



Homestead in the Willows

Homestead Herald

APRIL 2011

Volume 35, # 4

A Covenant Controlled Community for the Benefit of All



Connor, Greg, Will and Cyndy Cotton with the Easter Bunny at the 2010 Easter Egg Hunt.

Details for the 2011 Easter Egg Hunt can be found on page 16.



**Next Regular
Board Meeting
6:30pm
Apr. 12, 2011
West Pool Office**

**THE MAY
HERALD DEADLINE
IS
APRIL 15th**





ASSOCIATION NEWS

**MAYHERALD
DEADLINE IS
APRIL 15TH**

BOARD MEETING

The next regular Board of Directors meeting for community input and manager's reports will be

Tuesday, Apr. 12, 2011

West Pool Office, 6:30 pm

Mark your calendars now. The board meetings are open to all Homeowners.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: In an effort to provide timely Board information to the Membership, **UNOFFICIAL MINUTES** of each Board meeting will be published in the next issue of the Herald. Official, Approved copies of all Minutes will be on file and available at the Association Office.

REPORTS TO THE ASSOCIATION When an Association member wishes to report observed problems or any concerns or helpful ideas pertaining to the assigned areas of responsibility of the Architectural Control and Design Review Committee, Landscape, Pools, or Business Office, please, when you call and leave a message on the answering machine, include your name and telephone number so that we may return your call. **We cannot act on any call when the caller is not identified.** Thank you for your help.

BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS

5896 E. Geddes Ave.

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:00am — 3:00pm

Phone: 303-793-0230

Fax: 303-793-0109

www.homesteadinthewillows.org

MANAGERS:

Business Office	Katie Kidwell	303-793-0230
Landscape	Nancy Bauer	303-241-6212
Tennis	Melissa Shuck	303-819-3953
Pool	Jaylene Jones	303-617-0221

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Reed Richardson	303-997-4176
Vice Pres.	Christopher Molke	303-997-6857
	Aloah Kincaid	303-932-7926
Treasurer	Bill Shelden	303-770-1984
Member at Large	Chris Raab	720-427-6799
		craab@mac.com

COMMITTEES:

ACC/Design Review; Covenant Review Taskforce
Swim Team, Tennis

CENCON REP: available

MOVING FROM HOMESTEAD? If you move from Homestead and retain ownership of your home, it is your responsibility to pay the Homeowners dues. Remember: Please notify the Business office of your new address. Dues are always due March 1st. If you are a **Renter**, you should forward all notices to the Homeowner.

THE HOMESTEAD HERALD is published monthly for residents of Homestead in the Willows. **The Business Office is located at 5896 E. Geddes Ave., (West Pool House) Centennial, CO 80112.** News items or advertisements must be submitted by the **15th of the month prior to publication.** Deliver or mail to Business Office. Call 303-793-0230 for commercial rates, ad sizes or other information.

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POOL PARTIES

Interested in having a party at the pool this summer? Pool parties can be scheduled through Front Range Recreation, our pool management company.

Homestead offers two types of Pool Parties: after hours events in which you have the pool facility to yourself for your group; and parties during regular pool hours in which you share the pool with other residents. Parties during regular pool hours are limited to 20 people and may require that you pay for an additional lifeguard to be hired during your party.

To schedule a pool party at Homestead in the Willows, log on to frontrangerecreation.com and click on the tab labeled "Pools". Scroll down to the Homestead in the Willows pool you are interested in, complete the necessary forms and submit your request. You can also call Front Range at 303-617-0221.

Architectural Control Notice

Homeowners are required to submit an "Application for Architectural Change" form to the HOA if you are planning to make updates, replacements or other improvements to the exterior of your home or property; even if you are replacing or updating with similar products or the same paint colors. Anything visible on the outside of your house or within the yard must be submitted for approval to the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) as our covenants require.

Applications must be accompanied by complete plans, sketches, samples, color chips and/or other pertinent information so that the ACC has as complete an idea of your project as possible. When requesting fence changes, sheds, accessory buildings, or play structures, also submit a drawing of your yard showing the location of the fence or item and indicate the material, height and style of the proposed fencing, shed or structure.

Forms are available at the office or on the website at www.homesteadinthewillows.org.



