

A Bird’s Eye View

Resident Tucker Platte snapped and shared this breathtaking photo of the Ken-Caryl Valley.

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.

FOUNDATION MATTERS	TRASH TALK	BULLETIN BOARD	OUR COMMUNITY	COVENANT CLIPS
2024 Ken-Caryl Ranch Foundation Scholarships	Recycling Update	Proposed Changes to the MA Board’s Conduct of Meetings Policy	Accepting Applications for the NEW Equestrian Center Committee and to Fill Additional 2024 Committee Vacancies	Exterior Painting Projects Prep 101
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It’s Election Season in Ken-Caryl Ranch!

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



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NEW!
Casino Night

Luck be a lady at our inaugural Casino Night on Feb. 23 from 6-9 p.m. at the Ranch House! You’ll want to roll the dice and press your luck for the chance to win exciting prizes and ultimate bragging rights! So, get dressed in your best - or luckiest outfit - and join in on the fun playing iconic casino games such as Blackjack, Let it Ride, Roulette and more! Registration is now open! For details and to register, please visit the Special Events page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org or check out the flyer on page 6. Thanks to Platinum Sponsor Crystal Adams with Equity Real Estate.



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A covenant protected community.

It’s Election Season in Ken-Caryl Ranch!

By Brian Yowell, MA General Manager

Hello Ken-Caryl Ranch!

Happy New Year, and welcome to Election 2024 for the Master Association!

The Master Association Board is a decision-making authority that shapes the future of the community. The Board is elected to establish policies and provide general direction to the Master Association General Manager.

The expectations of a board member are attendance at the monthly board meeting, scheduled 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. Being on the Board is an important responsibility that requires time, communication, and dedication and should not be taken lightly.

One board opening is for Gerry Bauer’s current seat. This position will be on the ballot for a three-year term. The second opening is for Philip Varley’s current seat and will also be on the ballot for a three-year term. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will fill the two open three-year terms.

Important dates for the 2024 MA Election:

Candidate Forum Question Suggestions due to Brian Yowell – Feb. 7 at 5 p.m.

Candidate Forum – Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Election Opens – Feb. 12

Election Closes – March 5

Announcement of winners of 2024 MA Election – March 5 at the MA Board Annual Meeting

I want to take a moment to thank everyone for participating in this year’s Master Association Board of Directors election. It is this personal responsibility and commitment to the community that makes Ken-Caryl Ranch function and ensures our neighborhoods continue to improve and thrive.

I look forward to a successful, prosperous, and productive year for our staff, our volunteers and our community!

At your service,

Brian Yowell



January

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

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
28	29	30	31 4 p.m. Election Committee Meeting			

February

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 7:30 a.m. Architectural Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	9	10
11	12 6:30 p.m. MA Board Candidate Forum (online only)	13 6 p.m. Open Space Committee Meeting Dakota Lodge	14	15 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	16	17
18	19	20 6 p.m. MA Board Meeting	21 4:30 p.m. Covenant Control Committee	22 7:30 a.m. Architectural Committee Meeting 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime	23 6 p.m. Casino Night	24
25	26	27 6 p.m. MD Board Meeting	28	29 9:30 a.m. Babytime 10:15 a.m. Storytime		

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.

Holiday Decorations Reminder

We’re sad to see the holidays end as well... Just a friendly reminder that all holiday lights and decorations must be taken down by Feb. 1. Thank you!

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AQUATICS JOB CANDIDATE & PARENT INFO MEETING

February 26 5:30–6:30 p.m. Ranch House

Join us for an informative session featuring:

- Priority Applications and Interviews**
Exclusive opportunities for attendees to kickstart their journey with KCRMD Aquatics.
- Introduction to our Supervision Team**
Get to know the faces leading our Aquatics team and discover what makes them the best in the business.
- Parental Support Tips**
Insights and tips for parents on how to provide the best support to their child as a valued member of the KCRMD Aquatics team.
- NEW 2024 Seasonal Worker Scholarship Program**
Exciting details about our latest initiative to support aspiring individuals – the KCRMD Seasonal Worker Scholarship Program.
- Aquatics Team Duties and Expectations Overview**
Gain a comprehensive understanding of the roles and expectations associated with being part of our dynamic Aquatics team.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to dive into a world of possibilities with KCRMD Aquatics! **For questions please contact Kate McDonald at KateM@kcranch.org**

Exterior Painting Projects Prep 101

By Darci Cross, Community Administrator

Hello Ken-Caryl! I hope you are all well.

Our annual paint review is underway, and soon those painting projects, along with many others, will be underway. A great paint job not only boosts your home's curb appeal, but also protects it from weather damage. Repainting your home's exterior is a big investment, but your results will last up to a decade—if you do it right.

There are so many benefits to painting or staining your home exterior, and it's worthwhile to learn proper paint prep, application and maintenance tips to get it just right.

What are the most common signs of worn-out paint?

Peeling, fading and cracking paint are telltale signs of worn-out paint. Also look for issues with the caulking or blistering on the walls. Below are tips when painting your home.

6 Exterior House Painting Tips You Should Know

Follow these eight exterior house painting tips to renew the face of your home like a pro.

1. Prep Your Home Exterior Properly

- Proper prep is the key to making any paint job last. If you are doing the painting yourself, follow the steps below. If you're hiring a professional local house painter, ask them questions to ensure that all these steps are followed.
- **Clean the surface:** Your paint will not adhere properly to old paint or dirty, moldy, flaky surfaces. Power wash and scrape rough areas with sandpaper before painting.
 - **Repair your siding:** Damaged siding left unaddressed can cause paint to chip and flake. Replace any rotted boards and caulk thoroughly to seal them.
 - **Use a primer:** A high-quality tinted primer base coat beneath the color topcoats can extend the life of your paint job by three to five years, helping smooth imperfections, improve paint adhesion, and reduce chipping, bubbling and flaking.
- If painting your house is a DIY project, use the right primer for your paint. If you are using acrylic paint, you can use either water-based or oil-based primer. If you are using oil-based paint for your topcoat, you should only use oil-based primer.

2. Use the Right Type of Paint

- One of the most important exterior painting tips is to use the right type of paint. You will want high-quality paint to protect the outside of your home. For most exterior paint jobs, acrylic latex paint works best. These versatile paints can be used over water-based and oil-based primers and offer several benefits over oil-based paints:
- They will not harden over time
 - They help prevent blistering
 - They do not mildew as easily
 - They are better for the environment

However, there are some cases where oil-based paints are the better option. Due to their ability to better repel water and resist wear, they can be ideal for painting steel and iron railings as well as steps, stoops and porches that get a lot of foot traffic.

3. Use Good Painting Practices

When properly applied, paint gives your home a fresh look while protecting it from the elements. And doing the job right starts with the right equipment. Professional house painters have the tools and training to work efficiently, but if you are attempting to paint your house as a DIY, you'll need to take the following steps to ensure a long-lasting paint job:

- **Apply thorough coats:** Any unpainted, exposed areas will be vulnerable to damage from weather, rot and mildew. After applying primer, apply two coats of finish paint and verify that the bottoms and sides of all surfaces are completely covered.
- **Avoid heat and sunlight:** Heat and direct sunlight make paint dry too quickly, creating an uneven finish with visible seams and brush strokes. Paint on the side of the house opposite where the sun is directed and avoid exterior painting on very hot days.
- **Avoid painting wet surfaces:** Paint cannot adhere to damp surfaces, so wait a few days to paint after prep washing or heavy rain. Check the forecast before you start to make sure it doesn't call for rain during your planned painting or drying periods.

