



Cold Day, Warm Welcome!

Baby, it may be cold outside, but this photo of resident Tom Ryan’s home and backyard is certainly warm and welcoming! Happy New Year!

Love life behind the lens? Consider submitting your photos to *Life at Ken-Caryl* Editor Allison Rager at allisonr@kcranch.org for publishing consideration in an upcoming issue.

PARKS & REC	ELECTION NEWS	STAFF SPOTLIGHT	RANGER FIELD NOTES	COVENANT CLIPS
Recycle Your Christmas Tree!	Now Accepting 2024 MA Board Candidate Applications!	Leslie Davis: Celebrating 40 Years of Service	Dog Waste in Open Space	Thank You and Happy New Year, Ken-Caryl!
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Manager’s Column:
A Year in Review

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Fairy Tale Endings:
Helping Pets Find Their Fur-ever Homes!
Sponsored by CCU



PAGE 8

NEW! Comedy Night at the Ranch House on Jan. 26!

They say that laughter is the best medicine, so get your healthy dose of giggles at our inaugural Comedy Night at the Ranch House on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m.! Your entertaining evening will be expertly hosted by the witty Matt Greenwaldt. Don’t miss out on this laughter-filled event!

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for an unforgettable night of comedy! Tickets are available for purchase online on the Special Events page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org.

Doors open at 6 p.m.; show starts promptly at 7 p.m. Food is included in the ticket price and will be catered by Big Belly Brothers BBQ. Alcohol available for purchase. ID check required at entry.

** This is 21+ event **

Interested in sponsoring this event? Contact Kate McDonald at katem@kcranch.org.

A Year in Review

By Brian Yowell, General Manager

Happy New Year, Ken-Caryl!

I can’t believe another year has come and gone. However, 2024 isn’t going to be like any other year... it’s the 50th anniversary of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association!

First and foremost, I want to take this opportunity to thank all our amazing staff throughout 2023 for all the hard work that goes into supporting this community! Be it the daily operations of the business, architectural and covenant control, management of our most valued asset – our open space - marketing, or taking care of our historic Ken-Caryl Equestrian Center, so much love, dedication and perseverance is put into everything we do.

It’s with extreme gratitude that I extend thanks and appreciation for all our volunteers! Without them, this community wouldn’t be what it is today. From our MA Board of Directors to our committees, task forces and volunteer groups, we couldn’t do it without you. Thank you for your continued service.

Of course, without our residents and businesses, this all would be for not. Thank you for the support, feedback and continued passion for Ken-Caryl Ranch!

Last year was a year of projects, learning and planning for our future. Improvements this past year include the dredging of Brannon Gearhart pond, replacement of The Ranch House parking lot, sidewalk and pedestrian access improvements, initial phases of perimeter fence installation and staining, installation of a shade structure at The Ranch House Park, the near completion of the Ken Caryl Avenue trail in The Valley, and so much more.

To continue to gain community input on important topics, we completed a composting survey, signage survey, open space memorial overlook survey and an Equestrian Center survey... and that’s just the start. Look for additional opportunities to voice your opinion and give us input on what you, the community, want.

Some projects we have to look forward to this year include the completion of the Ken-Caryl Trail at the entrance to The Valley, median enhancement, continued improvements to the Equestrian Center facilities, additional perimeter fence replacement and staining, community sign maintenance and initial replacement, the planning for Brannon Gearhart, Settlement, and Bradford playground improvements, the development of Ken-Caryl Ranch landscaping brand/guidelines for our medians, entrances, and common areas and so much more!

Bidding farewell to 2023 and welcoming 2024, I thank each one of you. Happy New Year!

As always, please reach out with any questions, suggestions, or concerns you may have - now, or in the future at 303-979-1876, ext. 113 or at briany@kcranch.org.

Continuing to serve the Ken-Caryl Ranch Community isn’t only a pleasure, it’s my passion.

At your service,

Brian Yowell



TRASH TALK

2024 Recycling Update

2024 Recycling Update

Waste Connections will continue to provide trash and recycling collection services to Ken-Caryl residents this year. At its Oct. 24, 2023, meeting, the MA Board approved a motion for Waste Connections to continue to provide weekly trash service collection but to change from the current weekly recycling service to bi-weekly recycling starting on May 1.

Beginning May 1, Waste Connections services will include weekly collection of up to 6 cans or bags of household trash AND up to 6 bags or bundles of household yard debris. Recycling will transition to a bi-weekly schedule and all recyclable items must be placed in a Waste Connections provided receptacle. Additional recycling receptacles will be available to residents who want them for \$6/month per additional receptacle.

The Master Association is also looking into alternative recycling tote and receptacle sizes to accommodate resident garage room and sizing.

Stay tuned for additional information on the changes in upcoming communications from the Master Association!

Residents can expect weekly trash and recycling services pick-ups to continue on their regularly scheduled pick-up days until May 1, when bi-weekly recycling will officially begin. If you have any questions, please contact MA General Manager Brian Yowell at briany@kcranch.org.



January

All meetings will be held at the Ranch House unless otherwise noted.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 Ranch House & Community Center Closed New Year's Day	2	3	4 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	5	6
7	8 6 p.m. MD Special Board Meeting	9 6 p.m. Open Space Committee Meeting	10	11 7:30 a.m. Architectural Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	12	13
14	15	16 6 p.m. MA Board Meeting	17 4:30 p.m. Covenant Control Committee Meeting	18 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	19	20
21	22	23 6 p.m. MD Board Meeting	24	25 7:30 a.m. Architectural Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	26 6 p.m. Comedy Night *21+ only	27
28	29	30	31 4 p.m. Election Committee Meeting			

Information regarding audio and video conferencing options for public meetings will be communicated as it becomes available. See website at www.ken-carylranh.org for details.



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Thank You and Happy New Year, Ken-Caryl!

By Darci Cross, Community Administrator

Hello Ken-Caryl! As we embrace the new year, I would like to send you all the very best as we head into 2024! I have enjoyed working with so many of you over the past year, and look forward to the coming new year. I would also like to send a huge thank you to all of you who continue to maintain your property and who appreciate and embrace the Ken-Caryl Ranch rules and regulations that govern our community.