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REVISED 2011 Event Schedule

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Wednesday	April 20	6:30 – 8 pm	Information Meeting	Homestead Gym
Thursday	April 21		Registration begins	homestead.rmsl.org/
Friday	May 6		\$20 fee increase	homestead.rmsl.org/
Mon.-Tues	May 16-17	3:30 – 5 pm	6 & under swim tryouts	North Pool
Wed.-Fri	May 18-20	3:45 - 6:45 pm	Swim Practice	North Pool
Mon. – Fri	May 23-27	3:45 – 6:45 pm	Swim Practice	North Pool
Friday	May 27		Registration closes	rmsl.info/homestead
Saturday	May 28	6 am – noon	Intraclub Meet	North Pool
Monday	May 30		No Swim Practice - Last day for refunds	
Tues - Fri	May 31-June 3	3:45 – 6:45 pm	Swim Practice	North Pool
Friday	June 3	6 pm	Pep Rally!!!	North Pool
Saturday	June 4	6 am - 2 pm	Meet - CCV	CCV
Mon. – Tues	June 6-7	3:45 - 6:45 pm	Swim Practice	North Pool
Tuesday	June 7	6 – 8:00 pm	Star Meet (10 & under)	North Pool
Wed – Fri	June 8-10	7 am – noon	Morning swim practice	North Pool
Wednesday	June 8	7 – 8 pm	Stroke Clinic	South Pool
Saturday	June 11	6 am – 2 pm	Meet – Stonegate	Stonegate
Monday	June 13		Age Group Pictures	North Pool
Mon. - Fri	June 13-17	7 am - noon	Swim Practice	North Pool
Tuesday	June 14	6 – 8 pm	Star Meet (10 & under)	North Pool
Wednesday	June 15	7 – 8 pm	Stroke Clinic	South Pool
Saturday	June 18	6 am – 2 pm	Meet – Bow Mar	North Pool
Saturday	June 18	7am	Team Pictures	North Pool
Sunday	June 19	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Pirates Cove Outing	Pirates Cove
Monday	June 20		No swim practice - Swim-a-thon	North Pool
Tues – Fri	June 21-24	7am – noon	Swim Practice	North Pool
Tuesday	June 21	6 – 8 pm	Star Meet (10 & under)	North Pool
Wednesday	June 22	7 – 8 pm	Stroke Clinic	South Pool
Saturday	June 25	6 am – 2 pm	Meet – Ben Franklin	North Pool
Saturday	June 25	7 – 10:00 pm	Parent Party	North Pool
Monday	June 27		No swim practice - Water World event	Water World
Tues. - Fri	June 28-July 1	7 am – noon	Swim practice	North Pool
Tuesday	June 28	6 – 8 pm	Star Meet (10 & under)	North Pool
Wednesday	June 29	7 – 8 pm	Stroke Clinic	South Pool
Friday	July 1	7 am – noon	Pancake Breakfast	North Pool
Monday	July 4	11 am – 3 pm	Fourth of July Party	North Pool
Tues.- Fri.	July 5-8	7 am – noon	Swim Practice	North Pool
Tues	July 5	6 – 8:00 pm	Rain day for Star Meet	North Pool
Friday	July 8	6 pm	Pasta Pep Rally!!!	North Pool
Saturday	July 9	7 am – 2 pm	Meet – HF II**	Homestead Farm II
Mon – Fri	July 11-15	7 am – noon	Swim practice	North Pool
Mon – Fri	July 11-15	6am – 3 pm	RMSL Prelims	Varies by Age
Group				
Saturday	July 16	6 am – 3 pm	RMSL Finals	Stonegate
Sunday	July 17	5 – 7 pm	Award Ceremony	South Pool
		7 – 8:30 pm	Pool Party	South Pool

*Meets will be held unless the temperature drops below 55 degrees or lightning is observed in the area per RMSL bylaws and regulations.

** Times from the Homestead Farm II meet will not count for prelim placement. Meet does count towards the 2 meet requirement.



ANNUAL INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, April 20th

At the Homestead Elementary Gym

PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR CORRECTED INFORMATION

6:30 - 7:00 PM New Swimmer Parents Meeting

7:00 - 8:00 PM Optional for Returning Swimmers and Homestead Community

New Swimmers:

- Please attend this important meeting to learn more about the Homestead Hurricanes
- Learn how to register and fit your swimmer for a swimsuit.

Returning Swimmers:

- It is not required that you attend this meeting.
- **You must register online.** Online registration begins on Thursday, April 21st. An email will be sent with a link to the registration site.
- We will **NOT** have a new swimsuit design this year, so if your swimmer does not need a new suit it is not mandatory that you attend this meeting. If your swimmer does need a new team suit please join us between 7-8:00 pm.
- Representatives from Who's Your Logo, Swim Labs, Out of Breath Sports and Rocky Mountain Tennis will be on site to help you with your apparel and equipment needs.

If you have any questions about the swim team, please check the website: <http://homestead.rmsl.org/Home.aspx>

Or contact the parent representatives:

Chandra & Matt Thomas
720-489-8086

Shelly & Paul Russell
720-489-0465

We are looking forward to a great summer! Please join us! Go Hurricanes!

The Homestead Hurricanes

...Are Pleased to Welcome...

The 2011 Hurricanes Coaching Staff!

Head Coach and 6 and Under
Assistant Coach and 9-10 Boys

Kathleen Calkins
Sean DesMarteau

Age Group Coaches:

13-18 Boys and Girls
11-12 Boys and Girls
9-10 Girls
7-8 Girls
7-8 Boys

Mike Sellers
Jack Azar
Ellen Clark
Kendall Hagar
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HOMESTEAD IN THE WILLOWS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Annual Homeowner Meeting – March 14, 2011, 7:00 P.M. – Unofficial Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Homestead Board President, Reed Richardson, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance at Homestead Elementary School. The opening flag ceremony with recitation of the “Pledge of Allegiance” was performed by the Bear Den of Pack 268. Scouts present were Sean Arfin, Declan Atwell, Jackson Bennett, Tyler Chaffin, Nate Hancock and Nicholas Most.

BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS: Mr. Richardson introduced the Board Members noting they volunteered in order to give back to the community and were careful to put the interests of the community first in all their decisions: Christopher Molke, Vice President had served on the Board for two years; Chris Raab, Member at Large, had also served two years; William Sheldon, Treasurer joined the Board a year ago; and Scott Lenamond, Secretary for the Board whose term of service was ending. Mr. Richardson thanked Scott and presented him with a token of appreciation from the community. Mr. Richardson introduced Aloah Kincaid, nominee for one of two open Board positions. He then announced that although his term of service had also ended, he would stay on if voted for by the community.

