for their hard work this year!!!



The Board would like to express a big **Thank You** to those who came out to work on Saturday, September 20th for Community Workday. Eight enthusiastic workers, including Joni Eckhardt, Betty McGinnis, Wayne Lance, Marianna Papoi, Tom Moulton, Jessica Sittloh and Todd Watson joined Lynn Ester for 2 ½ hours of "backbreaking" work. Thanks to Joni Eckhardt, each building water room is now cleaner than it has ever been, and the others spread mulch around the over 100 trees on the condominium property. Larry Peer and Bruce Hayes will soon be replacing our faded Fire Lane signs. There are still some projects that need to be done (i.e. holes to be filled and pipes to be painted), so if you are willing to give a little time/effort, please give one of the Board members a call or email.

Social News:

Block Party a Success! Betty McGinnis and her cast of thousands (!) worked to make our Block Party on September 13th a rousing success. Even though the Friday before gave us drenching rain – Saturday dawned bright and beautiful! Under canopies loaned from the TrailMark Social Committee (Thank you, Sandy Ocker) we had barbequed sandwiches, with all the trimmings: plus, we had a chance to meet and greet some of our new neighbors. Special thanks to Betty's helpers, including: Gloria Frans, Darrel Lee Otterstein, Trent Miesner, Tom and Penni Moulton, Joni Eckhardt, Marcia Marquez, Marianna Papoi, Lynn Ester, Kim Hayes and Shelley Sendelbach. Thank you, everyone!



Book Group will be held on September 26th, and will be a luncheon at Gloria Frans' place, 9816 Unit B. We will be gathering at 10:30 a.m. and will be discussing, *A Letter to America* by David Boren. We will also be waving a fond farewell to Betty McGinnis, who will be heading back to California sometime in October. We will meet on October 31st, Halloween, at Penni Moulton's place, 9796 Unit G, and discussing *Pompeii* by Robert Harris. In November we will be reading and discussing *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson. If you enjoy reading (and discussing) please join us. Call Penni at (303) 862-8834 if you have questions.

Bridge Group for both condominium and patio home ladies, will be held on **Wednesday, October 8th**, at Susan's place, 9875 S. Iris Court, at 1 P.M. Anyone who is interested in playing (even though they have not played for years) is welcome to come. Please call Sharon at (303) 932-1753 for information.

School News

Chatfield High School

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

303-982-3670

October 22 – NO SCHOOL – Comp Day for Conferences

October 23-24 – NO SCHOOL – Fall Mini Break

November 26, 27, 28 – NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Vacation

December 17 & 18 – Final Exams (half days)

December 19 – Makeup Finals Day

December 22 – January 5 – Winter Break for Students

January 5 – NO SCHOOL – Staff Development

January 6 – Semester 2 Classes Begin

Falcon Bluffs Middle School

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

303-982-9900

October 20 – Early Dismissal, 12:55; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:30-8:00

October 21 – Early Dismissal, 12:55; Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:30-8:00

October 22 – NO SCHOOL – Comp Day for Conferences

October 23-24 – NO SCHOOL – Fall Mini Break

November 4 – NO SCHOOL – Comp Day

November 26, 27, 28 – NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Vacation

December 19 – Early Dismissal, 12:55

December 22 – January 5 – Winter Break for Students

January 5 – NO SCHOOL – Staff Development

January 6 – Semester 2 Classes Begin

Shaffer Elementary School

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

303-982-3901

October 15 – PTA Spirit Night – Dominoes Dough Raiser – Ken Caryl Dominoes

October 15-21 – Scholastic Book Fair

October 20 – Fall Conferences (Chatfield Area)

October 21 – Early Release for Fall Conferences -buses run at 1:00pm

October 22 – NO SCHOOL-Conference Comp Day

October 23-24 – NO SCHOOL - Fall Break

November 4 – NO SCHOOL – Staff Development

November 12 – Early Release, 1:00 pm

November 14 – Report Cards

November 26, 27, 28 – NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Vacation

