



WESTRIDGE NEWS & VIEWS

A Monthly Publication of the Westridge Homeowners Association

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Preventing Identity Theft in 2010

Identity theft is a fast-growing crime that changes quickly. Investigators still see cases involving “dumpster diving,” and still recommend shredding sensitive documents. But criminals have added new tactics – some sophisticated and some unbelievably simple.

Here are some criminal tactics you may remember, and some you may not have seen. **Texts, e-mails and calls from credit unions, banks, etc.**

In recent months, many local residents have received text messages on their cell phones reportedly from their credit unions saying something like, “Your account has been suspended.” The texts then ask the recipient to take action: texting, calling or going online to provide their personal account information.

A similar tactic involves e-mails “from” banks or credit unions, using the bank’s logo and looking very official. In another version, the scammer actually places a call to the victim, identifies himself as a bank representative, and then asks the victim to verify personal or financial information.

Do not fall prey to these scams. Your bank will not request personal information from you, even for “verification.” Delete the text messages and e-mails and do not respond. If you’re unsure, call your bank directly using the number that you already have.

“Grandma, I need money”

This incredibly simple and mean-spirited scam involves just a phone and Western Union. The criminal will target a senior citizen and call her. When the victim answers, the criminal says, “Grandma?” The victim then usually says, “David?” providing the name of her grandchild to the criminal. He affirms that he’s David, and then says he needs her to wire money to him because of a DUI. He pleads with her not to tell anyone. If she asks why he sounds different, he may say that he has a cold.

Jefferson County has seen several seniors fall victim to this scam. If you get any kind of call like this, hang up and call your grandchild directly on the number that you have, or call another relative to check the facts.

Job scam

In this scam, victims find out about work-from-home jobs on websites like Craigslist, or via incoming e-mail from senders unknown to them. They sign on to “work from home” and then are instructed to cash fraudulent checks or send money to various places.

Jury duty scam

In this scam, victims receive a phone call from someone telling them they failed to appear for jury duty and now there is a warrant out for their arrest. The caller then asks the victim to verify his name, date of birth, and other personal information. The caller will also ask for the victim’s social security number and sometimes even for credit card numbers. The information is then used to commit identity theft.

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Four Students Complete Judy Susman’s 30 Book Reading Challenge!

Judy Susman says congratulations to **Victoria Martin, Lily Kinami, Satomi Kinami and Jiwon Kinami**. Victoria, Lily, Satomi and Jiwon each completed the required 30 books and received a free gift card for their effort. Judy believes that reading is vital, so she encourages kids to get involved in this program. To date, 107 kids have completed the challenge. If you need a reading card, they are available directly from Judy Susman by calling **303-932-3322** or emailing her at **Judy@JudySusman.com**.

Got Coats??

It’s almost time! Judy Susman is ready to start her 14th annual COATS FOR COLORADO drive. Judy will do the legwork and make it easier for you to contribute by picking up your donations and delivering them to the Dependable Cleaners collection site. She will also bring you a donation receipt.

To date, more than 1,300 coats have been collected from Judy’s coat drives. Due to recent economic conditions, the need for coats is even greater this year, so Judy wants to make this drive an even bigger success.

If you have coats that you don’t need or want, and you wish to participate and help those less fortunate than you, **please call Judy Susman at 303-932-3322 by Wednesday, November 11th with your name, address and phone number to schedule a pickup on Saturday, November 14th between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.**

Participants will be entered into a drawing for a **free holiday turkey** – one entry for each coat donated. The turkey drawing will take place on Sunday, November 15th.

Thank you for your community spirit!

\$3 Family Fun on Thanksgiving

Foothills Park & Recreation District’s Ridge Recreation Center will be open on Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 26. Burn some calories and let the kids burn some energy before the big meal! A perfect way to have fun with your family and out-of-town guests. Entry fee for everyone on Thanksgiving is only \$3 to use the cardio equipment, gymnasium, swimming pools, racquetball and indoor track. Facility and lap swim hours 5:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.; open swim in the leisure pool and diving boards 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. **www.ifoohills.org; 303-409-2333.**



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***Anyone who wishes to be part of the Board, please contact any one of the board members with your interest.

Committees

ARCHITECTURAL

AND COVENANTS	Naomi Ashcroft	303-973-6361
	Cathy Pimm	303-973-4624

EVENTS	Paul & Nicole Alexander	303-862-6155
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NEIGHBORHOOD

WATCH	Jeff Williams	303-904-7315
		303-507-6549

If you would like to form a committee, please contact a board member for more information. Thank you for your help!!

The *Westridge News & Views* is published monthly by the Westridge Homeowners Association, a non-profit homeowners association. The HOA mailing address is PO Box 621172, Littleton, CO 80162-1172.

The deadline for articles and advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th. **All articles must be approved by the board for publication, or as space permits.**

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

For advertising info, contact **Colorado Lasertype** at **303-979-7499**, or e-mail getinfo@ColoradoLasertype.com. Visit our website at **www.ColoradoLasertype.com**.

Valuable and Helpful Community Websites

Westridge Homeowners Association:

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/jeffco/wridge>

*COHOPE Council of Homeowners Organization
for Planned Environment: cohopejeffco.com*

Westridge Homeowners Association Dues: 2009

This is your notice for the Westridge Home Owners Association dues for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2009. Your dues of just \$25 annually helps support community activities, the newsletter and efforts to keep Westridge a first class neighborhood! Please send your dues in today. Thank you.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to: WHOA and mail to:
WHOA, P.O. Box 621172, Littleton CO 80162-1172
**Current members may use the above form
to renew your membership for 2009.**

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are \$2.80/line. Call Colorado Lasertype at 303-979-7499 to place an ad. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th.