4. Consider Your Landscaping

Whether you're an avid gardener or just like to keep your lawn shady with trees, pay close attention to where you place your plants. Flowers, hedges and trees that are planted up against your house can create moisture, leading to erosion and rot that can damage your exterior paint.

5. Keep Your Home Exterior Clean

- Dirt, mildew and other debris on your home's siding or trim is not just an eyesore. When left unattended, this buildup will not be rinsed away by rainwater and can cause sections of your exterior paint job to look faded or discolored.
- The solution? Incorporate an annual cleaning into your home maintenance routine, hosing down or pressure washing patios and the undersides of overhangs. You will find products at your local paint or home improvement store specifically for cleaning siding and preventing mildew on home exteriors. You can also consult with your professional house painter for cleaning advice.

6. Repair Interior and Exterior Damage as It Occurs

- Believe it or not, problems inside your home can cause problems with house paint on the exterior.
 - Keep your eye out for moisture issues. If you have a leaky roof, damp basement, or poorly ventilated bathroom, these can all cause exterior paint to peel, mold, or bubble. Prevent this by fixing roof leaks as they occur and using a dehumidifier in rooms that need it.
 - Issues with your exterior siding can take the form of water damage, rotting, splintering and cracking. These can be caused by prolonged exposure to rain, wind and snow, and you will often find them after the winter season. Repair any damaged wood siding as soon as you notice it to ensure that the problems do not spread and lead to more expensive repairs down the line.
- I hope you all have a great couple of weeks, and as always, be kind!

Darci



Buy or Sell Call Danielle

Home Safety Checklist

- ☒ Test smoke and carbon-monoxide detectors. They should be within 15 feet of every bedroom. If they are more than 10 years old, they should be replaced.

☒ Have furnace cleaned and serviced. Make sure there are no gas leaks.

☒ Update insurance coverage. Take a video of entire home and valuables.

☒ Make an emergency evacuation family plan. Remember the 5 P's: People and where to meet, Prescriptions, Important Papers, Personal Needs, and Priceless Items.

☒ Have fire extinguishers on every level of your home. Make sure to check the pressure gauge or expiration date.

☒ Store hazards substances safely. Do not store paint or flammable items near your furnace.
- ☒ Test sump pump.

☒ Remove lint from your dryer, exterior vent, and interior drum. This is the #1 cause of house fires.

☒ Test your home for radon. There are several inspectors you can hire or you can purchase a self test kit from your local hardware store.

☒ Make sure all locks on doors and windows work properly.

☒ Make sure your home is well lit. Put your lights on automatic timers when you travel.

For assistance or recommendation on any of these items please feel free to contact Danielle.



303.669.7974

BULLETIN BOARD

Proposed Changes to the MA Board's Conduct of Meetings Policy

Based on resident feedback regarding additional speaking opportunities at Master Association Board meetings, the MA Board is considering a policy update to its current Conduct of Meetings Policy. In summary, the new change would provide a third opportunity for residents to speak during board discussions on Communication/ Discussion items as well as during Open Forum and before the Board votes on any Motions. This new change would be in addition to the current policy, which allows residents to speak at the beginning of each board meeting during Open Forum and again on Motion items prior to voting. The MA Board will be voting on this policy update at its Feb. 20 Board meeting, which will take place at 6 p.m. at the Ranch House. All residents are welcome to attend.

To review the current policy as well as the proposed changes, please visit the Community Announcements page on our website at www.ken-caryl.org.

At Colorado River’s Headwaters, Questions About Whether There’s Enough Water for Lawns

The Western Slope delivers 70% of the Colorado River water. So why do Aspen, Vail, Grand Junction and others want to replace thirsty turf?

By Allen Best, Colorado Newsline, <https://coloradonewsline.com>

Editor’s Note: The following story is an excerpt from a full story published on Nov. 21, 2023, by Colorado Newsline in collaboration with Big Pivots and Aspen Journalism. The full article is available at <https://coloradonewsline.com>. It is the second of a five-part series that examines the intersection of water and urban landscapes in Colorado. As Ken-Caryl Ranch looks to the future with water-wise planning of community landscape areas, we will be increasing our community education efforts to also encourage water-wise landscaping in residential areas as well. Please keep an eye on future issues for more articles about this important conservation topic. For questions or comments, contact Ken-Caryl Ranch Metropolitan District Manager Traci Wieland at traciw@kcranch.org or Master Association General Manager Brian Yowell at briany@kcranch.org.

If you’ve ever slipped and spun your way across Vail Pass through a wet, heavy snowstorm, you can be excused for wondering how Eagle River Valley communities could ever have too little water.

Vail and its neighbors do have that problem, though. It has become evident in the growing frequency of drought years in the 21st century.

First came 2002. Water officials, verging on panic, restricted outdoor water use. The drought was believed to be the most severe in 500 years. Fine, thought water officials as rain and snow resumed, we’re off the hook for at least our lifetimes.

In 2012 came another drought, one nearly identical in severity. More bad years followed in 2018 and 2021. The Eagle River normally chatters its way down the valley through Avon and to a confluence with the Colorado River near Glenwood Canyon. In those bad drought years, it sulked. The shallow water was hot enough to endanger fish.

Colorado River flows have declined 20% since 2000. Having water rights is not enough. And the future looks even hotter and, because of that heat, drier. Brad Udall, a senior scientist and scholar at Colorado State University, warns of up to 20% additional flow loss by midcentury.

Average temperatures in the Colorado River Basin are projected by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to rise 5 to 6 degrees Fahrenheit during the 21st century. The agency projects slightly greater increases in Colorado and other upper basin states.

Demand reduction will be another tool of growing importance in a hotter, sometimes drier climate. Managers hope to reduce water demand in the district by 5% by 2026 even as new housing, especially more affordable units, gets built. That’s 400 acre-feet per year.

The most productive place to wring these savings will be in water used for outdoor landscapes. Only 25% — or even less — of water applied to lawns returns to streams and rivers compared with 95% of water used indoors.

Siri Roman, the district’s general

manager, said short-term change, such as restricted lawn watering in drought years, can be a strategy. But her district wants to effect permanent change.

“It’s not about drought years,” she said. “It’s about a drying climate. We have to get people to shift their attitudes, to know that water is getting to be more scarce.”

Roman’s district, like other water utilities in Colorado, is targeting nonfunctional turf. Precise definitions vary, but nonfunctional generally refers to grasses that require large volumes of water to irrigate but rarely see human feet except when mowed. It is also described as aesthetic turf.

Other Western Slope communities have also set out to discourage thirsty landscape choices. Motivations vary, but for many, there is also acknowledgement of the need to walk the talk of water conservation expected of Front Range communities. “That is something I hear a lot from communities I am working with,” said Marjo Curgus, a consultant.

A bill that passed in 2022, House Bill 22-1151, does not institute a prohibition but instead allocated \$2 million to the Colorado Water Conservation Board, \$1.5 million of which went to local jurisdictions to spur voluntary replacement of irrigated turf.

The law asserts that for every 100 acres of turf converted to water-wise landscaping, up to 200 acre-feet of water can be conserved. The act defines water-wise landscaping as a water- and plant-management practice that emphasizes using plants with lower water needs.

Whether that much water gets saved also depends upon whether irrigation systems are changed to match the lesser water needs of the new landscapes. Grass that needs 12 inches of supplemental water per year need not continue to get 25.

Droughts versus aridification

The Western Slope of Colorado produces 70% of the water in the Colorado River, according to the Colorado River Water Conservation District. Some of that water stays in Colorado. About half of the water for Front Range cities comes from the Western Slope. Yet more of the Colorado River gets diverted to farms in the South Platte and Arkansas river valleys.

