



WESTRIDGE NEWS & VIEWS

A Monthly Publication of the Westridge Homeowners Association

Vol. 15 No. 12

December 2009

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Listen Up Neighbors – Be You Owners or Renters in Westridge

Have you taken the time to drive the streets in our neighborhood lately? Did you know Westridge is beginning to look “run down.”

Protect your home investment and that of your neighbor. Be proud of where you live. Put trash cans behind your fence except on your trash pick-up day. Keep junk, wood piles, etc. behind your fence out of view. No parking boats, R.V.'s, campers, cars, trailers or trucks in your front yard. Remember Jefferson County code – boats, campers, trailers, R.V.'s can only be parked on streets a total of 14 days a year. That means each time you park, it counts as 24 hours or a full day.

Protect your investment and help make Westridge an outstanding place to live. We also need to address the “sagging fence” and leaning brick pillars on Westridge property where it runs along Simms Street. It is a negative reflection on Westridge and on our property values.

Westridge is a covenant controlled neighborhood. Listen up – help clean it up.

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

Sad News

Naomi Ashcroft, President of the Westridge Homeowners Association, passed away rather suddenly on Tuesday, November 17, 2009. She will be dearly missed as a friend and dedicated board member. Naomi contributed countless hours to the community and HOA board over the past years. She worked selflessly for the betterment of the community and we are grateful for all she did to make our neighborhood a better place to live.

“A Stroll in The Park”

I smiled as I went for a stroll in my favorite park – when all of a sudden I heard a bark.

I smiled at a cute little dog as he passed by – but all of a sudden I stepped in his “pie.”

Yes, that little dog’s pooh squished up between my toes – and the smell of it filled my nose.

The air was fresh, the sky was blue – but now all I could smell was doggie pooh.

My pleasant stroll could no longer be – for now it had splattered up to my knee.

Now, I was in a rush – but the more I walked the more it mushed.

My smile was now a frown – as I looked down upon the ground.

It was everywhere – piles of the stuff from here to there.

Some were big, some were small, and then I saw another person fall.

He too had slipped in a pile of pooh – oh no, and now it was on my other shoe.

This had become quite the mess – so that is why I say with such finesse...

If you take your dog to the park, we don’t mind if we hear a bark.

But please be kind and pick up his pooh – so we don’t get it on our shoe.

We love your dog and we love you – but again I say...

Please, pick up your doggie pooh.

I want to thank the 90% of dog owners that do pick up after their dogs. We see you do it and are truly thankful.

We ask the ones that have not been picking up after their pet, to start getting in

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Judy Susman Completes 14th Coat Drive!

Judy Susman, a long time Westridge resident and a Realtor with RE/MAX Professionals, recently completed her 14th annual Coats for Colorado coat drive in conjunction with Dependable Cleaners and Denver’s Channel 7. On Saturday, November 14th, Judy collected coats from many generous neighbors who came through again this year. Since Judy began this project in 1996, she has collected nearly 1,500 coats! Congratulations to **Richard and Anne Hoy**, winners of the free turkey.

“This is a project I look forward to every year. It is great to see people helping others who are less fortunate,” Judy said. “Thanks again to all who participated! Your coats will be greatly appreciated.”

Two More Students Complete Judy Susman’s 30 Book Reading Challenge!

Judy Susman says congratulations to **Amanda Baker and Hayden Coppola**. Amanda and Hayden each completed the required 30 books and received free gift cards for their effort. Judy believes that reading is vital, so she encourages kids to get involved in this program. To date, 109 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**.

Next Westridge HOA Meeting

December 9th, 2009

7:00 p.m.

**Westridge Elementary School
Election of officers**

"A Stroll in The Park," *continued from front page*

the habit of doing so. We do understand the urge to just leave it and walk away, but we need to get over the embarrassment, pick up the pooh and be responsible for your pet's mess. When you grab your dog's leash, grab a plastic bag too. If you forget, there are 4 holders that are usually filled with plastic bags for the sole purpose of dog owner's use and 3 trash cans to drop the filled bags into. Several neighbors save old bags and try to keep the holders full for your convenience. (A big THANK YOU to all those who donate to this cause). I have seen dog piles less than 5 feet from bag holders full of bags.

This summer when I was walking at Blue Heron Park on the path that stretches across the dam, I counted over 38 piles of dog pooh in that small stretch. On September 25th, Animal Control was called and agreed to patrol the park to make sure dog owners are picking up after their pets.

Let's work together to make our park cleaner, safer and a pleasant place for everyone to visit.