Many residents were busy throughout the year working on home improvements that have made a difference in their lives and enhanced Ken-Caryl Ranch. Looking back through the past year, approximately 1,100 covenant violations were addressed. The majority of those fell into the four categories of landscape maintenance, house painting, driveways and rubbish and debris. In addition, more than 680 architectural submittals were reviewed. I expect the submittals will continue steadily as spring approaches and the weather warms.

Again, a big thank you for welcoming me and allowing me the opportunity to do my part in keeping Ken-Caryl Ranch a wonderful place to call home. I hope 2024 brings many amazing opportunities to you all. As always, remember to be kind. A simple gesture of a wave or a hello can make a big impact in someone's life.

Happy New Year,
Darci



PICTURE THIS! - Hey There, Big Guy!

Resident photo contributor Adriana Wiersma snapped and shared this photo of a handsome buck – from a safe distance of course – in the Ken-Caryl Valley.



◆ BULLETIN BOARD

District Board Budget Update

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Metropolitan District will hold a special Board meeting on Monday, Jan. 8 at 6 p.m. at the Ranch House. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the budget and certify the mill levy. The 2024 Draft Budget can be found at www.ken-carylranh.org under *About Us*, then Financials.

The budget adoption is delayed this year due to a state legislature special session in response to the defeat of Proposition HH. The purpose of the special session was to develop legislation that would provide property tax relief in the current year, but would not significantly undermine the public services of governmental entities that rely on property taxes for their operation. The state legislature subsequently approved Senate Bill 23B-001, which decreases the residential assessment rate from 6.765% to 6.7% and increases the residential property exempt amount from \$15,000 to \$55,000.

Senate Bill 23B-001 also changed the deadlines for approval of budgets and certification of mill levies. For the 2024 budget year only:

- The deadline for the Assessor to provide final certifications of values is extended from Dec. 15, 2023, to Jan. 3;
- The deadline for the District to certify its mill levies is extended from Dec. 15 2023, to Jan. 10; and
- The deadline to adopt the budget is extended from Dec. 31, 2023, to Jan. 10.

Therefore, the District has amended its calendar to revise the current draft 2024 Budget and meet the new deadlines for submittal. Residents are encouraged to review the budget and provide feedback to the Board by emailing mdboard@kcranch.org or attend the special meeting on Jan. 8. If you have questions, please contact District Manager, Traci Wieland at traciw@kcranch.org or 303-979-1876, ext.136.

◆ HEARD AT THE STALL

Equestrian Center Community Survey Results

Heeeeyyy neighbors! Thank you to all residents who participated in our Equestrian Center Community Survey to collect feedback on the direction of the facility. The survey ran from Oct. 30 - Nov. 17. The goal was to better understand how important this neighborhood amenity is to our community in terms of aesthetics, cost and identity, and how our rich and diverse community can enjoy more engagement and connection to the Equestrian Center. To view survey results and analysis, please visit the Equestrian Center page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org.

Questions? Please contact Master Association General Manager Brian Yowell at briany@kcranch.org.



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Dog Waste in Open Space

By Sean Warren, Open Space Manager

Dog waste is an unsightly mess! Because dog food contains preservatives, the ensuing waste does not biodegrade easily and those little piles stick around for weeks. Dog waste also poses a health problem for people and children walking around it. When you consider that an estimated 68 million Americans own a dog, the overall impact is significant.

According to an article published in the *Atlantic Highlands Herald* in January 2003, an estimated 40% of dog owners say they do not pick up after their dog, either because they feel the waste will eventually go away or it is too much of a hassle for them to pick up. Yet, it is to the benefit for human health that pet waste is disposed of correctly. Pet waste carries diseases that can cause humans to get sick. Just a single ounce of dog scat contains about 23 million microorganisms of bacteria, which is enough to cause sickness in humans. When infected dog droppings are left on the ground, the eggs of the roundworms and other parasites can linger in the soil for years. As a result, anyone who comes in contact with the soil also comes in contact with the infected eggs. Children run the greatest risk of infection because they're prone to playing in the dirt at the park or playground and then put their hands in their mouths or rub their eyes with their hands. But even a group of people playing Frisbee or touch football in an open area could be in danger. The germs carried by your pet can also cause diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea, dehydration, fever or a cough.

In an effort to address this problem, the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association Board of Directors adopted Open Space Rule #5 in June 2002, which states **"Owners or handlers must pick up after their household pets."** If a ranger views a dog owner deciding not to pick up waste after their pet in the open space, the ranger will issue a contact notice to them. If the violation happens a second time, the user may be sent to a hearing with the Master Association Board of Directors.

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association and Metropolitan District have conveniently installed dog dispensers and trash cans in various locations for dog owners along the trails to use and it is encouraging to note that based on staff observation, these waste stations are being used by many people. We want to thank those dog owners for helping to keep the open space, green belts and parks free of pet waste.

One final note, some folks just don't finish the job. After "packaging" your dog's waste in a plastic bag please be sure to carry the package out of open space and dispose of it properly. There is no "poop fairy" that comes in and cleans up in the middle of the night or community resources assigned to patrolling the trails and collecting these packages like the curbside trash pick-up at your house. Please be a responsible dog owner and complete the job, start to finish.

The Rangers receive more complaints about dog waste in open space during the winter months than any other time of year. Dog piles on top of the snow are very conspicuous and during the growing season vegetation tends to hide dog waste. Despite the fact that dog waste is more visible in the winter it is still a year-round problem. While most people have probably noticed this problem along our trails, you may not be aware that the rangers find dog waste dumped in open space next to private property. This is especially aggravating because it is obvious that the adjacent homeowner does not want his dog's waste littering his yard, but apparently thinks it's perfectly acceptable to litter open space with this waste! Hopefully the information in this article will help people understand the specific problems with dog waste and compel dog owners to be more diligent about picking up after their pets.



Ski Exercises to Get Ready for the Season

By Bob Kannaka, Resident, Ken Caryl Physical Therapy

Ski season is here! It's time to enjoy the splendor Colorado offers with its multitude of dynamic resorts throughout the state. The satisfaction of cutting cleanly through perfectly groomed trails or bouncing off fresh Rocky Mountain powder has arrived. Are we ready? Can we keep up with friends and family or do we need to break on the final run down Winter Park's Mary Jane Territory? Can we conquer the back bowls of Vail or do we get listless halfway down Blue-Sky Basin? If any of us feel we are not in peak fitness shape, here are a few tips to get ready for the season.