Grand Junction more recently adopted regulations curbing water needed for urban landscaping. The city has adopted sustainability goals, “and water plays a big part of that,” said Randi Kim, utilities director for the city of 69,000 people.

Cost savings enter into the city’s calculation as it prepares for a projected 91,000 residents by 2040. The municipal utility taps high-quality water from Kannah Creek, which originates on Grand Mesa. When that is insufficient to meet demands, as the city utility projects will be the case by 2040, the city will tap the Gunnison River but will need to pay more to treat the dirtier water.

Grand Junction’s new regulations apply to new developments. Turf that does not meet the city’s definition of “functional” cannot exceed 15% of landscaping. The new regulations also require low-water vegetation in traffic medians and some other common areas.

In Wildridge, a neighborhood on the south-facing slopes of Avon, Linn Brooks has shown what is possible in landscape conversions. Fifteen years ago, before she started transitioning her landscape, her home used 15,000 to 25,000 gallons a month. Now, it uses, at most, 7,000 gallons a month and her landscape is commanding.

The takeaway, she said, is that communities can have vibrant landscapes and protect property values — and still use less water.



2023 had the fewest sales of homes in Ken-Caryl in the past 10 years. We are a strong seller’s market and if you are thinking of selling, there is no need to wait.

2023 Year in Review - Sales

Ken-Caryl Valley Residential

	# of Homes Sold	Average Square Feet	Average Price per Square Foot	Average % of List/Sold	Average Sales Price	Average Days on Market
TOTALS 2023	53	2,927	\$459	100%	\$1,316,796	27
TOTALS 2022	56	2,842	\$458	106%	\$1,284,579	10
% Change 2022 vs 2023	-5%	3%	0%	-5%	3%	159%

Ken-Caryl Plains Residential

	# of Homes Sold	Average Square Feet	Average Price per Square Foot	Average % of List/Sold	Average Sales Price	Average Days on Market
TOTALS 2023	49	2,167	\$359	100%	\$753,213	24
TOTALS 2022	43	2,222	\$357	105%	\$770,116	13
% Change 2022 vs 2023	14%	-2%	0%	-5%	-2%	83%

Ken-Caryl Plains Condos & Townhomes

	# of Homes Sold	Average Square Feet	Average Price per Square Foot	Average % of List/Sold	Average Sales Price	Average Days on Market
TOTALS 2023	38	1,193	\$333	100%	\$390,616	18
TOTALS 2022	51	1,275	\$338	104%	\$424,192	12
% Change 2022 vs 2023	-25%	-6%	-2%	-4%	-8%	50%

– Living and Loving the Ken-Caryl Lifestyle

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Call me for a confidential discussion of your 2024 Real Estate Goals!

2024 Ken-Caryl Ranch Foundation Scholarships

By Dennie McGarry, Resident, Ken-Caryl Ranch Foundation

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Foundation is soliciting scholarship applications from Ken-Caryl residents in their senior year of high school. This year, two scholarships will be awarded for \$1,500 to help defray the costs of higher education. Scholarship applications must be turned into the Ranch House by Friday, March 15 at 5 p.m. (Please note: the Ranch House is closed to the public on Fridays; however, applicants may drop off their applications via the secure mailbox located outside of the Ranch House entrance.) For eligibility requirements or to download a scholarship form, visit www.kencarylranhfoundation.org.

In 2024, the Foundation has been able to increase the scholarship amount to \$1,500 through the generous contributions of The Esbenshade family, Colorado Credit Union and the King Soopers Community Rewards program. If you would like to help further the scholarship program, the Foundation welcomes individual donations.

In addition, you can participate in the King Soopers Community Rewards program and designate the Foundation as the beneficiary. Just go to kingsoopers.com, login to your account or create one if you do not have one. Register your phone number - Go to MY ACCOUNT (Upper right drop down)

Choose COMMUNITY REWARDS (Left navigation) and search for Ken-Caryl Ranch Foundation either by name or by entering DW239 and then click Enroll.

The two scholarships are as follows: Community Service

The first scholarship focus is on community service. To be eligible to receive this scholarship, the applicant must include a one-page, self-written

essay on community service that describes: 1. what the applicant thinks is meant by community service, and 2. his/her own contributions in the way of community service.

Civil Discourse

The second scholarship focus is on civil discourse. To be eligible to receive this scholarship, the applicant must include a one-page, self-written essay on any controversial subject showing how to compromise and solve a problem. In summary, how vigorous disagreements expressed with civility and respect can strengthen our pluralistic nation.

About the Foundation

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Foundation, created in October of 1990, was originally conceived as an organization to accept deductible donations of money and other items of value to be used to benefit the community, but quickly found itself involved in the acquisition from the developer of the Ranch of 537 acres in the South Valley area of the Ken-Caryl Ranch to be preserved as open space. The early years of the Foundation were devoted to ensuring that the purchase of the South Valley was completed.

Since then, the Foundation has engaged in numerous activities, including art shows and golf tournaments, to raise funds to benefit cultural, recreational and educational opportunities on the ranch. The benefits have included: scholarship awards given to area high school students; programs in area elementary and middle schools to support music, the arts and educational programs; the Make-a-Wish Foundation; Ken-Caryl open space, the Alive-at-25 teen driving program; disability renovations at the Ken-Caryl Ranch House, including a lift, ramps and swimming pool access; for historical preservation of the Bradford-Perley House in The Valley; and support for The Miracle Field, a solid surface ball field at the Schaefer Athletic Complex of the Foothills Park and Recreation District in Jefferson County.

◆ ELECTION NEWS

Submit Your Questions for the MA Board Candidate Forum on Feb. 12

Hear ye, here thee! The 2024 Master Association Board candidates will be featured in the Feb. 14 and Feb. 28 issues of *Life at Ken-Caryl*. In preparation of the upcoming election, candidates will also participate in a candidate forum via Zoom on Monday, Feb. 12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Candidates will each be given 5 minutes for an introduction and to

discuss important issues to them and one minute to answer each question asked by the moderator. The forum will be held online only. Remote access information will be available closer to the event.

In preparation of this forum, residents may submit question suggestions via email to Ken-Caryl Ranch General Manager Brian Yowell at briany@kcranch.org by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 7. Due to time constraints, not all questions submitted will be asked in the forum. Please limit question suggestions to no more than one. The candidate forum will be recorded and made available on our website following the event.

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Vinny, Carrie, Ava and Aly & Lexi, the Goldendoodle

MY BREED IS:

Mixed, Lab with German Shepard

I'M ALWAYS GETTING IN TROUBLE FOR:

Taking shoes and hats

I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT MY:

Treats, especially frozen yogurt

I'M KNOWN FOR:

Howling like a Husky

MY SECRET TALENT IS:

Chasing my tail

I LOVE IT WHEN:

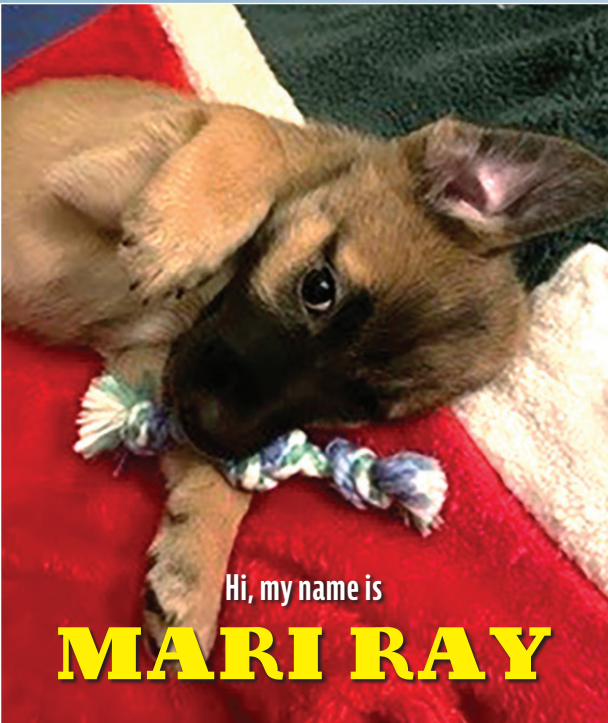
I'm running around playing and getting the "zoomies"

MY PERFECT DAY:

Having a long walk and meeting new pups

LIFE IS RUFF WHEN:

I get Lexi upset and get put in my crate



Hi, my name is

MARI RAY

Submit your dog to be featured in a 2024 edition of *Life at Ken-Caryl's* "Ruff Living" column at <https://ken-carylranh.org/submit-to-ruff-living/>.