December 19 – Early Release, 1:00 pm

December 22 – January 5 – Winter Break for Students

January 5 – NO SCHOOL – Staff Development

January 6 – Semester 2 Classes Begin



Community News

Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield

303-973-3705

Open Daily from 9:00-5:00

\$5 per passenger vehicle

If you were not able to attend the neighborhood event at the Corn Maze (or if you want to go again), here is some information to help you organize a visit. **Date & Time:** The Corn Maze is open every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from Sept. 5 through Oct. 26. Fridays 4 – 10 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.; Sundays Noon – 10 p.m. **New this year!**

- **For children,** we have a free mini maze. Barrel train and hay rides will be available on select weekends.
- **For teenagers and adults,** we will offer a [haunted house--"The Butcher."](#) It will be sure to send chills down your spine. And if you go to both the Corn Maze and "The Butcher" the same night, take a wild spin in the new [Black Hole](#) tunnel for free!
- **For everyone,** scarecrows are displayed at the Corn Maze.

A variety of food vendors will be at the Corn Maze with your favorite fall treats including corn on the cob, caramel apples, grill specialties, and much more. Picnic benches are available if you would like to bring your own food. **Admission to the Corn Maze:** \$10.00 Adult; \$8.00 Member/Senior/Student /Groups of 15+; \$4.00 Child member; \$5.00 Children (3 -12); Children under 3 are admitted free - Purchase tickets at the Corn Maze starting Friday, Sept. 5, or through TicketsWest at any King Soopers starting Monday, Aug. 18. **Super Ticket during the Pumpkin Fest on Oct. 11 and 12.** New this year! Buy a Super Ticket and get admission to both the [Pumpkin Festival](#) and the Corn Maze. \$13 Adult/Senior/Student with ID; \$7 Child (3-12); \$12 Member Adult; \$6 Member Child. **Please note:** During the [Pumpkin Festival](#), the Corn Maze opens at 10 a.m. If you plan to attend the maze before 5 p.m., you must buy a Super Ticket. Ticket sales end one hour before closing. Please pick-up your children promptly at 10 p.m. each evening.

MYTHBUSTERS: THE FACTS ABOUT OUR FURRY AND FEATHERED FRIENDS:

Myth: Feeding geese and ducks bread is ok.

Fact: No, it is not ok. There is very little nutritional value in bread for birds and can cause severe problems with their health when eaten. When you feed the baby ducks and geese, they become dependent on humans and never learn how to find native foods on their own.



Myth: Fawns which are found alone, have been abandoned.



Fact: No, they are not orphaned. This is common for the mother to leave her babies in a "safe" place and visit them two to three times a day. It is a protection strategy to keep predators away.

Myth: Touching a baby bird will cause the parents to abandon them.

Fact: No, there is a strong bond between parents and their chicks. However, the best thing you can do for a baby bird that has fallen, is to put the baby back into the nest.



Myth: Raccoons are rabid if out and about during the day.



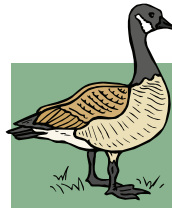
Fact: A Raccoon may or may not be rabid. Raccoons look for opportunities to scrounge for food. If food is available, even during the day, they will come out to eat. **If the animal is acting disoriented or sick, contact the animal control officer - there is a good possibility the raccoon is rabid.**

Myth: Anytime you get close to a skunk, it will spray you.

Fact: It is fairly uncommon for someone to get sprayed by a skunk. They can not "reload" very fast and they only spray to defend themselves. And yet, if you see them stamp their front feet - back away - it is a warning sign that they are feeling threatened and you might get sprayed.



Myth: The Canadian Geese in Colorado have forgotten how to migrate.



Fact: The Canadian Geese which have made residency in Colorado are descendants of a captive-bred geese introduced by wildlife agencies over several decades to bring back the huntable populations. Homeowners placed geese into their ponds because they thought they made it look nicer. These are the geese that never learned to migrate.

