



2018

CARRIAGE HILLS

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Can you identify this photo? Hint: look for a pair of familiar pillars. See answer on the back page.

Greetings Neighbors. What a difference a year makes! Last year in January we were dealing with lots of snow and bitter cold. This year - where's the snow? As we know, dry conditions are a mixed blessing. Let's hope our mild winter transitions to good spring rains with no threat of wildfire.

To Do List

To Do:

TODAY - Join or renew your membership and help support Carriage Hills. Dues are only \$30, payable to: CHPOA, PO Box 1047, Estes Park, CO 80517. Membership has great benefits such as free slash pick up and discounted tree sprayings. Additional funds go toward neighborhood improvements.

April - Neighborhood cleanup

June 16th & 17th - Neighborhood garage sale

Mid-July - Slash pickup for CHPOA paid members

Mid-July - Annual meeting

Reflective Home Address Signs

In the case of a fire or medical emergency, easily readable address signs can cut minutes off response times and possibly save lives. The green or blue reflective



signs can be seen easily day or night by emergency responders. Even if not all the neighbors have address signs, it can help identify houses between existing signs. Seconds matter in an emergency. The Leavitt's recently added a house number sign to a post by the end of their driveway. One can order a sign like this on Amazon for \$14.57 with free shipping. A 4x4 post was used to mount this one, but you can use a metal post, tree or existing fence post. Mounted this way the numbers are visible from both directions on the adjacent road.

**NEIGHBORHOOD
GARAGE
SALE**

**JUNE
16 & 17**

Our neighborhood-wide garage sale will be held June 16 & 17 this year. That's the 2nd weekend of June. It's a great opportunity to get rid of all that clutter and make some extra money! Signs will be posted around Carriage Hills, and an ad will be placed in the paper. So keep this weekend in mind (June 16 - 17) for 2nd Annual Carriage Hills Garage Sale. More information about this event will be sent out in the spring.

Replace your mailbox with a larger one

Why would anyone want a big mailbox? It turns out there are several good reasons. First and foremost, it can hold many packages that won't fit in a normal mailbox. If you are like many of us in Carriage Hills, you probably order a lot of things online. Many package delivery services now hand their packages off the local Post Office for final delivery. The Post Office will try to put packages in your mailbox, if they fit. Otherwise they may hang them in a sack from your mailbox or leave them at your door. Neither of these is a good option. With our high winds your package can end up down the road and thefts from doorsteps are increasing. Another good reason for a large mailbox is when you're out of town and forget to stop your mail, or if you're the type of person who just gets a lot of mail. If you

have a home business you may not need a Post Office box. So give it a thought:



maybe a bigger mailbox would make sense for you.

Fish Creek Road Repair Project Wrap-up

"Fish Creek...will it ever be done?" The answer to that question is: someday.

For all practical purposes the work is complete with the exception of a few minor items needing to be done over the coming months. The good news is that there will be little or no inconvenience to the residents. Those items are of course connected to money. Rusty McDaniels at Larimer County Engineering said they are trying (read "no guarantees") to find funds from the state and/or Larimer County to chip seal the entire roadway

to provide a uniform finish to the road. All replacement paving is in place as is the walking/biking trail. What's paved is paved, what's gravel will stay gravel.

There will be a few minor construction activities during the summer months to do repairs or adjustments to the project. Vegetation landscaping is planted and in place, however, due to its nature it will take some time to determine if it is taking hold as planned. This may take a couple of years and could require replacement, moving or removing items.

Current Weather in Carriage Hills

On one of those super windy days you might ask yourself, "So how windy is it really?" Of course you want to know about the wind right now here in Carriage Hills. With all our open space it could be much higher here than elsewhere in the valley. It turns out that several people have personal weather stations in Carriage Hills, and those stations are plugged into the internet through Weather Underground. Do a Google search on

"Estes Park Carriage Hills Weather" and you will find at least 5 personal weather stations currently online with up-to-the-minute weather statistics, including wind speed and direction.



Code Compliance in the Estes Valley

The Estes Park Code Compliance Department staff oversee all Community Development code compliance activities in the Town of Estes Park and the surrounding Estes Valley. They strive to obtain voluntary compliance with adopted codes through education, cooperation, and enforcement to maintain a safe, healthy, and clean community. Common topics addressed by Code Compliance include: number of vehicles on a property, accumulated

waste materials and rubbish, noxious weeds, vacation rentals, noise levels, home businesses, zoning, setbacks, and building permits.

Please contact your local code compliance officer, Linda Hardin at (970-577-3723) or lhardin@estes.org with any questions or concerns. You can also find valuable information on the Town of Estes Park website at www.colorado.gov/pacific/townofestespark/codecompliance

GID4 Has a New Email Address

The General Improvement District 4 Board of Directors has a new email address, larimercountygid4@gmail.com. GID4 can be reached at this email address or at the phone numbers listed on our web site. See www.carriagehillspoa.org/gid-4 for more information. Remember: contact GID4 for all your snowplowing and road maintenance questions.