Submissions are first-come, first-served!





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Hey Parents! Did you Know that You Can Start Saving for College Now With Collegelvest?

Let's face it, kids are expensive, and due to inflation, family costs are on the rise. Good thing that CollegenInvest's First Step program is helping young parents get a jump on college savings for their little ones. Any child born in Colorado on or after Jan. 1, 2020, is eligible to receive a free \$100 contribution to a CollegenInvest 529 savings account! Contributions made are

The deadline is Feb. 7 at 5 p.m. If you have any questions about the new Equestrian Center Committee, or any of Ken-Caryl's committees, please contact KCRMA General Manager Brian Yowell at briany@kcranch.org.

For more information on this program, including terms and conditions, please visit www.collegeinvest.org/firststep or contact them directly at 800-448-2424.

Recycling Update

As with all RFPs and bids that come in, the Master Association completes a summary document with background and requirements of the RFP and completes a comparison chart with cost and service details to present to the MA Board of Directors. When presented

Please look for additional information on the changes, sizes of containers Waste Connections will allow and how to sign up for additional containers in future issues of *Life at Ken-Caryl*, the e-news, social media and on our website!

Ken-Caryl Ranch Presents:

CASINO Night

February 23 6-9 PM
Ranch House

Registration opens January 29
\$30 Residents
\$39 Non-Residents

Scan here to register:

Top 5 people who have the most "funny money" at the end of the night will receive a fabulous prize!!

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6

Caring For Those Who Care

By Vicki Sullivan, Resident, HR Director, Chick-fil-A C470 & Kipling

In a heartwarming gesture of community support, Chick-fil-A, Inc. recently bestowed a 2024 True Inspiration Award community grant of \$75,000 upon the Hornbuckle Foundation. Located in the Ken-Caryl Business Park, the Foundation is one of four recipients in the category of Care for Communities. A total of 21 winners were selected in the categories of Care for Communities, Care for People, Care through Food, Care for the Planet and Global recognition. In addition, 29 organizations received Regional recognition, even being voted on by Chick-fil-A customers through its Chick-fil-A One app.

Local Chick-fil-A Operator and Barrington Ridge resident Lauren Plain and her executive team had the honor of surprising the Foundation’s leaders with the news during a presumed site visit. As Associate Executive Director Sarah Hornbuckle shared with the Chick-fil-A team an overview of the foundation’s history and services, Lauren and her Chief Marketing Officer Janet Weyhmiller stepped away to invite “the Cow” to enter and surprise the Hornbuckle team with their award. Upon seeing the Cow and the giant cardboard check, Sarah exclaimed, “Holy Cow!”, which brought a great deal of laughter amid all the handshakes, hugs and happy tears.

The meeting continued so that the

local Chick-fil-A team could learn more about the Hornbuckle Foundation’s unwavering commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of individuals facing addiction and mental health challenges. Co-founded in 2015 by Michael Hornbuckle and Thomas Hernandez, the Hornbuckle Foundation’s tireless work in supporting individuals and their families who are dealing with addiction recovery resonated deeply with Chick-fil-A’s values. The Foundation’s initiatives aim to raise awareness, reduce stigma and build a network of support within the broader community.

Chick-fil-A, Inc. awarded a record \$5.48 million in grants, ranging from \$30,000 to \$350,000 to 51 non-profits across the U.S. and Canada in this 10th year of the program. Seven of those organizations are here in Colorado. The True Inspirations grant is named for Chick-fil-A’s founder Truett Cathy, who spent much of his career establishing foster homes, summer camps for youth, scholarships for students and many other programs to help his local community. This grant not only acknowledges the Foundation’s impactful initiatives but also provides essential resources to amplify their reach. It serves as a powerful example of how corporate entities can play a pivotal role in uplifting grassroots organizations dedicated to caring for communities. The Hornbuckle Foundation continues to thrive, making a lasting impact on the lives of those they serve, thanks to the generous support and recognition from Chick-fil-A’s True Inspirations community grant.

*Stay tuned to learn more about the Hornbuckle Foundation in future issues of this publication.



Local Chick-fil-A Operator Lauren Plain and her executive team with leaders from the Hornbuckle Foundation. From Left to Right: Janet Weyhmiller (CFA Chief Marketing Officer), Lauren Plain (CFA Operator), the Cow, Chris Macey (HF Peer Team), Sarah Hornbuckle (HF Associate Executive Director), Michael Hornbuckle (HF Executive Director), Tyler McCarty (CFA Operating Partner), Brittany Beckwith (HF Peer Team), “Coach” Clayton Cole (HF Peer Team), Tara Duxtater (HF Peer Team), Brad Plain (CFA Business Manager), Vicki Sullivan (CFA HR Director and Ken-Caryl resident) and Will Dunn (HF Peer Team)



Local Chick-fil-A Operator and Barrington Ridge resident Lauren Plain, left, and the Cow present the 2024 True Inspiration Award community grant to Sarah and Michael Hornbuckle of the Hornbuckle Foundation, located in the Ken-Caryl Business Park.

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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:



Zeus – (289477)

Zeus is a 9-year-old male American Bulldog/Australian Cattle dog mix. His previous owner says Zeus is an active guy who is very playful. He enjoyed a doggie roommate and got along with cats. Zeus is recommended for a quiet home without kids where he can go on calm walks and settle in slowly.



Macie – (289455)

Macie is a 1.5-year-old female cat. While in a busy household with a child, Macie was skittish and rarely seen. Since moving to a shelter office with just a few new besties, Macie has blossomed into a social, curious and sometimes bossy girl. She seeks a quiet, adult-only home without other pets where she can focus on one or two people.

**Foothills Animal Shelter's Cat Adoption Center is now open! Looking to add a feline companion to your family, like Macie? Be sure to check out the new space!*

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



2024 KCR Summer Camps!

SUMMER CAMP 2024 Registration Windows
March 11-22-> Ken-Caryl Residents
March 25-29 -> Non-Residents
***Registration windows open at 9am and close at 5pm.**

School-Age camp rates (5-day week):
 • \$290/Residents
 • \$377/Non-Residents

Pre-school camp rates (5-day week):
 • \$200/Residents
 • \$260/Non-Residents

Important changes to note for this summer:
 • 2024 Preschool camp hours-> 8:30am-1:30pm
 • No priority registration for currently enrolled school year participants.