Myth: Bats flying close to you will get tangled up in your hair.



Fact: Bats do not want to be in your hair. In fact, it is the last place they want to be. Bats navigation system is a complex sonar-like system which allows them to "see" their world with fine precision. If bats are trapped in a confined space, such as a house, they will perform a swooping flight pattern which is where this myth began.

Myth: Cats belong outside too. It is unfair to leave them inside the house.



Fact: Allowing your beloved cat to roam outside, subjects them to perils of the outdoor world (i.e. getting hit by a car, killed by a fox or coyote, etc.). Whereas an indoor cat lives a healthier and longer life. Cats that are allowed outdoors will hunt and kill ground-nesting rabbits, baby birds who do not know how to fly and other defensive less creatures. Both wildlife and cats are at risk when people let their cats out.

SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS AND RECREATION

“Spooktacular” Event

South Suburban Parks and Recreation will host the season's first Halloween celebration **Spooktacular** and **Spooktoddler**. Little ghosts and goblins, ages 11 and under, will delight in costume contests, carnival games, a haunted house, temporary tattoos, crafts and lots of treats on Friday, October 24, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at Goodson Recreation Center, 6315 S. University Blvd. Prepay at www.sspr.org by 7 pm on Wednesday, October 22 and receive the discounted rate of \$4, fee is \$6 starting October 23. For more information call 303-798-2476.

Host Blood Screenings

South Suburban Parks and Recreation is hosting comprehensive blood screenings conducted by the University of Colorado Hospital from 7 to 9:30 am at the following recreation centers:

- Lone Tree, 10249 Ridgeway Cir., 303-708-3514, Tuesday, October 14
- Goodson, 6315 S. University Blvd., 303-483-7082, Wednesday, October 15
- Buck, 2004 W. Powers Ave., 303-730-4610, Thursday, October 16

This high-quality laboratory screening with rapid turnaround of results consists of 30 tests, including a lipid profile. Test results will be sent directly to your home. Supplemental tests can be requested for an additional cost. Participants must be at least 18 years old and 12 hours of fasting are recommended before blood is drawn. Fee is \$40 per person. For other South Suburban wellness activities visit www.sspr.org.

Graffiti Grows at Taxpayer's Expense

During the first six months of 2008, South Suburban Parks and Recreation has recorded nearly 140 major graffiti incidents in the community's parks and trails system. The majority of incidents have occurred late at night along trail ways, in underpasses and in parks. This year, South Suburban has the highest recorded costs for clean up efforts ever accumulated exceeding \$31,000. The manner in which the graffiti is occurring hinders cleanup. Vandals are using permanent markers and paint which can be very difficult to remove depending on the surface on which it is placed. Some surfaces need to be sand blasted, power washed or treated with a chemical agent which can rapidly increase removal costs. Often surfaces where graffiti has been removed are permanently damaged by “graffiti shadows.” This is especially true for brick buildings, playground equipment or the inside of public rest rooms.

Most municipalities have ordinances requiring property owners to remove graffiti. For example, in the City of Littleton cleanup is required within 48 hours. Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office is committed to clean up public property graffiti within one week using its community service workers. Additionally, the County offers rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of vandals involved in illegal tagging or graffiti activities. Law enforcement officials document incidents with photographs as well as track the locations and clean up costs. Photographs are reviewed by law enforcement who look for similarities and in some cases use them as evidence against perpetrators. Collected data is also used to identify specific locations that have been prone to graffiti or vandalism. These areas are then targeted for additional patrolling by park rangers and law enforcement officers.

Park signage as well as bike and hiking trails with underpasses are graffiti targets and law enforcement and South Suburban need help with catching vandals. Watch these areas and if suspicious activity is witnessed, please report the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency immediately, including the time, location of the activity and, if at all possible, a description of the individuals involved.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation – At work for you!