MANAGER INTRODUCTIONS: Mr. Richardson introduced the managers employed by the HOA. He explained that the managers were charged with the responsibility of maintaining and enhancing the neighborhood. Melissa Shuck, Tennis Facilities Manager; Jayleen Jones, Pool Manager; Nancy Bauer, Landscape Manager; and Katie Kidwell, Business Manager. Mr. Richardson further explained that three committees also served under the Board: The Architectural Control Committee (ACC), the Covenant Review Taskforce, and the Swim Team Committee.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Richardson commented that on the appeal of living in Homestead. He shared that his family used to live in Summit County in a dream house they had built themselves. When they moved to Denver and looked for houses in Centennial they were surprised by the prices in Homestead and moved on to Highlands Ranch. Realizing Highlands Ranch didn’t fit their needs, they returned to Homestead where they were impressed with the appearance and maintenance of the community and bought a house. As a member of the HOA, Mr. Richardson believes it is the residents, not the Association, who are most responsible for the appeal of Homestead. It’s the residents who maintain their houses and property and create the feeling of community we all enjoy. He congratulated the attendees for being those residents.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE: Christopher Molke reported on the ACC. After polling the audience, he determined that nearly everyone in attendance has submitted an Architectural Request Form. As the community ages, more and more families were improving and remodeling their homes. Mr. Molke reported that the ACC reviewed roughly 12 to 16 change request forms each week and usually approved requests within two weeks. The committee tries hard to be efficient because they realize people are anxious to begin work, but also because they reason that if the process works well, homeowners would be more likely to comply. Mr. Molke explained that the committee is comprised of volunteers and that new volunteers were always welcome. ACC Members shared the

(Continued on page 9)



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same responsibilities in reviewing change request forms. The ACC chairperson reports to the HOA Board monthly so that the Board can stay apprised of their decisions and lend their input. Mr. Molke discussed how to best complete the ACC form and the detail necessary to make the form easily approved. He noted that the ACC does have the authority to deny an application, but doing so was the start of a dialogue between the committee and the homeowner as to what was necessary to bring the project into compliance. He remarked that our community was lucky to have this committee and the volunteers who gave so freely of their time, and thanked the homeowners present for continuing to improve their homes.

FINANCIAL REPORT: John Fitzgerald, CPA and bookkeeper for the HOA presented the Financial Report. 95% of the Association income comes from homeowner dues. The remaining income is comprised of small amounts collected via transfer fees when a home is sold, late fees, advertising and interest income. Operating costs for the community in 2010 totaled \$687,000 of which \$225,000 was spent on trash and utilities with water being the largest part of those expenses. The Association spends approximately \$215,000 on land maintenance and \$150,000 to operate and maintain the pools and tennis courts. The Administrative costs total \$97,000, of which insurance for the Association is the largest expense, at \$33,000. In addition to operating expenses, the HOA maintains a reserve fund used for capital projects or large maintenance expenses. As our community ages, more of these projects arise. During 2010 the Association spent \$80,000 on large projects such as replacing the pool furniture, renovating landscape and replacing irrigation lines. \$20,000 was added to the reserve fund bringing the total to \$270,000. Mr. Fitzgerald concluded his remarks by complimenting the Board, commenting that the Board Members were good stewards of the Association funds.

RESERVE FUND: Christopher Raab reported on the Reserve Study which had been completed by Bournengineering in 2009. Mr. Raab explained that Bournengineering's business is to conduct such studies and give HOA Boards a plan of what needs to be repaired or replaced and when to do so. He noted that shortly after Homestead had the study done in 2009, Colorado passed a law requiring HOA's to have studies completed. A complete review of the community grounds including topography of building sites, building interiors and exteriors, windows, roofing, boilers and heaters, parking areas, concrete flatwork, landscaping including signs, retaining walls, metal railings, fencing, lights, amenities, and pool and tennis courts was conducted. Bournengineering recommended dates and costs for repair or replacement based on the remaining useful life of each item. They noted that our community was in above average condition for its size and age, and well prepared for the future. Mr. Raab remarked that this was a credit to both homeowners and past Boards who have contributed to the condition of the buildings and grounds. Bournengineering believes the Association needs a minimum of \$250,000 in reserves, but suggested a balance of \$330,000 in the Reserve Fund to maintain the property.

MANAGER REPORTS:

POOLS: Jaylene Jones of Front Range Recreation reported that Front Range was entering its eleventh year as Homesteads Pool Company. Front Range manages all aspects of the pools from hiring life guards to maintaining the facilities. They also run a swimming lesson program, support the Swim Team, and make it their business to ensure a fun, safe pool for residents.

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TENNIS: Melissa Shuck reported that the recycle bins which were added to the courts in 2010 proved very popular and would be continued in 2011. In response to some vandalism the tennis court gates had been reinforced. Rather than re-surface the North Tennis Courts in 2011 as scheduled, the Association would repair cracks and maintain the courts until they could afford to replace them.

LANDSCAPE: Nancy Bauer thanked the community for allowing her to be their manger. She stated she thoroughly enjoyed her job despite challenges such as Xcel Energy removing mature trees; and appreciated the opportunities the position provided such as re-designing the entry beds. Ms. Bauer named the contractors she employed on the property and went on to explain that due to the age of the property, certain areas and items had been put on a rotation for improvement or replacement. She believes this will sustain our quality of life and the value of the neighborhood. One such item is mature trees. Mature trees are a valued asset to the community and Ms. Bauer has over 500 trees on a rotation for pruning; removing dead, diseased, or high maintenance trees as necessary. Over 40 new trees have been planted over the past three years. Other projects accomplished during 2010 were additional perimeter fence repair, removal of the timber retaining wall at the West Pool which was replaced with concrete block, and the removal of sod along Easter Avenue which was replaced with shrubs and a drip irrigation system to reduce irrigation costs and repair. Finally, a portion of the 30 year old irrigation system is replaced each year making it more water efficient. Ms. Bauer noted that the amount spent on irrigation work has been the same since 2007, however only 49% of that amount was now spent on repair work as opposed to 75% then.

BUSINESS: Katie Kidwell reported that the Business Office had installed a new filing system in 2010 establishing a file for each house in the community. Going forward, everything would be filed by property address rather than by subject. This should prove helpful to homeowners and Board Members alike. Ms. Kidwell stated she was lucky to work for and in her neighborhood and encouraged those present to call the Business Office with their questions and concerns.