The key components for a primed ski season body are: cardio fitness, strength training and flexibility.

Cardio Fitness: Get to the Ken-Caryl Community Center to use the elliptical trainer or rowing machine. Try the stair climber or stationary bicycle. You need to get to 50 – 70% of your maximum heart rate to get moderate exercise intensity benefits. You will burn roughly between 300 – 600 calories/hour while skiing. You expend about 200 calories/20 minutes of running at 5 mph on the treadmill. You should be able to work out for 40 minutes at a moderate exercise intensity in the gym to equal a morning of skiing in the mountains. If you're skiing a full day, you should be able to perform two 40-minute sessions in a day. Remember, you're at higher altitudes in the mountains!

Strength Training: There are many machines and free weights at the Community Center to strength train your upper and lower body muscles as well as your core. Squats and lunges help your quadriceps. Deadlifts, step ups and hamstring curls get your hamstrings. Wall sits, single leg bridges, thigh squeezes,

side lunges and calf raises get your thighs and lower legs. Bicep curls, triceps extensions and rows train your upper body. Planks, supine bicycles, back extensions and Russian twists train your core.

Flexibility: You'll need to stretch the glutes, hamstrings, hip flexors, calves and upper back. Perform the runner's stretch, the pyramid pose, the piriformis stretch, supine trunk rotation stretch and the calf/plantar fascia stretch to get all these muscles.

It wouldn't hurt to get some plyometrics in to prepare for the rigors of skiing as well. Start with your feet together and jump diagonally 45 degrees forward with both feet. Then jump 45 degrees the other direction. This simulates your skiing motions and will prepare your muscles ballistically.

Have fun out there and remember you can always contact your Ken Caryl Physical Therapist for all your rehabilitation needs here in The Valley at 720-231-1602 or email bobkannaka@msn.com.

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Blood Drive Helps to Save Lives! Next Community Blood Drive, Jan. 23

Looking to make a positive (+) community contribution? Then consider donating blood at Vitalant's Blood Drive on Jan. 23, 2024 from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Dakota Lodge. To register, visit Vitalant's website at <https://donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa>, then click on the Use My Location button, and select Jan. 23, 2024 from the date drop down menu.

Need help with scheduling? Contact Jen Gonyea at 925-457-2911, or Vitalant at 877-25-VITAL.

PICTURE THIS! - Festive Fauna

This deer enjoys a respite and the festive holiday decorations in Ken-Caryl resident Ken Earl's yard last month.



MA Board Summary

On Dec. 19, 2023, the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association Board held a regular meeting and discussed the following items:

- Update to the Master Association Bylaws for Board of Directors Membership Requirements.
 - Conservation/Sensitive Resources Plan A. Conservation Plan Task Force
- The Board passed the following motions:

- a. Motion A: A motion to approve the 2024 Master Association Committee Membership for the Architectural Committee, Community Planning Committee, Historical Society and Covenant Committee.
- b. Motion B: A motion to approve Rilla Reinsma for the Open Space Committee.
- c. Motion C: A motion for a second round of applicants for the Open Space Committee.
- d. Motion D: A motion for a second round of applicants for the Firewise Committee and Covenant Control Committee to fill additional open spaces the MA didn't receive applicants for.

Interested in Advertising in Life at Ken-Caryl?

Advertising information is available at www.ken-carylran.org under the Community & News section.

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Now Accepting 2024 MA Board Candidate Applications!

The next MA Board election to fill two open seats will take place in March 2024. The expectations of a board member are attendance at monthly MA

Board meetings, Joint Study Sessions and liaison meetings as assigned. Board members are also expected to communicate regularly and proficiently via email. Additional time or meetings may be necessary to fulfill the responsibilities as a board member. This year, the two elected board officials will serve three-year terms.

Interested in throwing your hat into the ring? Complete an MA Board

Candidate application via the Board of Directors page of our website at www.ken-carylran.org. Applications must be submitted online only and will be accepted now through Friday, Jan. 26 at 5 p.m.

Questions? Contact MA General Manager Brian Yowell at briany@kcranch.org.

PICTURE THIS! - Deck the Halls and Walls!

The majestic Manor House all decked out in its holiday finest! Photo courtesy of resident photo contributor Tom Ryan.



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MY HUMANS' NAMES ARE:
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MY BREED IS:
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I LOVE IT WHEN:
I get up on my human's bed when I'm not supposed to

I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT MY:
Big Barker bed and my 4 snack times a day with 4 different snacks

I'M KNOWN FOR:
My award-winning personality

I'M ALWAYS GETTING IN TROUBLE FOR:
Wanting to chase squirrels and rabbits and always wanting extra snacks

MY SECRET TALENT IS:
I rarely bark

MY PERFECT DAY:
Breakfast and multiple walks and multiple snacks and playing with my toys followed by dinner and dessert. (Just another wonderful day for this 12-year-old!)

LIFE IS RUFF WHEN:
I hear heavy rain and thunder



Hi, my name is

CHARLIE

Submit your dog to be featured in a 2023 edition of Life at Ken-Caryl's "Ruff Living" column at <https://ken-carylran.org/submit-to-ruff-living/>.

Submissions are first-come, first-served!



Celebrating the Season and Our Staff!

In December, the Master Association and Metropolitan District honored, thanked and celebrated all staff members with a holiday luncheon at the Ranch House. Staff were treated to lunch, games, prizes and merriment to end the year on a high note and to recognize all team members for their hard work, dedication to serving our residents and commitment to their jobs.

In addition, several team members were honored for their years of service to both the Master Association and the Metropolitan District at this year’s celebratory holiday event. The Master Association and the Metropolitan District would also like to recognize the amazing commitment of some of our long-term staff members who are celebrating upcoming service anniversaries:

Master Association:

Gary Norton, 25 years

Metropolitan District:

Leslie Davis, 40 years
Richard Plack, 25 years
Lorraine Holt, 15 years
Trevor Staley, 15 years
Greg Akin, 10 years
Janna Albers, 10 years
Lizz Brock, 10 years

Timothy Erwin, 10 years
Kathryn Jensen-Mines, 10 years
Devin Van Treeck, 10 years
Cynthia Briggs, 5 years
Barb McGuire, 5 years
Anna Petterson, 5 years



2023 MA and MD staff holiday luncheon.



Richard Plack, Parks Director, was honored for his 25 years of service to the Metropolitan District.