South Suburban Parks and Recreation (SSPR) installed a play structure for 2-5 year olds and a drinking fountain at the playground next to Fairview Reservoir. SSPR also installed a drinking fountain next to the basketball court. The total project cost was \$21,265.20. The TrailMark HOA funded \$11,265.20 in materials and Jefferson County funded \$10,000.00 in materials through a Conservation Trust Fund Grant. South Suburban supplied the labor to install the improvements.

Helping



Agatha Fry, she made a pie
And Christopher John helped bake it.
Christopher John, he mowed the lawn,
And Agatha Fry helped rake it.
Zachary Zugg took out the rug,
And Jennifer Joy helped shake it.
And Jennifer Joy, she made a toy,
And Zachary Zugg helped break it.



And some kind of help
Is the kind of help
That helping's all about.
And some kind of help
Is the kind of help
We all can do without.

Poem by Shel Silverstein:
From "Where the Sidewalk Ends"

Please be the kind of helping Volunteer, that helping's all about.
Volunteer for your favorite TrailMark committee or event!
We can't do it without YOU!



Winter is Coming!!

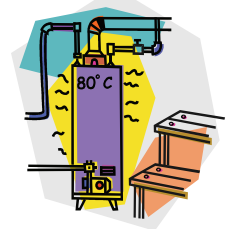
Check/Replace Furnace Filter



It's always a good idea to clean or replace your furnace filter, especially if you've introduced excessive particles into the home with renovations. Your filter may be reusable, in which case it can be cleaned. Or it may need to be replaced. Check the type of filter you have and read the manufacturer's guidelines on replacement frequency.

Inspect Water Heater

Drain a bucket of water from the drain faucet at the bottom of the water tank to remove sediment that could corrode the unit as well as reduce its heating efficiency. You should also inspect water lines, connections and valves for signs of leakage.

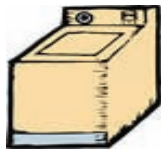


Clean/Replace Range Hood Filter



The thin, metal screen on your range hood needs to be cleaned periodically. Remove it and soak it in warm, soapy water. If your hood also has an activated charcoal filter, it should be replaced once a year. If the hood is vented, check the exhaust vent for grease clogs or dirt buildup.

Inspect Hoses on Washer and Dishwasher



A weak hose is a disaster waiting to happen. Look for cracks and bubbles twice a year, and replace where necessary. Be sure to turn the water shut-off valve off before removing and replacing hoses.

Source of information: Countrywide Financial - www.countrywide.com

REMINDER

During the winter months remember to disconnect all garden hoses. If the hoses are not removed, pipes could freeze and break, resulting in very costly repairs. The hose itself could also incur damage and burst if the water freezes inside.



Be sure to inspect the sump pumps for proper working order too!

Are You Prepared?

Imagine a heavy snow storm hits the city and all power is out. Are you prepared? Here are some ideas from the American Red Cross for a 72 hour emergency kit:



- ❏ Battery powered radio - extra batteries
- ❏ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ❏ First Aid Kit
- ❏ Manual can opener
- ❏ Utility knife
- ❏ Waterproof matches
- ❏ Water supply (one gallon per person per day)



Change your Clock—Change your batteries



Due to the *Energy Policy Act of 2005*, the Daylight Saving Time (DST) will end at 2:00AM on Sunday, November 2, 2008 and we "Fall Back" one hour. Change your clocks before you go to bed.

Change your smoke alarm batteries annually when you change your clocks from daylight savings time to standard time. *Also, don't forget to test your smoke alarms monthly by pushing the TEST button.*



4TH ANNUAL CORN MAZE



Food, Frolicking and Fun!



And RIDES GALORE!!!



Everyone got into the fun, including the cooks!



This is what
makes TrailMark
a great place to
live!

Volunteer and
keep it going!



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. 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

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.

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. 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.

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



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 - 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:

Name of Company:

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:

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 **15th 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 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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OCTOBER 2008

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.

November 13, 3008 (ANNUAL MEETING)

AND

January 8, 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.*