Mr. Richardson thanked the Managers for their work. He stated that being self-managed requires more work as a Board Member, but the model continues to work well for Homestead saving the Association money. He thanked Bookkeeper, John Fitzgerald and HOA Attorney David Struthers for their contributions as well.

LAWSUIT: Mr. Richardson announced that a lawsuit had been brought against the Association by three homeowners, Stephen Dunbar, Chris Horneck and Sabyl Horneck (Plaintiffs), seeking more than \$500,000. The homeowner claim that the Association improperly allowed the owners of property on E. Geddes Place to renovate their home causing the Plaintiffs to suffer a loss in value of their property and a loss of privacy. The Plaintiffs also claim that their attorney, Thomas Eigner, was not provided with documents he demanded from the Business Office within seven days. Also named in the complaint are two other companies: MonthFive Development, LLC and LRCM Development, LLC. The Board strongly disputes the claims of the Plaintiffs and our insurer, Traveler's Insurance, is providing a defense, paying for Miles Buckinham of Kennedy Childs & Fogg, PC to serve as our counsel. The Board does not believe the Plaintiffs will prevail in this case. The Board is concerned by the aggressive posture of the Plaintiffs and does not agree with their claims. However, should the unexpected happen and punitive damages are awarded to

(Continued on page 13)

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the Plaintiffs, those damages will not be paid by our insurance company. The HOA will have to cover any punitive damages which could potentially deplete our reserves or require a special assessment from each homeowner. A letter summarizing the lawsuit and copies of the complaint and our answer are available at this meeting.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – The following questions were asked:

1. **Pete Gammie introduced himself as a homeowner affected by Xcel Energy's tree removal policy.** He explained that Xcel has notified affected residents that they plan to remove all non-compatible trees this year. A group of affected homeowners has organized themselves and has hired an attorney to fight Xcel. They have discovered that the federal government has allowed utilities to set their own guidelines and Xcel was allowed to develop its own policy toward tree removal. The same sort of thing is occurring elsewhere in the country but Colorado doesn't seem to have much grass root opposition. He encouraged residents to join with them to fight the Xcel policy of outright tree removal, noting groups in the state of New York were garnering attention with their protests.
2. **The newsletter costs \$15,000 annually. Has the Association considered emailing it?** The newsletter is entirely paid for by the income received from the advertisers so doesn't cost the Association anything to produce. The newsletter is available online, but will continue to be printed and delivered to each household because the Association has a requirement under Colorado Law to inform the homeowners of various Board actions (for example a change to a policy) and the Board ensures this by delivering a copy of the newsletter to each house.
3. **Can the minutes printed in the newsletter be more detailed?** Certainly. Usually references without much detail are due to concerns about homeowner privacy. The Board is happy to try to make the minutes more detailed.
4. **Why doesn't the Association plow the sidewalks? We encourage our children to be more physically active but unplowed sidewalks don't encourage that. Plowing the sidewalks is a worthwhile investment.** This topic is reviewed by the Board annually. Our insurer tells us that if we choose to plow the sidewalks, we must ensure they are always free of snow and ice. If we plow the sidewalk and ice accumulates later in the day and a resident slips and falls, the Association is liable. If the walks are never plowed, residents use them at their own risk. The City of Centennial requires homeowners to plow the sidewalks in front of and behind their homes. Finally, the Business Office keeps track of the number of homeowners who call requesting the walks be plowed. During this season, seven out of our 898 homeowners have called to request plowing. That tells the Board that the majority of the community is not interested in paying for plowing.
5. **If the sidewalks aren't plowed then people are forced to walk in the street which is also dangerous.** Understood.
6. **What is the reason for all the utility marking at E. Geddes Avenue and Holly?** Xcel Energy tells us a line has been consistently failing and needs to be replaced. The Board met with Xcel representatives and went through the details of the repair. Xcel will go through backyards for the most part and promises to restore the landscape to its original condition.
7. **Is there a court date set yet for the lawsuit?** Several dates have been proposed for late summer. No specific date has been chosen yet.

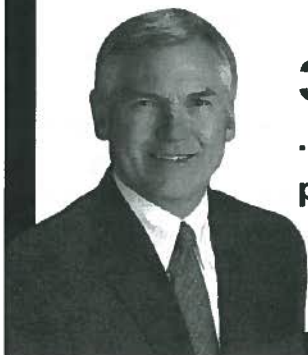
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8. **Why is Homestead not a “No Soliciting” neighborhood?** To become a no soliciting neighborhood would require a change in our bylaws which require a 2/3rds vote of the community. **Without declaring ourselves a “no soliciting” neighborhood we encourage potential thieves to case our homes.** Individual homeowners can post their own “no soliciting” signs. The Board will discuss becoming a “no soliciting” neighborhood at the next regular Board meeting.
9. **Will there be a community garage sale?** The Association has never run the community garage sales. They have historically been organized by individual homeowners.
10. **How can we get more information on the lawsuit?** Copies of the complaint and the HOA response to the complaint are available at this meeting. Homeowners can also request one from the Business Office.
11. **Perhaps the Association can conduct a poll prior to the Annual Meeting to determine what issues concern the residents and help direct the Board.** All the comments and questions raised at the Annual Meeting will be discussed by the Board at their next meeting.

ELECTION RESULTS: A majority vote elected Aloah Kincaid as the new Board Member and returned Reed Richardson to office.

DRAWING FOR 50% REBATE OF ANNUAL DUES: Barb Calkins was the recipient of the dues rebate.

CLOSING REMARKS: Mr. Richardson thanked the community for their support of the Board and their attendance at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER TENNIS CLINIC

**May 23-26 9am - Noon deKoevend Tennis courts
(Attend for 2 or 4 days)**

Clinic is for girls and boys, entering grades 1-8

Beginning and intermediate tennis levels

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COMMUNITY NEWS

THANK YOU

Many thanks to Board Member Bill Shelden for the terrific new display board in the Business Office. It is much appreciated!