LARAMIDE STONE & TILE. Porcelain, ceramic, natural stone. Todd **720-984-5189**

CONCRETE REPAIRS: Fix small concrete repairs to avoid costly replacement: Ideal Restoration/Sean **720-422-4236**

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: Columbine High School, 6201 S. Pierce St., Littleton. Saturday, November 14th, 10am-4pm. Admission \$1 (5 & under free).

ENTERTAINMENT: BOOK SANTA NOW. Magic shows, face painting, balloon sculpting for all occasions. Patti Cake Enterprises **303-979-5041**.

Looking for **Great Holiday Gift Ideas?** **Partylite Candles & accessories.** Contact Jan. www.partylite.biz/janderby or **303-979-3880**. Online ordering now available.

A-1 Carpet Cleaning: Natural products, Truck mount. Owner operated. Experienced and 100% Guaranteed. **303-794-6528**

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QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATT/BOX SET. Brand new in plastic. Retail \$529, asking \$265. Also, **NEW KING SIZE** pillowtop set. Retail \$699, asking \$385. **303-742-4860**.

Affordable Day Care. 303-979-5041.

It's time to think about SPRING BULBS, FALL PRUNING and CLEAN-UPS. Property People 303-997-7392.

Aminals Pet Sitting Service: Pet sitting (in your home). Bonded & ins. Refs. avail. Call Nancy at **303-335-6237**

Highlands Pride Painting- 303-738-9203

Mike the Plumber - Your reliable neighborhood plumber for 14 yrs. Competitive rates. Free estimate. **720-422-8139**

RESIDENTIAL CLEANING SERVICE. Trusted, family owned. Contact us at 303-565-9587. www.healthycleaninc.com

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Preventing Identity Theft, *continued from front page*

Online purchases

Scammers who make fraudulent online purchases using your account information often make them in small amounts so you won't notice. Over time, they add up to big bucks. Check your online account purchases, your bank statements and your credit card statements regularly, and look for purchases you don't recognize.

Reporting a crime

To report identity theft, call our non-emergency number: **303-277-0211**. If the Sheriff's Office is not the proper authority to investigate this crime, we will give the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency, such as the FBI or U.S. Secret Service.

Top three tips from our investigators:

- **Be proactive with your accounts.** Check your various bank and credit card accounts regularly for fraudulent transactions. Request your free credit report annually. It only takes a day

for your credit to be ruined, so take the time to stay on top of your account activity and contact your bank about any unusual activity right away.

- **Never answer any inquiries that you didn't initiate.** Your banks and lenders will not contact you via phone, e-mail or text asking you for personal information. If you didn't initiate the contact, don't provide any info.

- **Verify everything before you take action.** Criminals are crafty. Some pose as your bank; others are so brazen as to pose as your grandson. Before sending any money or information anywhere, call the number you have on record to verify the recipient.

— Sheriff Ted Mink

Teen Services

To add your teen's name, please call **Colorado Lasertype** at **303-979-7499** and leave the following information: the **neighborhood you live in**, your age, phone number and the categories you would like included. Categories: **(B)** Baby-sitting * Red Cross Cert. for CPR **(L)** Lawn care **(S)** Snow removal **(P)** Pet & House sitting. No recommendation or endorsement of any of the names on this list is implied or stated by the homeowners association board or Colorado Lasertype.

Brittney C.	14	B	303-973-0349
Camille C.	16	B/P/L/S	303-904-2576
Justine C.	15	B/P/L/S	303-904-2576
Aaron C.	11	P/L/S	303-904-2576
Corinne D.	14	B*/P	720-981-5021
Tessa F.	15	B*/P	303-842-5453
Maryann F.	11	P	303-932-1050
Emmy M.	15	B*	303-948-1910
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- Product Sales
- Realtors
- Recreation

Call us to ask how to get added to one of the categories above!

303-979-7499

Visit our website for advertising information, ad rates, a map of the HOA newsletters we publish and details about our graphic design services.

www.ColoradoLasertype.com

Swimsuit & Accessory Sale: November 20-22

Find great deals on swimwear and accessories for the entire family on November 20-22 at Foothills Park and Recreation District's Ridge Recreation Center, 6613 S. Ward Street. Hours of sale: Friday/Saturday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. For more information, call **303-409-2333** or for directions visit www.ifoohills.org.

B'nai Chaim Services

B'nai Chaim, a Reform Jewish Congregation serving southwest metro Denver, will conduct Shabbat Services on November 6 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. A Tot Shabbat Service will be held on November 13 at 6:15 p.m. All services will be held at Congregation B'nai Chaim, 4716 South Coors Lane. An Oneg Shabbat will follow all services. All are welcome. Call **303-697-2668** or visit our website at www.bnaichaim.org for more information.

Foothills' Holiday Pottery Sales

Mark your calendars for Foothills Park & Recreation District's Pottery Sales this holiday season. Foothills will put on two sales this year, so don't miss out on unique, one-of-a-kind artwork perfect for presents and hostess gifts. For more information, call **303-409-2612**.

November 27-28 at the Foothills' storefront at Southwest Plaza Mall (near the customer service center). Hours to be announced.

December 4-5 at Foothills' Ridge Recreation Center. Hours: Fri. 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Sat. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

World Kindness Week: November 9-15

Kindness toward other people can increase emotional resilience, vigor and joyfulness, along with other psychological and physiological health benefits. For inspiration, visit the Random Acts of Kindness website, www.actsofkindness.org.



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