Park Ranger Gary Norton was honored at the event for his 25 years of service to the Master Association.



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6

Life at Ken-Caryl

January 3, 2024



Leslie Davis:
Celebrating 40
Years of Service

By Victoria DeSair, Administrative Analyst

Every year, the Ken-Caryl Ranch Metropolitan District recognizes employee service anniversaries, but for the first time, the District has an employee who has worked for Ken-Caryl Ranch for 40 years! Congratulations to Tennis Pro Leslie Davis!

Leslie started serving the Ken-Caryl Ranch community right out of college and has spent her entire career teaching tennis to generations of community members. She has the record for the longest running service to the Ken-Caryl community, ever!

“We are all lucky to have an opportunity to work with Leslie, feel the impacts of her infectious smile, and see how her love of tennis translates to our community members,” said District Manager Traci Wieland.

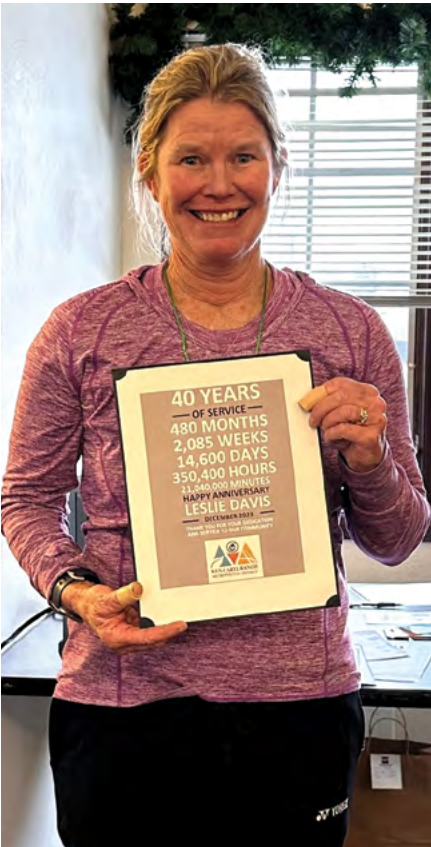
Tennis Director Robert Campbell has had the pleasure of knowing Leslie for more than 30 years. “When my wife, Chiarme’, and I moved to Colorado way back in 1991, Coach Leslie had already been working here for nearly 10 years,” said Robert. “At that time, the Community Center had just changed from the private ‘Valley Racquet Club’ to a Ken-Caryl facility. We immediately noticed this bright light named Leslie Davis! She always greeted us with a warm smile, and I swear, I’ve never seen her without it in all these years! She exudes positive energy and uplifts everyone around her. After 40 years of teaching tennis, she is now teaching the children of kids that she taught! Indeed, she taught our daughter, Leah Marie, and it is my hope that she teaches tennis to our grandchildren!”

“Leslie is so much more than an amazing tennis coach to her students,” said retired Tennis Coordinator Judy Anderson. “She is also friend, mentor and counselor to the hundreds of tennis players who have been on the court with her over the years.”

“Look at all the children who are now adults whom Coach Leslie introduced to the lifelong sport who are still playing and still love playing tennis,” said long-time resident Judy Wong Greco. “I am one of those adults that she introduced the sport of tennis. I would not play tennis for years at a time for various reasons, but when I came back on the court, Coach Leslie would welcome me back with

open arms! My whole family has taken lessons from Leslie over the years.”

Thank you, Leslie, for your dedication and continued service to the Ken-Caryl Ranch community!



Leslie Davis, 40 years of service to Ken-Caryl Ranch.



Leslie Davis teaching tennis at the Ranch House.



Leslie Davis, left, at a ribbon cutting ceremony with Judy Anderson.

Happy Holidays

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Fairy Tale Ending

Helping our furry friends find homes.

Every adorable, adoptable resident of Foothills Animal Shelter lacks only one thing: a happy home. Please consider adopting one of this week's featured pets:



Dixie (286043) –

Dixie is a 6-year-old female American Pit Bull Terrier who is easy to leash, walks politely and appreciates time for sniffing. This gentle girl will give you her paw and sit for treats. She played with another sociable dog at the shelter and may benefit from a canine pal. Her adoption fee has been waived thanks to the support of staff or volunteers who have sponsored her.



Maddie (288622) –

Maddie is an 8-year-old female cat. Sweet, fluffy Maddie is affectionate with her family and quick to warm up to new people. She enjoys head-rubs, lap time and toys that she can grab onto and kick. Maddie is recommended for homes where she will be the only feline.

To find out more about Dixie, Maddie and other deserving pets in need of good homes, visit www.FoothillsAnimalShelter.org.

Sign Up for the e-News!

To sign up for the e-News, go to www.ken-carylranh.org and fill out the e-News sign-up form on the home page or send an email to allisonr@kcranch.org.

Ken-Caryl Ranch COMEDY NIGHT

January 26th, 2024 - 7 PM

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21+ Show

Dinner included in price; alcohol available for purchase.



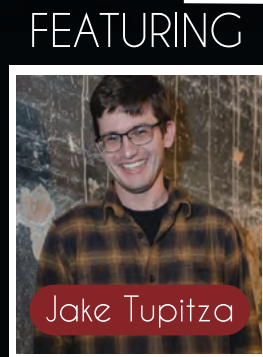
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Ages: 6-11 years old
When: Wednesdays, January 17th-
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303-979-1876, ext. 131

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Aquatics and Community Supervisor
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Janet Robbins
Fitness Coordinator
janetr@kcranch.org
303-979-2233, ext. 185

Ageless & Unstoppable
Due to its immense popularity, Ageless & Unstoppable, Programming for Seniors, Retirees and Adults, will continue in 2024! Join us for fun, educational and entertaining adult-oriented programming from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Shaffer Room at the Ranch House on the first Tuesday of each month through the end of the year! The next program is scheduled for Jan. 2, where participants will relax, have fun, engage in card games and decompress from the holidays! No registration required. For additional program information, please visit the Adults & Seniors page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org.

NEW! Comedy Night
They say that laughter is the best medicine, so get your healthy dose of giggles at our inaugural Comedy Night at the Ranch House on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m.! Your entertaining evening will be expertly hosted by the witty Matt Greenwaldt. Don't miss out on this laughter-filled event! Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for an unforgettable night of comedy! Tickets available for purchase, while supplies list, via the Special Events page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org. Doors open at 6 p.m.; show starts promptly at 7 p.m. Food is included in the ticket price and will be catered by Big Belly Brothers BBQ. Alcohol available for purchase. *ID check required at entry. **This is 21+ event **

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Youth Programs

Storytime at the Ranch House
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Babytime
Please join us with your little one for Babytime at the Ranch House from 9:30-10 a.m. in the Bradford Room at the Ranch House, followed by Storytime at 10:15 a.m. This program is designed to help the littlest minds develop and grow. Bounce, sing, rhyme and read with your baby!

Art After School Class
Due to its popularity, we've added a second session of Art After School! Art After School is a class focusing on the extension of art skills learned at home or school, in a fun, creative, smaller group environment for kids ages 6-11. The second session will run immediately after the first on Jan. 17 – March 13 from 5:30-6:45 p.m. at the Ranch House. Come with a love and interest in art and leave with improved drawing ability to see things like an artist. A final art exhibit for families to showcase learned principles of art in the participants' creations is planned for the last class. For more information and to register, please visit our website at www.ken-carylranh.org and click on the Register icon located at the top right corner of your screen.

Santa Claus Shop Toy Drive Helps Kids in Need!

Thanks to the generosity of our community, residents and realtors Brian Lee, Amy Bassett, Greg Milano and Tara Byrnes with Colorado Home Realty (CHR), were able to collect an entire car full of toys in support of their annual Toy Drive in conjunction with the Denver Santa Claus Shop (DSCS).

A full box of toys along with 3 large over-sized bags and 4 black trash bags

were picked up from the Community Center, and 1 full box and 1 full bag were collected from the Ranch House. The toys were delivered earlier this month on the opening day of the Denver Santa Claus Shop (DSCS). As always, the DSCS was extremely grateful for your generosity!

The Denver Santa Claus Shop invites parents who are referred to DSCS from Denver Human Services, Social Service Agencies and Community Partners to shop for toys for their children ages 0-11 in December each year. The toys

are then displayed in a shop, and parents are given a voucher for toys. They can then choose specific toys for their children, which is a gift in itself for both! Many of these children may not receive a gift this holiday season if it wasn't for the DSCS and generous resident donations.

"We are grateful to the Ken-Caryl community for your generous donations to the Denver Santa Claus Shop," said Brian, Amy, Greg and Tara. "Your kindness will bring many smiles this season." Giving Back!

Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

When you're ready to take down your Christmas tree, the Parks Department is now accepting Christmas trees through Jan. 21 at Brannon Gearhart Park for mulching! Just drop your trees off, stripped of any tinsel, lights, or decorations for repurposing them into mulch.



A full car of donated toys from the Santa Claus Shop Toy Drive.



This year's Santa Claus Shop, which helps provide toys for children in need this holiday season.



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Making it Feel More Like Home for the Holidays for Kids in Foster Care

Resident Kate Young honors late friend and foster parent’s legacy by helping continue donation collection for foster children

By Allison Rager, Editor

’Tis the season for giving, and this seasonal sentiment couldn’t be more meaningful for children in foster care. Six years ago, foster parents Troy and Mark Kruse founded a charity drive to collect, wrap and deliver basic care items and gifts to foster children in need through their Kruse Holiday Foster Care Children Donation Drive. Following Troy’s unexpected passing earlier this year, friends Jessica Glaeser and Ken-Caryl Valley resident Kate Young stepped in – and up - to honor their late friend’s legacy and to continue the collection drive to make the holiday season – and spirits – a little brighter for foster children.

“Mark has been our realtor and friend for 12 years,” explained Kate. “When he and Troy fostered to adopt their two children, they reached out to friends for donations [to help] the foster kids in their own children’s older brother’s foster home and the initiative has grown each year. [Following Troy’s unexpected passing] Mark didn’t think the event would happen. Two friends, me and Jessica Glaeser, stepped up to help make sure it would happen by soliciting donations, sorting items, organizing an offsite location, interviewing foster homes, mobilizing volunteers and making it all work.”

As part of Kate’s donation collection efforts, she reached out to the Ken-Caryl community for help via Facebook in early November. And, the Ken-Caryl community stepped up, as donations soon began to pour in.

“I had posted our biggest needs on the *KC Neighbors [Facebook page] in past years and had gotten a car full of donations, but this year, the response from the neighborhood was truly overwhelming, with two garage-fulls... [of donations],” exclaimed Kate whose front porch and driveway were piled high with generous community donations almost every day for a month! “Julienta Trebb, who lives in The Plains... offered up her house as a Plains drop-off point and then helped deliver all of the items to the charity. Several neighbors also offered to volunteer with the sorting and the event.”

Once the donations were collected, volunteers from several communities

stepped up once again. Under the direction of volunteer coordinator Jessica Glaser, Kate and her team of “Santas” immediately got to work! More than 60 volunteers worked as “Shopping Santas”, “Wrapping Santas” and a “Santa’s Sleigh Organizer,” responsible for delivering the gifts to each foster child’s home. According to Kate, who served as an “Engineer Santa” responsible for the event’s donations organization, event logistics and mechanics, volunteers worked tirelessly to purchase any additional needed items to ensure each child received basic care items and something special for Christmas.

“After wondering if and how we were going to be able to make this event a reality this year, the overwhelming generosity of the community helped push the three of us to believe it wasn’t just going to happen, it was going to be our best year yet,” said Kate. And it was. This year, thanks in part to the generosity of the Ken-Caryl Community, a total of 32 children ranging from babies to age 16, received basic care items such as socks, underwear, footwear and clothing, and one special gift to help make the season a little brighter.

“Many of these kids end up leaving their homes on short notice, sometimes with nothing,” said Kate. “Other times, [they leave] with only a garbage bag full of belongings. Many have said they’ve never received a gift before in their lives. Each year, we ask the kids to make a wish list and everyone gets at least one item from their wish list. And we add to that [list to include] clothes, coats, footwear, books, games, and school supplies and even a suitcase to transport their belongings to make their Christmas away from home a little brighter.”

Kate also added that many of the basic item donations, such as socks, underwear, footwear and clothing, also help to ease the financial burden of foster families who have opened up their homes and their hearts to foster children in need. It is a collected effort to help the kids, their foster parents and a way to “foster” community and holiday spirit!