— Sincerely, A concerned homeowner in Westridge

It's the Most Overwhelming Time of the Year

Although the holiday season comes ringing in with messages of joy, togetherness, love and fulfillment, it can be less than joyous for many people. Stress, depression, relationship problems or financial crises can overwhelm until they seem insurmountable. Unfortunately, the stigma associated with asking for help can sometimes seem just as scary.

We at the Sheriff's Office are not mental health experts. But as emergency responders and victim advocates, we bear witness to many of the tragic effects of emotional turmoil – including domestic violence and suicide. We see the pain and suffering these events inflict on families from all walks of life.

If you or someone you know needs emotional or financial help, there are many local organizations dedicated to providing these services at holiday time, or anytime. Here are just a few:

The Jefferson Center for Mental Health provides quality mental health services for those with emotional problems and/or serious mental illness. Individual and family counseling is available for anyone and everyone, with flexible payment structures starting at only \$5. Also, in response to heightened demand for services, a new program called Jefferson Center Partners was developed to give quick access to counseling for those coping with job loss, foreclosure or other problems related to the economy. www.jeffersonmentalhealth.org

Jefferson County Human Services provides emergency assistance with food, utilities, transportation and other basic needs. It manages protective services for children and at-risk adults to ensure the safety and well-being of all families.

<http://jeffco.us/hs/index.htm>

The Jefferson County Workforce Center provides job training, workshops, career fairs and other resources for those in work transition. www.jeffcoworkforce.org

The Jeffco Action Center provides immediate help with food, utilities, rent, transportation, medical assistance or household items. It even features a Santa Shop for gifts at holiday time. A compassionate staff understands that circumstances can turn on a dime, and is there to help anyone who needs a hand.

www.jeffcoac.org

The Mountain Resource Center in Conifer provides a wide

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Board of Directors

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Westridge/home>

VACANT	President	----
VACANT	Vice President	----
Cathy Pimm	Treasurer	303-973-4624
Jamie Brantley	Secretary	303-903-1588
Chuck Sellers	Board Member	----
Sherry Hobson	Board Member	303-979-0193
Kathie Barrett	Board Member	303-979-3913

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

Committees

ARCHITECTURAL & COVENANTS: Cathy Pimm 303-973-4624

EVENTS: Paul & Nicole Alexander 303-862-6155

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.**

Overwhelming, continued from page 2

range of services to residents of Jeffco's mountain communities. It offers everything from health clinics, counseling, domestic violence assistance and youth services to parenting classes, job search help and financial advice. www.mrcco.org

Family Tree offers a 24-hour crisis hotline for victims of domestic violence (303-420-6752), a shelter, and a free legal clinic to help victims understand their options. Family Tree also offers counseling and other free programs for families who have experienced domestic violence, child abuse, separation, divorce and other conflict in the home. www.thefamilytree.org

AMEND is a nonprofit organization working to end domestic violence by providing counseling to men who have been abusive, as well as advocacy and support to their partners and children. www.amendinc.org

FOR TEENS

According to the Jefferson Center for Mental Health, suicide is the third leading cause of death for youth ages 15-24. Intimate relationship conflicts or losses, disciplinary problems and other stressful life events often precede youth suicide.

The Second Wind Fund was launched after four Green Mountain High School students committed suicide during the 2001-2002 school year. The nonprofit works to ensure at-risk youth have access to mental health services quickly and efficiently by removing financial and social barriers to treatment. www.thesecondwindfund.org

The statewide Safe2Tell program offers students a toll-free number to call to anonymously report anything that threatens them, their friends, their school or their community. They can report suicide threats, harassment, gun possession, dating violence, stalking, or any other issue that raises red flags. Local law enforcement agencies follow up on the reports. www.safe2tell.org

— Sheriff Ted Mink

Make This Season A Time To Advance Your Career With These Tips

The holidays can be the perfect time to boost your career. Between gift-giving and office parties, you have plenty of opportunities to show people who you are and where your career interests lie. Here are a few potential opportunities:

- **Office party.** More than three-quarters of companies will hold holiday parties this year. Attend, but remember these few things: Don't booze it up, don't talk shop the entire time, and don't over- or under-dress.
- **Cards.** Sending holiday cards is a great way to acknowledge those who've helped your career in the past year and to reconnect with business associates. If you're uncertain about religious affiliations, think about sending cards that eliminate any religious references, such as Thanksgiving or New Year's.
- **Gifts.** A little caution here. Determine whom you want to give a gift to (clients, co-workers, bosses) but first make sure they're allowed to receive gifts. (Some federal positions, for example, are banned from accepting gifts from groups or individuals that could constitute a conflict of interest). Then use your best judgment on getting an appropriate gift that serves as a token of appreciation. And don't expect a gift in return.