Find more program information online at ken-caryl-ranch.org


IN MEMORIAM



Memorial Service for Julie Kearful

A memorial service for Julie S. Kearful will be held at Saint James Presbyterian Church at 3601 W. Bellevue Ave. in Littleton on Friday, Feb. 2 at 11:30 a.m. with a luncheon immediately following at the Ranch House. Julie was a long-time Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association employee and resident who passed away on Nov. 28, 2023, at the age of 83. Julie worked at the Ranch House for more than 30 years, retiring in January 2017. Everyone who knew Julie is welcome to attend the memorial service and pay their respects.

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8


 Life at Ken-Caryl
 January 31, 2024

Eva Stadelmaier

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NORTH RANCH

4 Kokanee - \$1,799,000

This custom, updated home situated on a flat, oversized lot boasts 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, a main floor study, and a huge laundry/mud room. Professionally finished, walk-out basement with a wet bar~Spectacular views~ Cul-de-sac~New paint~New carpet.



BRADFORD PLACE

4 May Cherry • \$1,700,000

Updated from top to bottom, this 5 bedroom, 4 bath home has a main floor study. New Pella windows~3 car garage~
Amazing backyard space~Water feature~
Gas firepit~Covered, teak deck.



NORTH RANCH

6 Amberwood • \$1,585,000

Immaculate 5 bedroom, 5 bath home with a main floor study. Granite counters~Under-cabinet lighting inkitchen~New roof~3 car garage with new doors~Professionally finished, walk-out basement~New paint~New, large Trex deck~Attic fan~
2 air conditioner units~2 furnaces.

2023 RECENT SALES

35 Blue Sage • 27 Tamarade • 9541 S. Cougar Rd • 7602 S. Davis Peak • 10 Long Spur
40 Willowleaf • 2 Amaranth • 2 Rose Clover • 20 Tecoma • 3 Buckthorn • 9 Blue Willow
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164 Willowleaf • 57 Dawn Heath • 27 Mountain Laurel • 4 White Pine • 36 Pinyon Pine

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RECREATION PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

All special events are FREE for Ken-Caryl Ranch residents to attend unless otherwise noted.
Classes are fee-based unless otherwise noted. Register online at www.ken-carylranh.org today!



Special Events



Tennis & Pickleball



Youth Programs



Youth Programs

NEW! Casino Night

Luck be a lady at our inaugural Casino Night on Feb. 23 from 6-9 p.m. at the Ranch House! You'll want to roll the dice and press your luck for the chance to win exciting prizes and ultimate bragging rights! So, get dressed in your best - or luckiest outfit - and join in on the fun playing iconic casino games such as Blackjack, Let it Ride, Roulette and more! Appetizers and hors d'oeuvres included in the ticket price and alcohol will be available for purchase. Registration is now open! For details and to register, please visit the special events page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org.
** This is 21+ event **
Thank you to Platinum Sponsor Crystal Adams.

Easter Egg Hunt

Mark your calendars and plan on hippity-hopping on over to our annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Ranch House! This year's event will take place on March 23 in Ranch House Park from 11 a.m. - 1p.m.! Kids of all ages can join in the hunt for thousands of Easter eggs, visit with the Easter Bunny and enter to win our Easter egg drawing! It's sure to be an egg-ceptional time! This event is FREE and registration is not required! Thank you to Platinum Sponsor Susan Schell.



Tennis & Pickleball

Junior Tennis Lessons

Register today for Junior Tennis Lessons! For more information, and to check availability, including available lessons based on skill, please visit our website at www.ken-carylranh.org.

Adult Tennis Lessons

Register today for Adult Tennis Lessons! For more information, and to check availability, including available lessons based on skill, please visit our website at www.ken-carylranh.org.

Cardio Tennis!

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Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. level 3.0 & below
Fridays 8-9 a.m. level 3.5 - 4.5
Fridays 9-10 a.m. level 2.5 - 3.0
Saturdays 8-9 a.m. level 3.5 - 4.5



Sports & Athletics

Challenger Summer Soccer Camps

#Summer"Goals"! We're "kicking" things up! Sign up early for Challenger's Summer Soccer Camps and save money! So, if you're looking for a fun, healthy way to entertain your kiddos, secure your spot today via the Sports & Athletics page of our website at www.ken-carylranh.org or visit Challenger's website at <https://challengersports.com/camp-finder/>.



KC Fitness

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

Fitness Classes and Personal Training

Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information on classes, hours and fitness sessions at www.ken-carylranh.org.

Storytime at the Ranch House

Please join us from 10:15-10:45 a.m. at the Ranch House for Storytime, in partnership with the Jeffco Library, and have fun with our youngest residents!

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!

Summer Camp 2024

Ken-Caryl Ranch is looking forward to another fun-tastic summer!! Summer camp information and registration details are now posted at www.ken-carylranh.org and will continue to be updated as more information becomes available. Important registration dates:
March 11-22: Ken-Caryl Residents
March 25-29: Non-Residents
Registration windows open at 9 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

February Toddler Time: Eric Carle

Join us for our next toddler and adult companion program on Feb. 16 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Ranch House! Our February Toddler Time will be Eric Carle-themed. Carle is the famous children's book author of many works, including "Hungry, Hungry, Caterpillar." Enjoy a story, crafting and sensory play! Meet new friends and make art together to take home. Adult companion is free. 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.

Creative Movement Dance

Attention parents of preschoolers! Come join the fun in this 4-week creative movement dance class. This class meets Wednesday mornings from 9:15 - 10 a.m. from Feb. 7 - Feb. 28 at the Community Center and provides young children (ages 3-5-years) with an introduction to the magical world of dance! Using make-believe imagery, hands-on props and interactive music, children will explore basic dance concepts and choreography of all dance forms. In addition, they will practice taking turns, sharing, and following directions. To register, please visit our website at www.ken-carylranh.org and click on the Register icon at the top right corner of your screen.



Adult & Senior Programs

Kate McDonald
Aquatics and Community Supervisor
katem@kcranch.org
303-979-1876, ext. 131

Ageless & Unstoppable

Feb. 6 - Estate Planning with Legacy Law

Ageless & Unstoppable, Programming for Seniors, Retirees and Adults, will continue in 2024! So, mark your calendars and plan on joining us for our next fun and educational program on Feb. 6 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Ranch House for a session about estate planning with Legacy Law. Discover the intricacies of Colorado probate with this estate planning presentation. Uncover the direct impact a will can have on probate proceedings and explore the benefits of incorporating a trust to seamlessly navigate and potentially bypass the probate process. No registration required. For additional program information, please visit the Adults & Seniors page of our website at <https://ken-carylranh.org/programs/adult-programs/>. This series is proudly sponsored by Kali Hepker with Equity Real Estate.



Sign Up for the e-News!

The Ken-Caryl Ranch e-News is a weekly newsletter distributed every Monday via email to all residents who subscribe. It is a great information source and supplement to the newspaper and other forms of communication on Ken-Caryl Ranch. 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 Weeding Projects Break Their Own Record with 470 Volunteer Hours in 2023!

By Dawn Hendry, Resident, Colorado Master Gardener

"Invasive plants are ecological tumors that spread unchecked into our local ecosystems, castrating the ecosystem's ability to function." - Doug Tallamay, professor and author of Nature's Best Hope

Neighbors and groups came together as one again in 2023! A huge thank you to the dedicated Ken-Caryl Weed Warriors and Ken-Caryl Trail Club Weeding Crew members who joined forces again this year to eradicate invasive mullein and Musk and Scotch thistle in our open space. This year, Erlinda Stafford led the Trail Club members and Dawn Hendry led the Weed Warriors. Thanks also to Ken-Caryl Ranger and Natural Resource Specialist, Nick DeCarolis, who greatly supported us! Ken-Caryl Open Space is an amazing bastion of health and supports the huge web of biodiversity we enjoy daily.