“For participants, I think contributing to this event fosters a sense of purpose and giving for donors and volunteers,” said Kate who was overwhelmed by our community’s incredible response. “On a community level, it is like a giant friendship builder. We all come together, make connections and strengthen our bonds. But the best part? The kids benefit big time! They get resources, opportunities and a big dose of hope. It’s a win-win-win!”

Kate resides in the North Ranch with her husband Randy, their two boys, Conor and Liam, both 13; and their two dogs, Falcon and Enzo. Kate and her family have been residents since 2012, and in addition to loving Ken-Caryl’s events and open space, the incredible individuals who make up this community also hold a special place in her heart and make Ken-Caryl such a wonderful place to live.

“[What I enjoy most about living in Ken-Caryl] is the amazing people, events and trails and all the volunteers who help contribute to making this neighborhood the best-ever place to live,” said Kate. “[I am] touched and grateful [by] the Ken-Caryl neighbor response. It truly warmed my heart and gave us all the courage to make this event a reality this year in Troy’s honor.”

For Kate, being part of such a wonderful event is a special way to not only honor her late friend, Troy, but to give back to deserving children and the incredible families who foster them.

“When I was a kid, I was sure I was going to adopt at least 100 kids, and though that hasn’t been our path, this program has allowed me an

opportunity to help these amazing house moms and dads who are taking in hundreds of kids over decades,” said Kate.

Kate is already thinking ahead about next year’s collection efforts beginning this month! She plans to start earlier with monthly sorting and inventory events so that she can have a more targeted call for items. She also plans to solicit donations earlier in 2024, so that she and her team can use the final months before Christmas to purchase items to fill any identified gaps. She commits to keeping fellow residents posted on volunteer sorting days and future donation drives on the KC Neighbor’s Facebook page.

If you are interested in learning more about the Kruse Holiday Foster Care Children Donation Drive, you can reach out to them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kruseholidaydrive>.

**Editor’s Note: KC Neighbors is an independent Facebook group not affiliated with the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association or the Ken-Caryl Metropolitan District.*




Santas wear many hats! More than 60 volunteers came together to help collect, wrap, donate and deliver basic care items and presents to foster kids in need.



Volunteer “Santas” of all ages came together in support of the Kruse Holiday Foster Care Children Donation Drive in December 2023.



It takes a [Christmas] village! Event volunteers hard at work! All photos courtesy of Kate Young.





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AGES 0-5

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED from any Ken-Caryl resident in good standing or from any elected official or political candidate. Letters should be concise — no letters over 350 words — and must be received by the published deadline date and time. Deadline dates and times can be found at www.ken-carylranh.org.

The preferred method for submitting letters to the editor is by email to Allison Rager at allisonr@kcranch.org, but they may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Ranch House, Attn: Allison Rager, 7676 S. Continental Divide Road, Littleton, CO 80127. A response will be sent via email when a letter or article is received. If you do not receive a response, call 303-979-1876, ext. 108, to confirm receipt.

We do not print anonymous letters. Letters must include name, address and phone number (daytime), but only the author's name and "Ken-Caryl Resident" or applicable government office will be printed in the paper. Residents may submit up to eight letters to the editor per calendar year. More than one letter per resident may be published in a single issue of the paper provided that the letters are not about the same subject. Letters will be printed on a space available basis and may be edited. Editor retains right to appropriateness and content.

Letters will be published with plain text; use of all caps, italics, bold or excessive exclamation points will not be allowed. Published letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect

Continued on page 14

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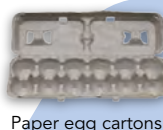
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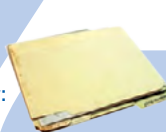
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Email to allisonr@kcranch.org.
 Deadline for Jan. 17, 2024 paper is Jan. 8 at 9 a.m.

Dear Editor

Fifty years ago this year, the Endangered Species Act was officially signed into law on Dec. 28, 1973. The ESA is a landmark piece of bipartisan legislation that passed in a landslide (390-12). President Nixon made the following statement upon signing the law.

“Nothing is more priceless and more worthy of preservation than the

rich array of animal life with which our country has been blessed. It is a many-faceted treasure, of value to scholars, scientists, and nature lovers alike, and it forms a vital part of the heritage we all share as Americans. I congratulate the 93d Congress for taking this important step toward protecting a heritage which we hold in trust to countless future generations of our fellow citizens. Their lives will be richer, and America will be more beautiful in the years ahead, thanks to the measure that I have the pleasure of signing into law today.”

The law solidified our national commitment to the conservation and protection of imperiled wildlife and plants. This law was a mandate to save the most vulnerable animals and plants from extinction. The passage of the ESA recognized that nature has autonomous value and maintaining biodiversity was a priority.

Here in Colorado, from protecting critical habitat to helping create recovery plans, the Endangered Species Act has facilitated the recovery of species such as the lynx, the bald eagle, the black-footed ferret and currently, the wolf, to name a few. Wolf paws are expected on the ground in northwest Colorado by Dec. 31. A recovery plan is also being considered for the wolverine which gained “endangered status” on Dec. 7, 2023.

Despite the ESA’s success in Colorado, there are still 20 animals listed on the CPW website as either “State Endangered” or “State Threatened.” Some animals on the list include the River Otter, Burrowing Owl, Whooping Crane, Least Tern, Plains Grouse, Willow Flycatcher, Black-Footed Ferret, Kit Fox, Gray Wolf, Lynx, Wolverine, Grizzly Bear, Boreal Toad, Lake Chub, and Plains Minnow and Cutthroat trout. Stay tuned...

*To be continued in the Jan. 17 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* where the author will discuss plants and species native to Ken-Caryl’s open space and how residents may continue to support the ESA.

*Editor’s Note: This letter is one part of a continuation that will be published over the next several issues to ensure that it is printed in its entirety as the author intended.

Kathy Webster, Resident

Dear Editor

For any residents who visited the Ranch House this week, I imagine many have been shocked to find that the previously beautiful avenue of trees in the median between the parking lots has been wiped out.

This wholesale destruction, performed by the Metro District, without notification to the residents, or without seeking the input of either the MA or the MD Boards in public session, is very worrying.