Estes Valley Watershed Coalition Plans For 2018

The Estes Valley Watershed Coalition (EVWC) has completed 14 flood recovery projects, bringing over \$4 million of restoration and recovery dollars to the Estes Valley. Projects were implemented along Fish Creek, Fall River and the Big Thompson River. EVWC completed 3 projects along Fish Creek (Cheley Camp, Upper/Middle Fish Creek and Lower Fish Creek). Fish creek received over \$1.5 million of project funding through the EVWC. These funds were used to protect property and infrastructure, reconnecting



the floodplain, removing sediment, bank stabilization, increasing aquatic habitat and revegetation.

During 2018 EVWC will begin monitoring and maintaining these projects. They will be looking for volunteers and pursuing funds to ensure long term effectiveness of these projects. EVWC will continue with annual stream clean-ups, revegetation efforts and connecting our projects to the surrounding area. The success of these projects will be dependent on community ownership and involvement. For updates please check the Estes Valley Watershed Coalition Facebook page or www.evwatershed.org

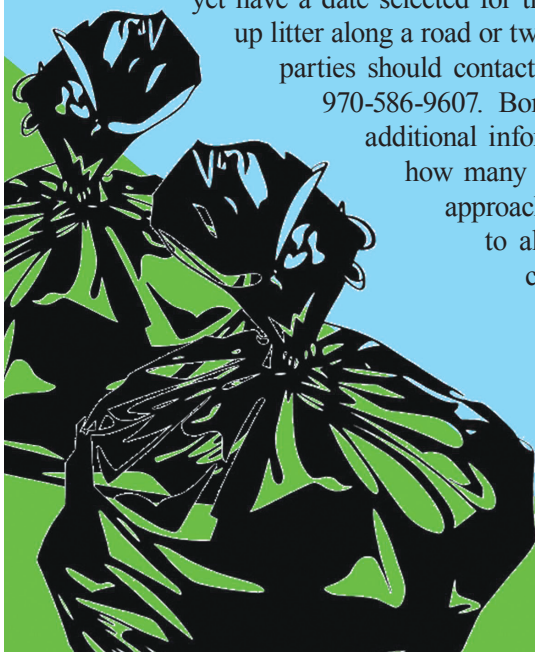
NEIGHBORHOOD SPRING CLEANUP

Contact Dave Born:
Born@ku.edu or
970-586-9607

For at least 15 years, many of the residents who live in the vicinity of the Scott Ponds have scoured the open space around the ponds for litter. During winter, when the strong winds blow, many unsecured items and litter find new resting places in this wide open area. The annual spring cleanup gives us a chance to pick up all the accumulated debris and restore the beauty of the area. Plus it's a fun time to socialize and connect with your neighbors.

For 2018 we would like to extend this effort beyond the Scott Ponds open space to include roadways in Carriage Hills. The Estes Park Recreation and Park District will provide: (a) bags into which litter can be placed, and (b) a truck that will pick up bags of collected litter for disposal.

At this time we're looking for volunteers who are tentatively interested in participating (recognizing that this is early and we don't yet have a date selected for the event). You would be picking up litter along a road or two near where you live. Interested parties should contact Dave Born at born@ku.edu or 970-586-9607. Born will contact volunteers with additional information after he gets an idea of how many people are interested. As spring approaches we will send another notice to all residents with the date of the cleanup and other details. Please join us for this fun event and help keep our neighborhood clean and beautiful.



Volunteers Needed for CHPOA Board

CHPOA is currently looking for potential new officers and board members to begin terms in July, 2018. Several board members will have their terms ending at July's meeting, so to keep a full board it would be ideal to have at least 2 new members. Duties include attending 3 - 4 meetings per year and helping plan CHPOA activities. Please email carriagehillspoa@gmail.com if interested or if you have any questions. If you know of other residents who might be interested let us know that as well.

Store Trash Properly

Larimer County recently passed a Wildlife Protection Ordinance, similar to the one that the Town has had in place for over a year. The main impact on Carriage Hills is that all residents will now be required to use hard sided garbage containers, even those with bag service, for any trash that could attract wildlife. If you place your garbage outside to be picked up between 6:00 am and 7:00 pm you can use a regular plastic or metal garbage can with a secure lid. If you place your garbage outside



at other times you must use a bear resistant container. For more information visit www.larimer.org/wildlife or call 970-586-7700.



What is a Local Telephone Call?