HOMESTEAD PLAYGROUPS

For more information, please contact:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
0-2	Briste Lindman	303-588-8606
2-3	Jill Martini	303-459-2282
3-4	AK Cotton	303-544-0996
4-5	Laura Hirsch	303-779-0495

CALL TO REPORT

Eagle Waste Services	303-761-8387
(HOA Trash Co.—Pick-up day is <i>Thursday</i>)	
Airport Traffic Complaints	303-790-4709
Centennial City Services (24/7)	303-325-8000
Vandalism or Speeders	
Arapahoe County Sheriff's Dept.	303-795-4711
Street Light Problems	1-800-895-1999
Barking Dogs	
Arapahoe County Animal Control	303-325-8070
Pot Holes	303-325-8000
Hazardous Waste Pick-up	1-800-449-7587
Graffiti	303-795-4711
Water Breaks	303-770-8625
Sewer Back-up's	303-779-0261
Div. of Wildlife -Coyotes	303-291-7227
Noise—Fiddlers Green	303-486-8275



**SAVE THE DATE AND MARK
YOUR**

CALENDARS!

**IT IS TIME FOR THE
ANNUAL HOMESTEAD
EASTER EGG HUNT**

WHEN: SATURDAY APRIL 23rd

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

RAIN DATE: SATURDAY APRIL 30TH

WHERE: NORTH POOL GROUNDS

AGE GROUPS: 3 AND UNDER, 4-5 YR

OLDS, 6-8 YR OLDS, AND 9-11 YR OLDS

BRING YOUR OWN BASKET

AND FILLER UP!!!!!!

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FOR SALE OR RENT:

For Rent in Breckenridge: 3 bedroom, 3 bath town-home with loft right on bus route to Gondola. Enjoy fully stocked home and private parking. Call for details and availability. (303) 549-3383.

For Sale: Available June 2011. Updated Huntington model on quiet cul-de-sac. Hardwood floors; concrete tile roof, finished basement and a large backyard with ground level deck. No real estate brokers please. **Call for more details 303-949-9307.**

For Sale: Homestead house for sale by original owner. Wonderful mountain views from all levels of the house, including backyard. For more information **Call 720-841-5019, leave message.**

For Sale: Traditional Hamilton located on the north side. 4 bed/2.5 bath. Renovated in 2004. Beautiful granite kitchen, custom rock fireplace, large backyard. **Call 303-721-6218.**

For Sale: Heads up! Updated Hamilton to be listed 4/15. Mountain view from professionally landscaped backyard, 2 blocks from Homestead Elementary. Across street from South Pool. Upgraded kitchen with island seating 6, French doors from sunny dining nook to 2-level flagstone patio. Wide oak floors throughout first floor. Hickory shelving/entertainment center in family room, 80% finished brand new carpeted basement with office/family room. **Call 720-530-4593.**

For Sale: Beautifully updated Tri Level on cul-de-sac and backs to open space. A kids' dream location. 2230 finished sq ft. Email for more info and pics J5Cent@msn.com or **Call 720-482-3891.**

For Sale: Chippendale style camelback loveseat. Navy blue upholstery, \$65.00. **Please call Jerry or Trudy at 303-741-5380.**

WANTED:

Summer Nanny: Looking for a responsible enthusiastic nanny for two girls ages 6 & 8 in my Homestead Home. Starting June 9th weekdays from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm for the months of June and July. **Call 303-210-9098.**

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½ page (6"x 3½")	\$ 70.00
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Deadline is the 15th of each month preceding publication. All ads must be high resolution jpeg or tif files. Photographs to be used must be half tone. **Pay for three months at the time you place the ad and you will receive the 4th month free.**

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LANDSCAPE LOGIC

By Nancy Bauer

April is National Lawn Care Month

Brown dry turf won't turn green and lush without some tender loving care. Aeration and fertilization are the most important things homeowners can do to keep their lawn healthy in the face of any stress that may come during the dry hot summer months.

Although fertilizer should be used sparingly, lawns need supplemental nutrients to promote new leaf and root growth, and control weeds. Bluegrass and fescue lawns benefit from a twice-yearly dose of quick and slow-release nitrogen. It's best to follow up by watering ½ inch.

When you turn on your irrigation system, be sure to walk around your property a when your system is running to ensure that proper coverage is attained. Look for leaks, broken sprinkler heads, and improperly directed heads.



Dogs Spots

Straw colored grass or dead spots with dark green borders are common in lawns of dog owners. The concentrated salts in the urine of dogs, particularly female dogs, cause these problems. Water is the only thing that can reverse the effects of dog urine on grass. Do not apply baking soda, dish washing detergent, or products claiming to dissolve or leach the salts. They will be ineffective and compound the problem. Sometimes the damaged areas can not be revived, making re-



seeding necessary. The damaged spots should be heavily watered with a hose for a few days before reseeding or re sodding.

No Pile Left behind

Did you know that it is illegal not to pick up dog waste? Dog feces carried in runoff pollutes storm water and waterways. It also contains disease and parasites that can be transferred to humans. Dog owners can be fined starting @ \$50 for not picking up waste. Leaving it in plastic bags along the greenbelts is not only an eyesore, but is unlawful. There are three ways to dispose of dog waste; in a toilet, an airtight, fly tight plastic container, or in plastic airtight bag in a waste receptacle! Please be a good neighbor and head these ordinances.

Dog Bag Tip

Avoid conventional plastic bags and pick up poop in biodegradable bags, including some that might even be safe to flush. (Can't find the bags in stores? Try **biobagusa.com**)

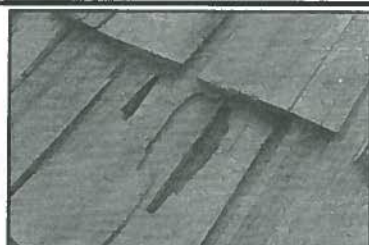


Plant Select

Plant Select is a cooperative program administered by Denver Botanic Gardens and Colorado State University in concert with horticulturists and nurseries throughout the Rocky Mountain region. The purpose of Plant Select is to seek out, identify and distribute the very best plants for landscapes and gardens from the intermountain region to the high plains.

Several plants are chosen each year that thrive in the sunny, variable conditions of Rocky Mountain gardens. Consider incorporating 'Plant Select' species in your gardens this spring! They should be available at most gardening centers.

For more information go to: www.plantselect.org



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Advertising in the Homestead Herald does not constitute an Association endorsement of services promoted. We strongly recommend before using any service homeowners contact references. Names listed have not been endorsed or evaluated in any way.

PARENTS OF HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS: Maximize your child's potential on the ACT and SAT with personalized and individual tutoring at your home and on your child's schedule. Also, give me the duties of helping your child with his/her college applications and essays so you don't have to keep bugging them! I'll make sure they do their best and complete things **ON TIME**. I'm a 23 year Homestead resident, a lawyer turned teacher, and all my kids are in college...Call Louise Williams, 303-741-2534 or email me at louisegwilliams@comcast.net.

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING SERVICE accepting new clients. Reliable and thorough w/competitive rates. Excellent references. Call Susan 303-794-6805.

RTR TREE SERVICE: Professional tree work done by Certified Arborists: fine pruning, removals and stump grinding. Free estimate. Call Wayne Ritter at 303-708-1054.

WINDOWS AND SCREENS CLEANED: inside and out, one and two story. Mirrors, light fixtures, mini blinds and shutters cleaned. Crystal Window and BlindCleaning – Bill & Jerry 303-922-4655.

CHILD CARE: Looking for high quality, licensed, loving child care & full preschool program? 20 years experience in Early Childhood education, Homestead resident with excellent references & CO State report.

Call Lucie 303-694-4066.

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OFF THE WALL (WALLPAPER REMOVAL): 20 years experience. Call Betsy for a free estimate at 303-870-3110.

BOB VESSA PLUMBING AND HEATING: Located at 1457 S. Pearl Street. Call 303-777-2136 for Plumbing, Heating, (New, Custom, Repairs, and Remodel) Hot water heaters. Sprinkler sales and service. Humidifiers. Replace and check sump pumps.

HAPPY HOUNDS AND HORSES: Helen has provided your personal standard of care to your pets in their home environment since 1991. As a Healing touch for Animals practitioner and a certified animal massage therapist, Helen brings knowledgeable care. Call 303-525-2026 or e-mail happyhoundsandhorses@yahoo.com

PIANO TUNING: Take NOTE! Don't cover your ears. Call Ed Howes Piano Company for tuning, repair and concert rentals. Tuning info call 303-986-0867 or 303-987-8044 (residence).

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I Can Provide

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| • Private tutoring tailored to your child's needs. | • Organizational strategies. |
| • Remedial skill work in all subjects and grades. | • Testing strategies and practice. |
| • Compensation strategies for students with learning differences. | • Confidential achievement assessment (K - 12) |

DAVID'S LAWN MOWING /PET SITTING SERVICE: Reliable 16 yr. old will trim and mow lawns & pet sit while you're on vacation. Lawns can be mowed all summer or vacation only.
Call David at 303-771-9958.

BABYSITTER: Red Cross certified. 14 year old 9th grader. I will play with your children, not just watch TV while they play alone. References available. **Call Mackenzie Cohen at 303-941-0024.**

LACROSSE LESSONS: 3 year varsity lacrosse player, junior at Kent Denver, looking to give lacrosse lessons for the upcoming season: defense, longstick middle, and defensive middle. **Please call Jackson at 303-842-5311.**

NANNY/BABYSITTER: 19 year old. CPR and first aid certified. Loves children and loves creating recreation for children.. Have own car for transportation. References Available.
Please call Kelzey Haun: 303-981-4940.

PET & HOUSE SITTING: Mom & daughter team will watch your pets, bring in the mail and paper and keep an eye on your home. Sixteen years in Homestead. **Call the Slaughts at 303-689-9704.**

BABYSITTER: Red Cross Certified, Freshman at CHHS, has flexible hours, experience with newborns to 12 year old children, and is very responsible. **Call Emma Sickles at 303-909-3656.**

PIANO LESSONS: An introduction to piano for children interested in learning how to play. Flexible on times, can teach at my house or yours. I have the experience to teach any new piano players the basic skills on the piano. Throughout the summer, your child will begin to master the keyboard. **Call Brittany Earle at (303) 220-8796.**

SAVING FOR FIRST CAR: I am a reliable, motivated and responsible 15½ year old CCHS student available all summer to do jobs/chores for you. I can pet sit, babysit, cut lawns and do odd jobs around the house. Excellent references! **Call Hunter 720-384-6866 or 303-221-4199. THANK YOU!**

BABYSITTER/HOUSESITTER: 19 year old college sophomore available over the summer for babysitting, housesitting or petsitting. Experienced and responsible. **Call Rachel Scharmann at 303-250-2986.**

BABYSITTER/PETSITTER: Experienced, responsible 17 year old high school junior looking for summer babysitter/nanny position. Great with kids. Can safely drive your children. References available.
Call Anne Scharmann at 303-717-3533.

POOP HAPPENS: We can help. Weekly or periodic yard service. We will pick up after your pets! Mowing and pet-care offered too.
Call Ryan & Connor at 303-771-2788.

SAVE YOUR MEMORIES! Convert your old home movies into a digital format. Be able to watch them anytime on your PC or home theater. **Call Ryan & Connor at 303-771-2788.**

BABYSITTER: Responsible 12th grader who loves kids & will make sure they have fun! I'm Red Cross Certified, have CPR and 1st aid training and have 6 years experience. **Call Kaylee Handwork at 303-791-4233.**

PATRICK'S PARTIES & DJ SERVICE: Want to add some tunes to your parties? Book your birthday or graduation party now. **Call Patrick McClellan's DJ Service at 720-838-8863.**



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BABYSITTER/PETSITTER: CPR and 1st aid certified. Responsible senior at Regis HS. I am available nights and weekends. I can safely drive your kids to sports and or lessons. **Call Maddie Rutenbeck at 303-843-9148 or 303-946-7240 cell.**

BASEBALL & SOFTBALL LESSONS/ BABYSITTER: 10th grader who can coach your kids in baseball or softball. Have taken many years of private lessons and can share these skills with your son or daughter. Been playing baseball for 10 years, the last 5 years on competitive baseball teams. I'd also like to babysit. Responsible Life boy Scout who is great with kids. Red Cross babysitting and 1st. Aid certified.. **Call Jensen Handwork at 303-791-4233.**

BABYSITTER: Experienced, Red Cross Certified, gentle, responsible, fun 15½ year old who loves toddlers and kids. Loves creative play, art, sports, and cooking. I am available during the days and nights over the summer to watch your children whenever you need a break! Homestead references available. **Call Kaitlin Harmon at 303-773-8833.**

BABYSITTER: Responsible 17 year old Cherry Creek High School junior looking for a regular babysitting job or as needed. I am a reliable older sister with years of experience as well as Red Cross certified. I am available on weekends and some week days. **Call Kinsey at (303)-901-2551**

BABYSITTER: 15 year old w/4 years experience. Red cross and first aid certified. Also available for pet sitting and house sitting on the West side only. **Please call Ashley 303-694-4066.**

BABYSITTER: A Red Cross Certified loving and fun 7th grader. Loves children, the outdoors, arts & crafts, and cooking. **Call Erin Keith at 303-290-6238.**

BABYSITTER/PETSITTER: Responsible, caring, fun 9th grader. Red Cross certified. Loves kids and pets! **Call Caitlyn Concklin at 720-200-4024.**

BABYSITTER: 15 yrs. Old. Responsible, life guard, CPR & first aid trained. **Call Maddie at 303-843-0924.**

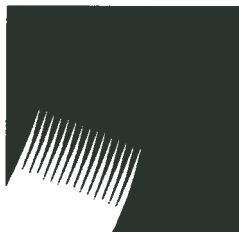
PETSITTING: 13 year old who is great with small & medium dogs. Gives excellent care, love and attention! In your home or mine. References available. **Call Elise at 720-333-8710.**

PETSITTER: Responsible 10th grader who loves animals. Would love to take care of your pets while you are away on vacation or for the day. **Call Ben Squires at 303-220-8441.**

PETSITTER: Responsible 7th grader with experience; loves all animals. Will walk your dog, feed your pets, and/or just play with them while you are away. **Please call Matthew at 303-470-3931.**

NANNY/BABYSITTER: 15½ year old – CPR trained and Red Cross certified with 3 years experience. Mature and responsible. Great with babies. Let me help you at the pool! References are available. **Call Ellen at 303-740-8183.**

BABYSITTER: Looking for a responsible, fun, caring summer babysitter to entertain and care for your kids this summer or nights out? If so, you have found what you are looking for. CPR certified, Red Cross trained, and very experienced. You won't be disappointed! **Call Claire at 720-529-1778.**



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CHERRY CREEK SCHOOLS

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 10-11

Spring Break, Mar 28-Apr 1, 2011

BUDGET CONCERNS CONTINUE

The Cherry Creek School District is closely following action at the State Capitol, where Governor Hickenlooper has proposed a budget that would cut \$375 million from public education – including \$21 million from Cherry Creek Schools – for the 2011-2012 school year.

“These proposed cuts, when combined with previous years’ rescissions and funding that is below Amendment 23 requirements, have a compounded effect that could total more than \$51 million in reduced, anticipated revenue over three years,” said Superintendent Mary Chesley.

During the past three years, the district has reduced its budget by \$33 million without laying off teachers or increasing class size. But the Governor’s proposed reductions in state funding, estimated to be approximately \$500 per student, will undoubtedly mean greater difficulty in preserving those things we believe contribute to our students’ success.

More detail on how Governor Hickenlooper’s proposed budget would affect Cherry Creek Schools is available at <http://www.ccsd.k12.co.us/News/BudgetConcerns/>

SPECIAL EDUCATION MEETS STUDENTS’ DIVERSE NEEDS

Serving the district’s 6,000 students with special needs is the top priority for John Stanek, Executive Director of Student Achievement Services, and his staff in the Cherry Creek School District.

At the regular Board of Education meeting on Feb. 14, Stanek presented an overview of federal legislation that relates to Special Education and explained what that means to the district and its students. Those students, who range from preschool to age 21, have a wide spectrum of special needs, ranging from moderate to severe.

Stanek explained that his goal is to bring resources to those students as much as possible, instead of taking the students to the resources. “We try to meet students’ needs in neighborhood schools, and if not there, at another school in close proximity so they matriculate with their siblings as well as their neighbors,” he said.

Read more about Special Education at <http://www.ccsd.k12.co.us/News/SpecEd/>

YOU’RE INVITED!

Cherry Creek High School

- Apr 7-9 All State Band
- Apr 13 6:30 pm, Speech and Debate Performance Night
- Apr 14 8:45 am, PTCO Meeting
- Apr 14 7 pm, Senior Orchestra Recital
- Apr 21-29 West Area Art Show
- Apr TBA 7 pm, NHS Induction
- Apr 26-30 7 pm, Spring Play, (matinee on 30th at 2 pm)

ACC ADVISOR

Sheds and other accessory buildings. We have more and more sheds being constructed and here are some tips for what the ACC looks for when approving an application for these types of buildings

First and foremost, all sheds and accessory buildings require ACC approval.

Design: These buildings must be designed to look and feel similar to the house.

Materials: Our homes have wood siding and so should accessory buildings. If the siding on the house is positioned horizontally, then the siding on the shed should be hung horizontally. Some homes have vertical siding; in that case the shed should have vertical siding too. Roofs on these accessory buildings should be the same material as the house roof.

Paint: Any sheds or accessory buildings must be painted the same as the house or complimentary to the house paint colors.

Size: There is a maximum size of 10 feet x 8 feet and no higher than 8 feet.

Location: Sheds and accessory buildings should be placed to be of minimum distraction within the yard. They need to be screened by a fence or shrubbery and should be located at the side and back of the yard. Some sheds within our community seem to have migrated more towards the front of the yards and some are extremely conspicuous sticking up above a privacy fence. These are not approved locations.

Prefab shed products are not approved.

SOUTH SUBURBAN NEWS

Cooley Lake Nature Walks 5 yrs-Adult, Explore wildlife area on a naturalist-guided walk **FREE**, Limited public access to protect wildlife. 2nd Sat each month and May 8 (Mother's Day Hike), Jun 19 (Father's Day Hike) 9:30-11 am. Call 303-730-1022 to register. **South Platte Park** 3000 W. Carson Dr. North of Mineral, west of Santa Fe Drive www.ssprd.org

Lone Tree Tennis Carnival Sum-

mer Opening Celebrate the opening of the summer tennis season with our **FREE** Tennis Carnival. Learn about all our spring/summer activities, programs and tournaments at all our tennis facilities. Our professional staff will be on-court assisting you and your family in a variety of fun and exciting activities. Please pre-register so we have adequate staff available. Sat, Apr 30 11 am-2 pm **Lone Tree Tennis Center at Lone Tree Golf Club**, 9810 Sunningdale Blvd. Lone Tree, CO 80124 303-708-3500 www.ssprd.org

Senior Health and Resource Day Attend this **FREE** event and gain knowledge about local senior resources and how to improve or maintain your fitness. Exhibitors will have helpful information to improve your total well being. Tue, May 3, 10 am – 1 pm, **Goodson Recreation Center** 6315 S. University Blvd, Centennial, 80121 and at Wed, May 4 10 am – 1 pm, **Buck Recreation Center** 2004 W. Powers Littleton 80120. For more information, please e-mail the program coordinator at LindaAl@sspr.org

Egg Hunt Sat, April 23, 1:30 pm Sheridan Recreation Center 3325 West Oxford Ave. Sheridan, CO 80236, 303-761-2241 Children 10 and under will enjoy egg hunt. Please bring your own basket. **FREE!**

ARAPAHOE COUNTY NEWS

Seniors invited to workshop series on managing concerns about falls

Eight-week series offers tips to increase activity and reduce fall risk factors

Aurora, Colo. – Have you turned down a chance to go out with family or friends because you were concerned about falling? Have you cut down on a favorite activity because you might fall?

Fear of falling can be just as dangerous as falling itself. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in severe physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater. Many older adults also experience increased isolation and depression when they limit their interactions with family and friends.

Arapahoe County Senior Resources, in partnership with Tri-County Health Department and The Medical Center of Aurora, would like to invite older adults to an eight-week, no-cost series designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels.

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls will take place at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, April 20 through June 8 at the Medical Center of Aurora's North Campus, 700 Potomac St. in Aurora. Classes will be held in the Lower Level meeting rooms. A kick-off and registration meeting will take place 10 a.m., April 6 at this location for those who are interested. A workbook is provided and refreshments are served.

Participants will learn to set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and learn simple exercises to increase strength and balance. The series can help people improve their quality of life and remain independent.

Please call Linda Haley with Arapahoe County Senior Resources at 303-738-8089 to register to attend or for more information.

CENTENNIAL NEWS

Centennial receives results of first census

In 2010, residents of Centennial completed the first census since the City's incorporation in 2001. The official population count for Centennial is 100,377 based upon the 2010 US Census. Centennial is the tenth largest City in the State of Colorado.

"The stakes were very high for Centennial to complete the 2010 Census. I would like to thank all of the residents that took the time to fill out the questionnaire to help better establish and define our City and our great residents," said Centennial Mayor Cathy Noon.

Having a population of more than 100,000 is important for receiving state and federal funds. Every person counted means more money for schools, roads and senior services. Census figures help determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. State legislative districts are redrawn after each census to ensure equal representation.

To view the information provided by the US Census Bureau visit: <http://2010.census.gov/news/releases/operations/cb11-cn39.html>

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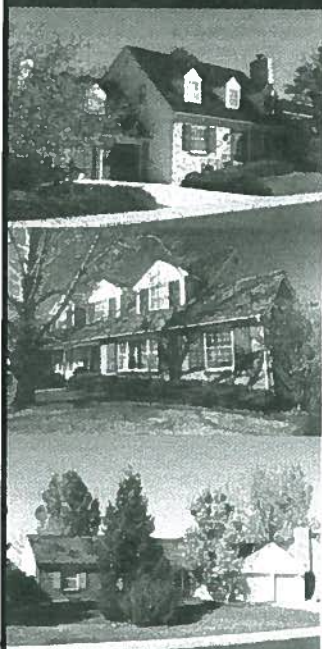
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