However, it serves as a warning to residents about the process already underway by the MD to revive the failed plans from 2016, which proposed reducing the greenery on MA property by a significant amount. For those residents who were not here at that time, the MD turned off sprinklers in many of the “larger” areas of grass and trees, in medians and along Valley Parkway adjacent to the road. This policy was only reversed when residents saw the immediate effects of dead vegetation.

Two weeks ago, at the Dec. 12 MD Board Meeting, it was noted that a consultant was being proposed to “advise on turf reduction”. And at an

earlier Joint Study Session where this was mentioned, it was also stated by proponents that there is neither a specific dollar saving, nor water saving analysis.

Who is leading this charge to reduce our aesthetics? Is there overwhelming resident demand to replace trees and grass with stone and concrete? Isn’t the main attraction of Ken-Caryl, recently re-awarded a “Tree City USA” designation, one of pleasant greenery rather than urban hardscape? And who should be making these decisions? Management alone? A board or boards alone? Or a specific survey question sent to all residents?

I urge anyone who is concerned about both what has been done at the Ranch House this week, and what is being proposed for the rest of Ken-Caryl this summer, to communicate your opinions to the Boards and managers, whose contact information is available on www.kcranch.org/about-us/board-of-directors.

Philip Varley, Resident

Editor’s Note: This past fall, the Master Association (MA) regraded the Ranch House parking lot to ensure proper drainage in an effort to improve its longevity and useful life. As a result, the root systems of many of the bushes were damaged during construction. Additionally, the trees that were planted in the median many years ago were done so without full consideration of how their species and maturity would impact the median’s line of sight, thus creating a safety issue for pedestrians, staff and oncoming traffic. The MA and Metropolitan District (MD) have partnered on a joint effort to enhance the safety and aesthetics of the

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median by removing dying material, overgrown trees and plants and will be replacing them with hearty, median appropriate, and more water-wise plants and trees in the coming months. The irrigation system is being updated to a drip system to direct water to the new plants and trees and to reduce the run-off and waste for years to come. Soil preparation is being worked on during the winter months until planting conditions are ideal, which is planned for spring 2024. While landscape designs implemented by the MA or MD to enhance medians and/or other MD-maintained greenery and gardens do not require Board input or approval, a finalized plan for the median’s landscape design will be submitted to the Architectural Committee prior to the start of any planting. In addition, the water-wise landscape vision will be introduced to specific neighborhoods to garner feedback as those individual medians are prioritized for renovation. Larger, community-wide areas will involve greater community feedback sessions as those areas are prioritized for any improvements.

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Exterior Paint Job

\$150 OFF
Interior Paint Job

Special *Thank You* for Veterans
– An Additional 10% Off!

This listing includes Ken-Caryl teens who babysit, mow lawns, house or pet sit, or shovel snow. To be included on the list, teens should email their name, number, age, neighborhood and list of services offered to Allison Rager at Allisonr@kcranch.org or call 303-979-1876, ext. 108.