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- 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

Foothills' Youth Council

Foothills Park & Recreation District is inviting 6th to 12th graders from public, private and home schools to join the Foothills' Youth Council. Develop strong leadership skills and create positive change in your community. To apply or for more information, call **303-409-2510**.

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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.	15	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
Jade M.	12	B*/P	303-948-1910
Palmer P.	13	B*/P	303-904-8531

Westridge Financial Report

Last Reported Balance 8/15/09\$2,810.41
Income – Member Fees\$175.00
Expenses	
BBQ\$195.94
Port-o-potty for BBQ\$165.00
Annual P.O. Box fee\$44.00
Attorney Fees\$30.00
Ending Balance 12/15/09\$2,550.47

Free Nutcracker Performance, December 4

Foothills Park & Recreation District's Ballet Program will be performing excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite on Friday, December 4th from 7-9 p.m. in the Ridge Recreation Center gymnasium (6613 S. Ward St.). The performance is free to the public. Participants and audience members are encouraged to donate a new toy that will be provided to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Toy Drive. For information, call **303-409-2612**.

Golf Merchandise Sale and Open House, December 5

Avoid the holiday traffic at the malls and come to the Foothills Park & Recreation District's golf courses for some great savings! At Foothills Golf Course (3901 S. Carr St.) and Meadows Golf Club (6937 S. Simms St.), golf apparel, shoes, hats, golf bags and accessories will be discounted 20-60% off the original price. Sale begins December 5, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and will run through the remainder of 2009. Have a golfer in the family? Pick up a gift card of the popular Players Pass. For information or directions, call **303-409-2256** or visit **www.ifoohills.org**

National Stress-Free Family Holiday Month

Don't let your family drive you crazy. Remember to make some quality time for family togetherness in the midst of all the holiday bustle.

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.

COMPUTER SERVICE & Networking, Spyware, Repair & Upgrades. Local & Reliable since '99. 720-66-FRITS (37487)

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Sewer problems? Call Green Mountain Excavating for sewer and water line replacement and/or repair, line scoping, concrete tearout/removal and other excavating needs. Locally owned since 1986. Lic. and bonded. Free Estimates. 303-985-4704.

\$300 OFF exterior or interior PAINTING! 10% disc. for paying cash up front. Deck staining. Rob, OB Painting 303-986-8198

FALL CLEAN-UPS ARE STILL UNDERWAY. Call now to schedule. Happy Holidays from the **Property People** 303-997-7392.

Drywall & Basement Finishing Services. 26 years experience. Gary 303-829-6363

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

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"Happiness is a small and unworthy goal for something as big and fancy as a whole lifetime, and should be taken in small doses."

—Russell Baker

"If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded."

—Maya Angelou

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Happy Holidays



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B'nai Chaim Seivces

B'nai Chaim, a Reform Jewish Congregation serving southwest metro Denver, will conduct Shabbat Services on December 4. The service starts at 7:30 and will be held at Congregation B'nai Chaim, 4716 South Coors Lane. An Oneg Shabbat will follow. All are welcome. There will also be a Tot Shabbat Service on December 11 at 6:15 p.m. Call **303-697-2668** or visit our website at www.bnaichaim.org for more information.

Be Thankful You're Not Moving There

The most expensive zip code in the country, in terms of home cost, is Alpine, N.J. (07620). Forbes magazine reports that the median asking price of a house there is \$4.14 million (down 23 percent from the previous year). Number 2 is Atherton, California (94027), with a median asking price of \$3.85 million; that's followed by New York City's West Village neighborhood (10014), where home sellers are looking for a median price of \$3.5 million.

Pearl Harbor Day, December 7

Approximately 3,000 people died in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in 1941. The attack catapulted the United States into World War II.

Holiday Skate with Santa, December 12

Treat your friends and out-of-town guests to a fun family day at Foothills Park & Recreation District's Edge Ice Arena (6623 S. Ward St.). Take advantage of free skate rental per person providing a non-perishable food donation on Saturday, December 12 from 6-8 p.m. Parents, bring your cameras – children will have the unique opportunity to get onto a Zamboni to have a picture taken with Santa from 6-7 p.m. Donated food will be given to a local food bank. For information, call **303-409-2222** or visit www.ifoohills.org.



*Holiday
Pottery Sale*

FRI, DEC 4: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
SAT, DEC 5: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ridge Recreation Center
(downstairs)
6613 S. Ward St., Littleton


Foothills
Park & Recreation District

Details: 303-409-2612
or www.ifoohills.org

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Julie Montgomery
Direct: 303-906-3150