Please remember volunteers MUST take a short training from Nick, Dawn or Erlinda before weeding as many natives look incredibly similar to the invasive thistles. We've all been fooled, including myself! This identification dilemma is especially true for white flowering Prickly Poppy and Wavy Thistle among other needed natives, specifically at the initial stages of growth.

From March through December 2023, volunteers have either dug up or bagged the cones and seed heads of hundreds of thousands of weeds. The KC Weed Warriors volunteered 317 hours and TC Weed Crew volunteered 153 hours! The 2023 hours beat last year's record by 27 additional hours.

Many volunteers from both clubs joined us again this year, including Dave Banning, Dorie Banning, Jodie Barr, Tim Berg, JP Bordewick, Paul Camp, Mike Danaher, Bill Donahue, Naomi Ducharme, Rebecca Ferrera, Bill Firmin, Jed Flint, Brent Flom, John Fosholt, Ava Geisler, Brandon Geisler, Meghan Geisler, Lisa Gidday, Shaun Giebel, Beth Howard, Dawn Hendry, Rob Hendry, Janina Giarritano, Rhonda Ingle, Michael Michuda, Greg Milano, Scott Musgrave, Eric Ohlson, Diana Ohlson, Matthew Orris, Sarah Orris, Jamie Pieroni, Gillian Phillips, Dan Reuter, Blair Spencer, Elsa Spencer, Pam Shrum, Erlinda Stafford, Oliver Thurman, Rachel Thurman, Pete Vastyan, Brad Walsh, Gary Webster, Kathy Webster and Paul Wood. Huge thanks also to homeowners who patrolled areas adjacent to their homes! It's all connected.

Special mention must be made to Bill Donahue, Rebecca Ferrera, John Fosholt, Dawn Hendry, Rhonda Ingle, Gary Webster and Kathy Webster who all volunteered more than 15 hours each. Apologies to anyone who volunteered and was left off these lists. All these folks have done significant work for a fourth year to keep our grasslands healthy and beautiful.

Every weed that is pulled or dug keeps more herbicide out of our soils

and waterways when those same weeds don't have to be sprayed. Our efforts also save Ken-Caryl the costs of spraying. The targeted weeds are non-native so have little benefit to native wildlife and decrease the available native food when they quickly take over areas.

If you'd like to join our volunteer crew to tackle weeds from the Colorado Noxious Weed list, call Dawn Hendry at 720-273-5998 or email dawnjeanine62@gmail.com. Trail Club members who volunteer can submit these hours toward the Willow Springs Access yearly bracelet. We've made good progress, but constant efforts must continue to be made to prevent their return. Willow Springs and West Ken-Caryl also have weed clubs so

a healthy corridor of grasslands is being created. The work would go more quickly if our team had more members, so please consider joining through either group!



From left, residents and Weed Warriors John Fosholt, Bill Donahue and Beth Howard.



The beneficial, native Prickly Poppy, which is quickly moving back into our open space, but is easily mistaken for invasive thistle at its early stage.

MINDING OUR BUSINESSES

Colorado Credit Union Hosts Bite of Reality Events in Local High Schools

Colorado Credit Union showcased its commitment to teaching financial literacy recently with two in-person events hosted at local high schools. Students in Jefferson County experienced what it is like to make the financial decisions that adults make every day. More than 100 students at Columbine High School and Dakota Ridge High School took part in Bite of Reality financial education fairs, made possible by an in-kind grant from the GoWest Foundation.

Bite of Reality is a hands-on, app-based simulation designed for high school students, giving them insight to real-world financial situations. Hosted by Colorado Credit Union staff, the events teach students how to budget basic needs, wants and unexpected costs.

"Bite of Reality is an exciting way to engage students in lessons on personal finance. Colorado Credit Union does a fantastic job of making the simulation not only relevant but fun and interactive," said Columbine High School teacher Brittany Chiavini. "This is something every young person should participate in."

Bite of Reality provides a real-world simulation experience that guides students through a day-in-the-life of

an adult's financial responsibilities. Students are given a fictional occupation, salary, credit score, spouse and a child, student loan debt, credit card debt and medical insurance payments. The students then visit various stations to "purchase" housing, transportation, food, clothing and other needs. The simulation also includes a credit union station to help students with their financial needs throughout the simulation.

"Bite of Reality provides students a safe educational opportunity to practice their financial literacy skills, make mistakes and re-evaluate their financial decisions before entering the real world," said Teagan Griffith, Colorado Credit Union's community impact manager. "GoWest Foundation has allowed Colorado Credit Union to strengthen our impact in local schools and equip students with the tools to support their lifelong financial journeys."

Based in Littleton, Colorado Credit Union serves the Denver Metro area with three branches, including one conveniently located in Ken-Caryl. In 2023, Colorado Credit Union celebrated 50 years of service to its members. With an asset size of nearly \$378M and more than 25,000 members, Colorado Credit Union offers a full range of banking services to anyone living, working, attending school, or worshipping in the eight Denver-area counties. To learn more about Colorado Credit Union, please visit their website at ccu.org.



Left: Local high school students benefitted from Colorado Credit Union's Bite of Reality financial education fairs, made possible by an in-kind grant from the GoWest Foundation.



Right: Colorado Credit Union staff help teach students how to budget basic needs, wants and unexpected costs via their Bite of Reality initiative.



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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 the views or opinions of the Master Association, its directors, officers, employees, agents, staff, *Life at Ken-Caryl* or its editor. Neither the editor nor the Master Association accepts any responsibility for the content of these letters. Writers accept full responsibility for their written word. Letters should comply with acceptable standards for courtesy and respect.

Email to allisonr@kcranch.org.
Deadline for Feb. 14 paper is Feb. 5 at 9 a.m.

Dear Editor

Editor’s note: The following is Part 3 of a continued letter to the editor, authored by resident Kathy Webster, which ran in the Jan. 3 and Jan. 17 issues of Life at Ken-Caryl. With the author’s consent, this letter is the final installment that was published over several issues to ensure that it was printed in its entirety as the author intended.

...A species cannot be saved without protecting habitat. The ESA [Endangered Species Act] has contributed to the protection of millions of acres of forests, mountains, rivers, deserts, beaches, and oceans. One example is the relationship between the ESA and the South Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (PRRIP). The program was formed to provide “protections for existing and new water uses” to improve conditions and assure healthy waters for certain species listed on the ESA. The project effectively manages a target amount of water that flows in the South Platte River. Colorado’s commitment to the project is entitled the Tamarack Project, which seeks to provide 10,000 acre-feet of recharge each year into the Platte. Some endangered species that have benefited include three birds (whooping crane, least tern, piping plover) and one fish (pallid sturgeon).

Our planet is facing climate change, which will affect all living animals and

plants, making many species of fauna and flora susceptible to extinction. What’s next? A commitment to the next 50 years. A commitment to putting natural processes first by managing for conservation, preserving native ecosystems, promoting biological diversity, and protecting and rewilding native habitats. Conscientious stewardship and respectful coexistence between humans and wildlife will allow future generations to enjoy the “wild.”

Another thing that humans can do is make a commitment to restraint. Restraint is a philosophical concept where nature and natural processes take precedence. Humans accept limits on themselves. It is a lesson that is increasingly important for all to learn in this age of climate change, population growth, biodiversity loss, habitat destruction, increased motorized recreation, depleting water reserves and other major environmental concerns.

Time to celebrate the efficacy of the last 50 years of the ESA and the role that it has played in preventing extinction, maintaining diversity, ensuring healthy interconnected ecosystems, improving waterways and restoring our national heritage. Protecting the ESA, as it is written, is vital to conserving the legacy of Colorado’s Natural History. Time cannot diminish the importance of this pivotal law.

Kathy Webster, Resident
**This is the final installment of this letter to the editor.*

Dear Editor

Put Your Money Where Your Vote Is!
One of the main objections from ranchers on the Western slope regarding the wolf reintroduction in Colorado was that the largest percentage of voters in favor of the reintroduction lived on the Front Range and other urban areas, far from where the wolves would be released.

Now we can “put your money where our vote is” by helping to fill the coffers that will refund ranchers for any proven losses of livestock by the reintroduced wolves. The Rocky Mountain Wolf Foundation (RMWF) instigated a program, and in May 2023, Governor Polis signed HB23-1265

creating the “Born To Be Wild” license plate. Starting Jan. 1, we can purchase a wolf license plate from the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for \$50. The license plate is black and white and reads “Born To Be Wild.” None of the funds from this purchase will go to the RMWF. The monies will go directly to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife for compensation and education purposes. The idea is to minimize conflict and maximize understanding.

All of you that signed the petitions and voted for the wolf reintroduction, please set up an appointment with DMV so you can receive your license plate and display it proudly.

It is the least we can do to show the ranchers who are willing to strive for co-existence our support and communicate to them how important this rewilding of top predators is to a complete and healthy ecosystem. Both ranchers and wolves can thrive!

Go to wolfplate.org for more details.
For the wild,
Kathy Webster, Resident

Dear Editor

Dear KC - please slow down. I completely understand being late for things - I am often. I understand we all have commitments for various events. But do we really need to run every stop sign? Is it necessary to drive at 20 MPH over the speed limit? I have spoken to the Jefferson County Sheriff office and they just don't have the resources to properly patrol these issues in The Valley. So... I guess it's up to us as good neighbors and citizens of the KC area to just be respectful. Every time someone runs a stop sign with their kiddos in the car - you are teaching them that driving illegally and disrespectful is okay. Also, talk to your teenagers about what courtesy is. I know I am a bit “old school” that the values of courtesy and respect are something we should teach kids, but there are plenty of kids driving pretty nice cars that speed, run stop signs and will give you the “finger” if you say something otherwise.

PICTURE THIS! - “Facing” Winter

The result of a winter storm, or was this guy on the losing end of a snowball fight? Photo snapped and shared by resident Katherine Baker.



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1st Tuesday of every month
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Ranch House- Shaffer Room

Estate Planning with Legacy Law

Discover the intricacies of Colorado probate with our estate planning presentation. Uncover the direct impact a will can have on probate proceedings and explore the benefits of incorporating a trust to seamlessly navigate and potentially bypass the probate process.

Zen Meditation with Gary Kahn

This session will discuss how Zen is rooted in human experience and Buddhist tradition. Zen Buddhism is not a religion and is practiced by millions of people who may identify as Christian, Muslim, Jewish, or one of many other religions. Zen offers a non-religious spiritual path for making every day more peaceful and fulfilling. We will explore the meditation experience and discuss Buddhist stories and poems that help us build an understanding of both Zen and ourselves.

The session will be led by Gary Kahn, a Zen practitioner for the last 20 years and Dharma Teacher in the international Kwan Um School of Zen. Prior to retirement, Gary held a variety of leadership positions in the IT industry, after earning a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Science. Gary and his wife Lena have lived in Ken- Caryl for six years and are grateful to be here!

Generously Sponsored By:



I have asked several people what it would feel like if your dog got loose, ran into the road and a car was driving way too fast while staring at their cell phone about to run over your dog. Pretty scary. Gut wrenching. Now imagine it's your kid just playing as they should, outside. Let that sink in...
Thanks,
Aaron Ninness, Resident

Dear Editor

At the recently convened special meeting on Jan. 10 to address the crucial matter of formulating a Conservation (which really should be Preservation) and Recreation Plan for our beloved open space, it became evident that the Trail Club members are actively working against this initiative, attempting to impede decisions that might shed light on the shortsighted nature of their agenda.
The proposed plan is vital for the sustainable future of Ken-Caryl, aiming to strike a balance between preservation and recreation. Unfortunately, there are those who, driven by a desire to expand trail networks, risk compromising our environment and property values—

the very essence of our community's identity.
Now, more than ever, we need your support in championing the cause of responsible preservation. We urge you to voice your concerns, ideas and unwavering commitment to safeguarding our open space. Writing letters to the editor is a powerful way to express your views and rally fellow residents to stand together for the well-being of our community.
By articulating the importance of the Conservation and Recreation Plan, you contribute to a shared vision that prioritizes sustainability and the preservation of our most valuable asset—the Ken-Caryl open space. Let us unite in writing letters to the editor, ensuring that our collective voice resonates with the strength of a community committed to responsible stewardship.
Together, we can shape the future of Ken-Caryl and leave a lasting legacy of harmony between nature and recreation. Take action now, and let your words be the catalyst for positive change.
Carol Grape, Resident

Dear Editor

I have written this letter to emphasize the pressing need for a comprehensive Preservation and Recreation Plan in KC, an initiative that is critical for the health, prosperity and unity of our community. The open space is undeniably our most valuable asset, influencing both our well-being and property values.
Currently, our open space faces numerous challenges, including

threats to our fauna and flora, environmental preservation concerns, climate change impacts, inappropriate exploitation and strains from an influx of new residents. Recognizing the pivotal role of our natural habitat in defining our community, we must advocate for the creation of a multi-disciplinary team of local and external experts. This team, focused on environmental science, urban planning, climate resilience and community engagement, must aim to collaboratively design a comprehensive Preservation and Recreation Plan.
Key stakeholders, including residents, property owners, conservationists, historical society members and various clubs, must be actively involved in this process. To build trust and transparency, we must have an effective planning process that involves stakeholders, expert consultations, workshops, surveys and consensus-building sessions.
However, a primary challenge hindering progress is the existing conflicts and distrust within the community. Recent toxic displays at the special meeting on Jan. 10, 2024, highlighted the pervasive distrust between certain groups and the MA Board. Additionally, concerns about special interest-driven relationships among board members, Trails Club, and the Open Space Committee have fueled skepticism about open and honest decision-making.

To address these issues and foster unity, we must unite as a community around the development of a Preservation and Recreation Plan. It is imperative to move beyond conflicts and establish a mechanism/forum for various clubs and committees to align on common objectives. By doing so, we can inhibit the current fragmented decision-making process and work towards the collective good of all KC residents.
In conclusion, the creation of a comprehensive Preservation and Recreation Plan is not just a necessity, but an opportunity to build alignment, trust and unity within our community. Let us commit to securing the enduring health and prosperity of our environment for all residents who call KC home now and in the future.
Doug Gray, Resident

Dear Editor

I am seeking your continued support for re-election to the Master Association Board. Below is my platform from three years ago followed by some of our achievements.
In February 2021, my proposals read as follows:
I believe that the MA Board should accomplish the following:
1. Assure budget and fiscal integrity.
2. Preserve, protect and enhance our priceless, signature landscape and our unique flora and fauna from fragmentation and visual degradation caused by poorly designed, aligned and constructed trails.
3. Promote a safe, enjoyable and world class experience for all users of all amenities, including trails, pools, tennis courts and buildings.
4. Ensure adequate maintenance of existing facilities, particularly fences in The Plains, so that a visitor's first impression of Ken-Caryl is one of delight.
5. Enhance our home values and quality of life.
Here is what the Board and staff

have accomplished in line with those promises.
1. Questioned every project for cost estimates and obtained competitive quotes. Consequently, the pond dredging proposal was reduced by \$150k. The Ranch House parking lot replacement expanded from a simple overlay, which would have not addressed the drainage, cracking or disintegration, to a well-engineered total replacement with professional engineering oversight. Reserve funds were invested in interest bearing CDs and interest income will contribute the same amount of income to the association in 2024 as a \$3 dues increase would.
2. Preserving the environment. We prevented the concreting of the Plum Thicket dirt trail. Converting dirt trails to concrete is an unnecessary and costly urbanization of Ken-Caryl's unique character.
3. Promoting the betterment of all recreation facilities. The Equestrian Center has had significant restoration of the buildings and arenas, to the extent that there is now a waiting list for boarding.
4. The Fence Task Force was created and recommended a ten-year plan to replace all the perimeter fencing. In 2023, Continental Divide Road was replaced. In 2024, Chatfield Avenue has been contracted. These significant aesthetic improvements create a positive first impression of a well-cared for community.
5. Together, the above achievements are contributing to everyone's home values appreciating and a better quality of life.
Please vote to continue this progress.
Philip Varley, Resident and MA Board Treasurer

Dear Editor

The MA Board should be boring work. Unfortunately, not in the age of activism. President Gerry Bauer, Treasurer Philip Varley, both up for re-election this March, operate behind a wall of unprecedented closed-door executive sessions to launch contentious and wasteful policy without input from the community. On Jan 10, a last-minute MA Board meeting was called to quickly and quietly pass a motion to create a conservation and recreation task force. Fortunately, over 100 residents showed up to make their voices heard. This is their scheme to close trails south of Massey Draw in the two months before a MA Board election.
Gerry and Philip want to stand up a new task force comprised of like-minded trail closer advocates aligned to themselves. This new body would supersede the existing community stakeholder groups designed to have these conversations. They hope to provide legitimacy to this group by spending \$50K of our money on a third-party consultant who will give a predetermined conclusion that trails should be closed. This while curtailing services we want like recycling (in case you haven't heard).
This work has been done with the 2019 Open Space Comprehensive Management Plan written by residents and ranger staff. It is a holistic plan for recreation and conservation. It already addresses trail utilization and key conservation objectives. Additional input from the community can likely make it better and should be encouraged.

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Ⓢ Life at Ken-Caryl

January 31, 2024

Gerry and Philip are not only opposed to trails, but wild fire prevention. From a list of qualified candidates for two spots on the Open Space Committee, they selected only one person, unqualified by their own measure, other than she is opposed to trails and fire prevention. This new member is on record saying that wild fire prevention efforts are a “variant of the sky-is-falling” brought on by the Marshal Fire, but common in places like California (Sept. MA minutes). I’d rather prevent wild fire, keep my house and a healthy ecosystem, thanks.

Come March let’s insist on centrist candidates, without agendas, who prioritize community engagement and good will over closed-door meetings. Let’s make the Board boring again.

Sincerely,
 Nick Hereford, Resident

Dear Editor

Several hundred Ken-Caryl residents have attended Master Association meetings the past several months and have witnessed complete leadership dysfunction. Specifically, Board President Gerry Bauer and Board Treasurer Philip Varley need to be held accountable for what has taken place:

The Master Association has not presented a proper financial report at a board meeting for four months. No software glitch -- which has been cited as the explanation -- can justify the board treasurer failing to correct this in a timely fashion, nor the board president for failing to make this a focus of correction at Master Association Board meetings. They have not.

Financial stewardship is the Board’s most important function. Instead of focusing the Board on working with staff to answer this single-most important issue immediately, President Bauer and Treasurer Varley -- whose board seats expire in March -- have in the last three months focused on issues related to the board’s Open Space Committee.

In January, under Mr. Bauer’s leadership the board held a “special meeting” on 48-hours’ notice to consider an Open Space-related policy change in the last two months of his term. When more than 100 residents showed up to oppose this hasty action, the five-member board

decided not to advance a motion. This is like picking out wallpaper while your foundation is crumbling. Why not hold a special meeting to discuss providing the community with a proper financial report or discussing why the Board’s 2024 budget cut your trash-recycling service -- one of the most popular MA services according to the 2021 Community Survey -- to bi-weekly starting in May to save funds, while both Bauer and Varley proposed adding new funding to the budget to pay a consultant to work on an Open Space Management plan. I am respectful of anyone who chooses to contribute time to work on community boards and committees. And they are our neighbors. But Mr. Bauer and Mr. Varley need to be held accountable as president and treasurer of our homeowner association. They need to be replaced in the March election.

John (JJ) Hamilton, Resident

Editor’s note: The Jan. 10 meeting that Mr. Hamilton references in his letter was to open the door and invite discussion on Ken-Caryl’s proposed Conservation and Recreation Plan for MA-owned open space and not to adopt or approve a change in policy. Any decisions related to current policies, procedures, rules or plans, or the adoption of new Ken-Caryl policies will follow the communications protocol, which is posted to our website. In addition, all financials have been posted online. In June, the MA and the MA Board discovered two variances in our financials, one in our software and one in our subcontractor reporting. As only final month end financials are presented to the MA Board of Directors, once finalized financials are completed, they will be presented to the Board for approval. The MA has taken steps to investigate and rectify the variances reported. Updated financials will be presented and posted as soon as they are available.

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 LIFE AT KEN-CARYL

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Life at Ken-Caryl is a private newspaper published every other week by the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association. OUR PURPOSE is to bring timely information to the residents of Ken-Caryl Ranch. The editorial direction of this publication comes ultimately from the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association Board of Directors. NOTICE: The views of the authors of the various articles and letters in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the committees, directors, management, or the community as a whole. Deadline dates are published at www.ken-carylranh.org under the *Community & News*, then *Newspaper & e-News* tabs.

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Piper Blarr	720-255-6877	B, P	16	Colony
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Caprice Camilli	720-347-3411	B, P	13	Wynterbrooke
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Alice Cuttitta-Gallant	303-517-8864	B	15	Deer Creek
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Megan Ellis	720-290-2033	B, P, S	14	Heirloom
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Ryan Flint	303-517-3749	L,P,S	15	Retreat
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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
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Georgia Gilmore	720-210-4177	B	16	Heirloom
Connor Glitzer	303-489-3932	L, S	18	The Village
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Kyra Goudzwaard	720-552-0175	B, P	15	Barrington Ridge
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Will Guider	303-868-7198	L,P,S	14	Aspen Meadows
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Griffin Ruszkowski	303-960-9883	L, P, S	13	Stallion Pointe
Jake Ruszkowski	720-607-2809	B, L, P, S	17	Stallion Pointe
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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
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7368 Alkire St #204 • 10 Mountain High • 1130 Twin Thumbs Pass • 28 Mesa Oak • 9607 W Trailmark • 5 Catamount Lane
8 White Birch • 6 Meadow Rose Lane • 9 White Birch • 11 Wild Turkey • 9 Paonia • 11886 Elkhead Range Road
11722 Hornsilver • 15 Summit Ash • 11709 Elkhead Range Road • 15636 Red Deer Drive • 10237 West Roxbury Avenue

- Living & Specializing in Ken-Caryl Ranch
- 50+ Years Combined Experience
- #1 Ken-Caryl Resident Marketing Team (1996-2023)
- Over 2500 Households Served

- 80% Repeat Referral Business
- Top 1% City and Nationwide for Closed Sales!
- Re/Max Chairman's Club, Hall of Fame
- Re/Max #1 Sales Team KC Office 2005-2010

- Coldwell Banker Chairman's Circle
- GMAC Broker Hall of Fame Club, GMAC President's Elite
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