When you get an out-of-area telephone call, do you answer it? Many people don't answer calls from area codes outside Colorado (970 or 303), unless they recognize the number. But area codes aren't what they used to be. Robo calls are a constant nuisance and often come from fake numbers that look like they are local. Then too, many new residents keep their old cellphone numbers after they move to Estes Park. They may not have a local land-line at all. Many

long-time residents aren't accustomed to receiving local calls from area codes all over the country. Some of us on the CHPOA Board have out-of-area phone numbers as well. It can be hard to reach residents if they don't answer our calls and don't have voicemail. Our advice: answer those out-of-area calls (you can always hang up if it's a junk call) or at least have a voicemail box so that you can screen calls and important messages can be passed on to you.

Dog Reminder

There has been an increase in complaints concerning picking up after dogs when taking them on walks around Carriage Hills. Please be safe and have your dog on a leash and please be prepared to clean up after them. If you ever have dog related questions or issues with dogs the contact number for the Larimer County Animal Control/Humane Society is 970-226-3647.



Dealing With Voles By Don Fredrickson

Voles are small rodents measuring 4 to 8 inches, are brown or gray, with pudgy blunt faces and small eyes and sometimes inconspicuous ears, short legs and short tail. Found in moist meadows and valleys with thick grass, lodgepole pine stands, from 6000 feet to above timberline.

Voles often damage lawns and golf courses and neighborhood yards by constructing runways and burrow systems. Safeguarding gardens and trees can be done if you are willing to encircle young trees and shrubs with ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth 3 to 6 inches below ground and 18 inches above ground.

According to the Colorado State University Extension service, there is little one can do to eliminate the precious little creatures. Voles are classified as non-game wildlife in Colorado and may be captured or killed when they create a nuisance or cause property damage. I have

tried a couple of things: Repellant from Home Depot (about \$13.00) with some success. Mouse traps (baited with peanut butter) work with average success. After calling and hearing some prices (\$100 + per visit) without warranty of success, I decided not to go in that direction. Predator odors, such as the urine from red foxes and coyotes, also may be effective. They may wash off during rain and must be reapplied. Be careful and aware when using poisons as they may be hazardous to pets, other wildlife and children.

The bad news is that you most likely can't get rid of the creatures but the good news is that some seasons are better than others. Good luck with whatever method you try. More info available from www.extension.colostate.edu or call: 970-498-6000 and ask for a Master Gardener. Extension service located at 1525 Blue Spruce Dr., Ft. Collins, CO 80524.



STAY CONNECTED

Have a great idea to improve Carriage Hills?

Want to be added to our email communication list?

We'd love to hear from you. Here's how to reach us:

Email: carriagehillspoa@gmail.com **Phone:** 970-480-1528

Website: www.carriagehillspoa.org. Click on "Contact Us" and fill out the form. Checkout other features such as covenants, bylaws, newsletters, meeting minutes, maps, neighborhood news, and much more.

Facebook: Go to www.facebook.com/groups/carriagehills or search on "Carriage Hills Community Page" in Facebook

Mail: CHPOA, P.O. Box 1047, Estes Park, CO 80517

Welcoming New Residents

Do you have any new neighbors on your street? If so, please let us know. Send a message to carriagehillspoa@gmail.com. CHPOA reaches out to new members of our neighborhood with a welcome letter, and when possible, by contacting them directly. We want new residents to feel welcome and connected to our community.



Newsletter Note

The CHPOA newsletter is distributed via email to all members and residents for whom we have email addresses. If you are a member or plan to join you can also request a printed copy to be mailed to you by responding to this email or checking a box on your membership form (on the last page). If you change your email address or mailing address please contact CHPOA.

Thank You From The CHPOA Board

- Bob Leavitt – President
- Mike Wold – Vice President
- Debi Stalder – Treasurer
- Kim McCormick – Secretary
- Don Fredrickson, Connie Leavitt, David Born, DJ Christian, Bettie Tully, Corine Knudsen, Christian Lopez – Board Members

Pay Your Dues with Paypal - Coming Soon!

CHPOA will soon provide the option of paying your annual dues using Paypal, or with a credit or debit card. We will be installing this feature on our website. Stay tuned for our official announcement!



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CARRIAGE HILLS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION DUES NOTICE FOR 2018 - \$30

Please mail this form and your \$30 check to: CHPOA, P.O. Box 1047, Estes Park, CO 80517

Name(s): _____ Check # _____

(Please check one) Renewing Member New Member

Carriage Hills Property Address: _____

Other mailing address: *(Please complete if preferred mailing address is other than the property address)*

Email address: _____ *(Your email address will be kept confidential)*

Telephone contact numbers: _____

[] Check this box to receive a printed newsletter in addition to your emailed copy.

Comments or issues that concern you:

Answer to photo question: This photo shows the entrance to Carriage Hills in the summer of 1970. The building was used as a real estate office by Wendell Harding who was the real estate agent for Carriage Hills at the time. The pillars shown in the photo are still in place today. The photo is from an ad on the back page of the "Vacation Estes Park" insert in the Trail Gazette. Credit: Jim McCormick

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED