



WESTRIDGE NEWS & VIEWS

A Monthly Publication of the Westridge Homeowners Association

(a non-profit homeowners association)

PO Box 621172, Littleton, CO 80162-1172

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

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Draft COHOPE Minutes for November 2012 Meeting

Winnie Burdan, President, welcomed everyone.

SPECIAL REPORTS: Gordon Neuenfeldt, Jefferson County Deputy, said that there was a 20% reduction of crimes between 2010 to 2011. There have been thefts of air conditioners from churches, banks, and businesses. Also the backflow valves are still being stolen for the brass and copper. This is part of lawn irrigation systems.

There were over 200 car break-ins (most were unlocked). Some break-ins involved taking hand guns. Were the cars on the street or in the driveway? Both. The deputy recommends that you don't keep the registration in your car. You should keep it in your wallet or perhaps have it laminated or put it in a luggage holder and attach it to your key ring.

There is a new Emergency Preparedness Guide out. You can attend a class monthly at the Red Cross at 4th and Sherman. Deputy

Neuenfeldt also teaches a class. The Guide recommends that you have a store of 5 days of needs including medication.

The speaker tonight was **Melissa Hellmuth** from CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children. CASA covers the 1st Judicial District in Jefferson and Gilpin Counties. Melissa is a Recruitment and Training Coordinator.

Melissa has been a volunteer since she was 5 years old. She studied Communication in College. She is very connected to Child and Animal Abuse issues. She has had 1,500 hours of training.

CASA was founded in the 1970s in Seattle. It has 70,000 volunteers nationwide. In Colorado, 16 of the 22 Judicial Districts have a CASA representation. It is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. They get grants, have a foundation, are part of COVA, and have an annual Gala in Sept. to raise funds. They have been in Jefferson County for 11 years. Leah Varnell is the Executive Director. CASA advocates for the safety and welfare of abused and neglected children.

Typically a case worker sees each case once a month. A Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) (with the Attorney's Office) visit's each case once a month. A CASA volunteer only has 1 child. They visit once a week. They stay with the child for the entire case. They hear more from the children. They report to the court on a regular basis.

Each case usually lasts 18 months. (This is the national average.) The child ranges in age from birth to 18 years. Children can request to stay in the system until they are 23 years old. They have 1 case that lasted 7 years. The same volunteer stayed on that case. Volunteers usually spend 15 - 20 hours per month.

The child and family come from all races, social, and economic conditions. Many times there are mental health or substance abuse issues. The common issue is that the parent can not keep their children safe. In 95% of the cases of physical and sexual abuse, the child know their abuser. They had 800 cases and 1,500 children last year. They currently have 200 volunteers. They are seeing a 20% increase in cases. The child is not involved by choice but they think that what is happening is their fault.

Each volunteer gets 50 hours of training before they see a child. About half of their volunteers work a full-time job. Their volunteers come from all backgrounds. A lot of volunteers have been in the foster care system. CASA volunteers go to court. They share information with the judge such as what the child has told them. They give the child a voice. They present pictures because children can change in appearance quickly. Volunteers are not attorneys or involved in the legal system. So they

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Another Westridge Student Completes Judy Susman's 30-Book Challenge!

Judy Susman says congratulations to Rylie Westfall. Rylie recently completed the required 30 books and received a free gift card for her effort. Judy believes that reading is vital, so she encourages kids to get involved in this program. To date, 168 rewards have been earned by Westridge students and Judy has donated \$3,600 to the school to benefit literacy and technology. If you need a reading card or more information, contact Judy directly by calling 303.570.5109 or emailing her at Judy@JudySusman.com.

Westridge Elementary Kindergarten Registration For 2013-2014

Kindergarten registration will begin on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Students must be age 5 by October 1, 2013 to be eligible for admission. Please register your student online by visiting our website – <https://sites.google.com/a/jeffcoschools.us/westridge/k12.co.us> – and following the steps in the Kindergarten Registration Checklist.

After you have completed the online registration process, please fax, mail, or hand-deliver the following items to the school office: (1) your student's birth certificate; (2) your student's record of immunizations, including evidence of Hepatitis B shots; (3) proof of your current address (for example, a utility bill or lease agreement); and (4) the Session Preference Sheet indicating your first, second, and third choices for class placement.

Families not currently living in the Westridge neighborhood must also submit a Choice Enrollment application. Choice Enrollment applications may be picked up at Westridge Elementary or downloaded from <http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/enrollment/co.k12.co.us>. First Round

Choice Enrollment begins on Wednesday, January 9th and runs through Tuesday, January 24, 2013. For an explanation of the Choice Enrollment process, please call 303-982-3975.

**** ALSO ****

Come visit Westridge and meet the teachers during our Kindergarten Round-up:
Thursday, January 10, 2013
8:30 am–9:30 am OR 6:30 pm–7:30 pm
Kids Are Welcome!



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*If you would like to volunteer, be a member of
or form a committee, please contact a board member!*

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303-507-6549

Websites

Westridge Homeowners Association:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/Westridge/home

(includes: calendar of events & homeowner covenants)

COHOPE: www.cohopejeffco.com

Advertising: www.ColoradoLasertype.com

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.

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 12th of the month before the next month's issue. Please email news articles to the editor at dwjames@centurylink.net. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter.

Advertising

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

To place an ad, call **Colorado Lasertype, 303-979-7499.**

Email: getinfo@coloradolasertype.com

To find ad rates and discounts, go to [www.](http://www.ColoradoLasertype.com)

ColoradoLasertype.com

and click on the "Advertising Rates" link.

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.

National Bath Safety Month

On average, 370 people of all ages suffer injuries in the bathtub or shower each day in the United States. Small children and the elderly are especially vulnerable. Take steps to ensure that your loved ones are safe when bathing, whatever their age.

2013 Westridge Homeowners Association Dues

Due January 1st, 2013

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (optional) (_____) _____ – _____

Make \$25 check payable to:

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Join us today! Make your voice HEARD!

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are \$2.95/line for 2013. Contact **Colorado Lasertype** at 303-979-7499 or getinfo@coloradolasertype.com to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at www.coloradolasertype.com. 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.

Warning – you are drinking antibiotics! (DW 2012 Water Quality Report) Water is essential to you & your family's health, well-being & life. Ensure the quality of the water your family drinks. Let us show you the Water Purification System we use. For info call Pat @ 303-948-9681

The Plush Poodle. All breeds dog and cat grooming. 16 years exper. Near Kipling and Bellevue. Call **Lydia 720-422-2971.**

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COHOPE Meeting, continued from front page

can stand up and talk in court.

Children involved in sexual abuse sometimes return to their home. Usually when the couple splits up. The child has a Safety Plan. They have a lock on the inside of their bedroom door. They have to have a person with them when they visit the perpetrator. In cases of sibling abuse, it is typical that the couple splits up and each take a sibling.

To be a volunteer, you have to be 21 years old and you have to pass a background check. If you are interested in volunteering, you can call Melissa at 303-271-4131 or 303-271-4357. Her email address is MelissaHellmuth@CASAJeffcoGilpin.com. CASA's website is www.CASAJeffcoGilpin.com.

There are 50,000 reports of abuse in Colorado. There are 11,000 children in the system. A fifth of those cases are for neglect. Each day 5 children die. 80% of those are under the age of 4. It is always OK to call to report something that seems out of place. It is nice to have the information. CASA needs more volunteers, more staff, more room to work out of, and more money. Children covered by CASA are less likely to spend more than 3 years in foster care. And they are less likely to be moved from home to home. Most children return to their family. CASA changes children's lives one by one.

National Adoption Day is Nov. 14. Anyone can attend.

Justice Boatwright used to tell parents that "Your kids will find you when they turn 19. It is your choice what they find."

Are volunteers ever in danger? Volunteers get safety training, but we rely on their instincts. If they are in a home and don't feel safe, they call 911. If they aren't safe, then neither is the child.