Services: (B) Babysitting; (L) Lawn care; (P) Pet or house sitting; (S) Snow shoveling					
Name	Phone	Services	Age	Neighborhood	
Olivia Anderson	303-902-5026	B, P, S	15	Aspen Meadows	
Jade Atkinson	720-616-0063	B	17	Aspen Meadows	
Giana Baiotto	720-335-9786	P, H	10	Traditions	
William Baiotto	720-335-9786	P, H	13	Traditions	
Hutch Barber	303-249-0468	P	14	Legacy	
William Barrs	720-788-3109	L, P, H, S	13	Retreat	
Piper Blarr	720-255-6877	B, P	16	Colony	
Aliza Bochner	720-880-8336	B, P	19	North Ranch	
Eva Bochner	720-899-0033	B, P	17	North Ranch	
Mariel Bochner	319-338-4414	B, P	14	North Ranch	
Mia Briceno	573-801-4342	B, P, H	12	Deer Creek	
Abby Burton	720-616-1333	B, P	16	Aspen Meadows	
Caprice Camilli	720-347-3411	B, P	13	Wynterbrooke	
Elena Carpenter	303-999-9764	B, P	12	Traditions	
Alice Cuttitta-Gallant	303-517-8864	B	15	Deer Creek	
Hope Cuttitta	720-404-0282	B, P	19	Deer Creek	
Ella Daugherty	303-591-2004	B, P	16	Legacy	
Quinn Daugherty	303-591-2004	B, P	15	Legacy	
Razi Daugherty	303-591-2004	B, P	12	Legacy	
Presley Davis	720-487-8778	B, P	13	Sunset Ridge	
Rosemary Detterick	720-628-2638	B, P	13	Saddlewood	
Megan Ellis	720-290-2033	B, P, S	14	Heirloom	
Jack Famariss	720-434-7033	B, P	16	North Ranch	
Ryan Flint	303-517-3749	L,P,S	15	Retreat	
Caleb Flint	303-517-3749	L,P,S	12	Retreat	
Grant Foster	720-345-3120	L, S	17	Aspen Meadows	
Kyla Fouts	303-668-0581	B, L, P, S	13	Mountain Gate	
Brayden Fox	303-906-4339	L, P, S	15	Deerwood Vista	
Lauren Fox	720-273-4077	B	12	North Ranch	
Liam Fox	303-906-4339	L, P, S	11	Deerwood Vista	
Shaun Fox	303-906-4339	L, P, S	14	Deerwood Vista	
Lily Freitas	303-999-1993	B, P	12	Retreat	
Eva Gallant	303-517-8864	B, P	16	Deer Creek	
Georgia Gilmore	720-210-4177	B	16	Heirloom	
Connor Glitzer	303-489-3932	L, S	18	The Village	
Maria Gonzalez	720-224-3612	B, P, S	12	Cimmaron	
Kyra Goudzwaard	720-552-0175	B, P	15	Barrington Ridge	
Cameron Guider	303-868-7198	B,P	14	Aspen Meadows	
Will Guider	303-868-7198	L,P,S	14	Aspen Meadows	
Aubrienne Hansen	720-822-5512	P	13	Stallion Pointe.	
Keegan Hardesty	720-484-9557	L, P, S	17	Cimarron	
Mac Hardesty	720-672-1225	L, P, S	15	Cimarron	
Gailyn Harrigan	720-390-2770	B, L, P, S	13	Colony	
Reed Hershey	720-828-3245	B, L, P	12	North Ranch	
Natalie Himmel	720-788-3419	B, P	15	Eagles Pointe	
Kellen Hodges	720-496-6113	B, L, P, S	17	Saddlewood	
Maddox Hodges	720-472-2003	B, L, P, S	14	Saddlewood	
Reece Hodges	303-667-2606	L, P, S	12	Saddlewood	
Gunnar Holmes	720-505-6764	L, S	15	Carriage Hill	
Amelia Hopping	720-626-7750	B, P, S, L	14	North Ranch	
Erin Hurley	720-600-8261	B, P, S	12	Aspen Meadows	
Lukas Jamtgaard	303-763-0250	P	18	Mountain Gate	
Afton Jones	720-705-9797	B	16	Manor Ridge	
Salome Kekelia	801-201-1183	B	13	Territory	
Eva Kiebler	303-478-6050	B, P	15	Cimarron	
Sierra King	720-582-3334	L	14	Heirloom	
Kellen Lay	720-629-5566	L, S	12	Wynterbrooke	
Andrew Lerudis	720-691-3985	L, P, S	15	Village	
Daniel Lobelo	720-203-2912	L, P, S	14	Deerwood Vista	
Shea McCaughey	720-774-7499	B, P	13	Cimmaron	
Riley McGatlin	703-244-8558	B, L, P, S	14	Legacy	
Raleigh Rose McMahon	720-375-3352	B, P	13	Stallion Pointe	
Nathan McAnally	303-358-1993	L, P, S	12	Retreat	
Charlotte Miller	303-882-4415	B, P	16	Manor Ridge	
Janey Millstone	720-668-1029	B, P	15	North Ranch	
Sydney Millstone	720-471-3245	B, P, L	15	North Ranch	
Lexi Moscardini	347-803-6421	B, P 1	3	Manor Ridge	
Hannah Mote	720-305-8757	B, P	14	Stallion Pointe	
Kellan Nash	720-630-5764	L, P, S	13	Retreat	
Samara Pirozzi	720-818-2203	B, P	16	Traditions	
Lillian Pool	720-985-1667	B, P	16	Bradford Place	
Alec Prinzi	303-810-3221	B, L, P, S	12	Shaffer Hill	
Nathan Rector	720-506-5616	S, L	12	Sunset Ridge	
Joshua Reisinger	303-587-0927	L, P, S	16	Eagles Pointe	
Alessandra Roberts	720-394-3910	B, P, S,	15	Village	
Paulina Roberts	720-394-3910	B, P, S	13	Village	
Griffin Ruszkowski	303-960-9883	L, P, S	13	Stallion Pointe	
Jake Ruszkowski	720-607-2809	B, L, P, S	17	Stallion Pointe	
Sebastian Ruszkowski	720-766-9843	L, P, S	15	Stallion Pointe	
Libby Sauer	303-506-9752	B, P	14	North Ranch	
Maggie Schmisek	720-960-7707	B, P	14	Traditions	
Nicholas Schuster	720-990-7465	B, P	18	Heirloom	
Liam Schuster	720-480-0691	B, P	13	Heirloom	
Aly Secondo	720-625-9910	B, P	14	Cimarron	
Ava Secondo	303-883-2592	B, P	18	Cimarron	
Jon Siebrase	314-960-1524	L	13	Stallion Pointe	
Brian Siebrase	314-960-1524	L	11	Stallion Pointe	
Anna Smith	567-217-1248	B	16	North Ranch	
Cameron Sternberg	303-949-3691	P	12	Aspen Meadows	
Wesley Sternberg	303-949-3691	P	14	Aspen Meadows	
Lachlan Stevens	720-742-0086	B, L, P, S	14	Bradford Place	
Seumas Stevens	720-210-6065	B, L, P, S	14	Bradford Place	
Ryann Stewart	303-817-4120	B	12	Heirloom	
Maddy Szabo	720-768-5452	B	16	Aspen Meadows	
Jack Torgerson	303-981-7617	B, P	18	Legacy	
Aiden Tyler	720-448-7638	P, S	15	Cimarron	
Charlotte Watkins	720-649-0813	B, P	12	Manor Ridge	
Judah Webster	703-655-4428	B, L, P, S	15	The Spread	
Wyatt Webster	703-655-4428	B, L, P, S	13	The Spread	
Ava Yaley	970-946-8955	B, P	15	Carriage Hill	
Cole Yaley	970-946-7649	B, P, S	13	Carriage Hill	
Connor Young	720-883-3616	B, L, P, S	13	North Ranch	
Liam Young	720-883-3616	L, S, P	12	North Ranch	

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association has not screened or run background checks on these teens and makes no representations, guarantees or warranties on their appropriateness, fitness or ability to perform the work for which they are advertising. In addition, the Master Association has not examined any of the tools or machinery they may use to perform the work for which they are advertising and makes no representations, guarantees or warranties on the safety or soundness of the equipment or the ability of the teens to utilize the equipment in a safe and appropriate manner. It is the sole responsibility of the individuals contracting with these teens to make these determinations.

Eva Stadelmaier

www.homesinlittleton.com 303-619-4880



I have a few exciting listings coming up in 2024 that I look forward to sharing with you.



MANOR RIDGE
27 Tamarade • \$2,500,000



DEER CREEK MESA
9541 South Cougar Road • \$2,500,000



SPREAD
7602 S. Davis Peak • \$847,000



DEER CREEK
10 Long Spur • \$833,000

2023 RECENT SALES

40 Willowleaf • 2 Amaranth • 2 Rose Clover • 20 Tecoma • 3 Buckthorn • 9 Blue Willow
12 North Ranch Rd • 2 Silver Aspen • 33 Tecoma • 2 Holly Oak • 12 Silver Aspen
164 Willowleaf • 57 Dawn Heath • 27 Mountain Laurel • 4 White Pine • 36 Pinyon Pine

#1 AGENT IN JEFFERSON COUNTY RANKED WITHIN THE TOP 1% OF AGENTS IN DENVER

#1 AGENT IN KEN-CARYL RANKED AMONGST THE TOP 50 AGENTS IN RE/MAX US

Certified Distressed Property Expert • Certified Negotiation Expert • Luxury Home Marketing Specialist



EXPERIENCE MATTERS ... I've served both Corporate and Real Estate clients with expertise and integrity for 28 years. That's a direct benefit to you in negotiating your biggest investment!