Can a volunteer take a child somewhere else? Yes, their visits are court ordered. They can not take the child to their home, but they can go elsewhere such as to the zoo. And it is a steadfast rule that if you promise a child something, you have to do it.

Do volunteers have liability? They are covered by the Volunteer Protection Act. They are covered by CASA's insurance as long as they are acting ethically.

Do you work with Jeffco Social Services? Yes. If a volunteer has a conflict, the Staff will talk to Social Services, the person, or a supervisor.

Can a volunteer stay in touch with the child after the case is closed? The volunteer has that option if the family allows it.

Do you have any statistics on the parents such as age, whether they graduated from High School, economics, or social standing? Melissa doesn't have that information. Her experience is that the families come from all walks.

Can we have you come back again? Yes, and she can recommend other speakers.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Winnie Burdan, President, was present. **Diane Suchomel**, Vice President, handed out information on Green Sheen and W. Quincy Ave.

Rooney Road may soon lose Jeffco support. Green Sheen will recycle Latex paint.

Quincy between Wadsworth and Kipling will be changed to 2 lanes in each direction. There is a lake on each side of the road. There will be a planted median in the center, a bicycle path, and a sidewalk. They will try to save the Cottonwoods. The cost is estimated at \$5.7M. Public comment can be made until Nov. 17.

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Teen Services

To add your teen's name, please email **Colorado Lasertype** at getinfo@coloradolasertype.com 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.

Palmer P. (female)	16	B*/P	303-990-4765
Devin C.	15	P/L/S	303-972-4478
Justine C.	17	B/P/L/S	303-904-2576
Aaron C.	14	B/P/L/S	303-904-2576
Corinne D.	18	B*/P/L	720-981-5021
Alyssa D.	17	P/S	720-981-5021
Tessa F.	18	B*/P	303-842-5453
Colton P.	16	B/P/L/S	303-972-4478
Nick R.	16	B/P/L/S	303-888-0827

COHOPE Meeting, continued from page 3

There was an Open House tonight. Currently there are 11,000 vehicles per day. It is expected to double in 20 years. Brad Bauer (303-271-8495) is the Planning and Zoning POC.

On Nov. 10, Big O Tire will allow individuals to recycle up to 8 tires.

There is an application for a Auto Parts store at Simms, north of Bowles, north of the Rite Aid.

Section 10 of the Planning Guide has been changed so that all neighborhoods will be reclassified as mixed use. Notification only needs to be sent within 200 ft. of the property. There are more changes but they are too complicated to go into. This will be discussed at the Nov. 8 Board of Commissioner's meeting. Comments are due Nov. 7. The POC is Tiffenbach.

There is an application for a Natural Grocers 15,000 sq. ft. store at Coal Mine and Kipling near Chase Bank. The store will be moving from Ken Caryl and Simms.

There is an application at Bellevue and Simms for a 310 multi-family unit housing. It will be a 3 story apartment complex. There are community concerns that there will not be

enough parking. The plan was changed just before the Planning and Zoning meeting.

There is an application for a flag pole at 8154 S. Kipling Pkwy. just south of Chatfield. The pole will be 18" - 24" in diameter.

There is an application to subdivide Dancing Deer into 4 lots off Deer Creek Canyon Rd.

Old Business

Linda Auburn went to the Planning and Zoning meeting where the Auto Dealerships rezoning at Kipling and C-470 was scheduled to be discussed. (There are 2 dealerships planned but up to 8 dealerships wanted.) The applicant walked out before the meeting started. The commissioners rescheduled the hearing for Jan. 9. Linda handed out an article and asked that it be published in newsletters, etc. They need community support at the Board of Commissioner's meeting which should be about 3 weeks after the Jan. 9 Planning and Zoning meeting. The Board of Commissioners only allocate 3 minutes for an individual to speak and 10 minutes for an HOA to speak. If you send Linda your email address at linda@commish3.com, she will keep you informed. And she will keep your address hidden.

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