

# A Newsletter for the Diamond Ridge Estates Community

Summer 2008

## NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION

We invite story ideas you want us to write about, or we'll accept your written text. Please submit information for upcoming issues to the Editor at: [msscottrell@aol.com](mailto:msscottrell@aol.com). Look for this and future issues at our enhanced web site:

[www.DiamondRidge.org](http://www.DiamondRidge.org)

Next issue: Fall 2008

## HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

The Diamond Ridge Estates homeowners association works to keep your neighborhood the attractive and desirable community you enjoy. The HOA is made up of all property owners in Diamond Ridge Estates. You belong! The volunteers who serve on committees and the board are your neighbors. Please let us know your ideas, concerns, and willingness to serve.

### 2008 Board Members:

Peggy Cottrell, President  
Steve Knight, Vice President  
Norma Akers, Treasurer  
Kevin Raasch, Secretary  
Al Link, Member at Large

Our HOA is assisted by  
Management Specialists, Inc.

Our MSI representative is:  
Kathi Burdess

Phone: 720.974.4235 cell  
E-mail: [KBurdess@msiho.com](mailto:KBurdess@msiho.com)



## A FUN TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

The Social Committee out did themselves with the Adult Social Dinner Party held at the pool. Approximately 65 residents gathered for an evening of socializing, meeting new and sharing



old friendships. Our pool was transformed into an elegant venue with tables clothed in white, a large fountain in the middle of the pool, a Margarita machine and excellent food catered by Marshall and his son with Horizon Foods.



A very special "Thank You" to the Social Committee chairperson Angela Strickler and husband Marc, as well as Fran & John Colombi, Emily & Troy Pickett, Colleen Willency, Amy Kotha of AK Photography and Dominique Hodgins & her girls for their hard work on this event. When you see these neighbors, please thank them for their time and commitment to making this event a success. We hope you'll come back to join us again next year.



## SUMMER POOL PARTY

This year's family BBQ was enjoyed by many families that participated. The weather was fantastic and the blow up slide/park was a huge hit with the kids. A very special "Thank You" to Fran and John Colombi for allowing the neighborhood kids to use their water slide for the day and to Marc Strickler for taking on the job of Grill Master cooking up plenty of hamburgers and hot dogs.



## THE COMMUNITY E-MAIL LIST

From time to time, e-mail addresses are changed by their owners. We remember to notify friends, family and corporations but many have neglected to notify our community webmaster. If you are new to the community or have been here a while and have changed your e-mail address and are no longer receiving neighborhood e-mail, please contact Kevin Raasch at [raasch@msn.com](mailto:raasch@msn.com) or give him a call at 303-663-5733. Our website is fast becoming the way to stay informed of current community events.

## FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

A fun family night has been planned where we will be featuring an outdoor movie on Friday evening, August 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00pm. The movie is "The Game Plan", rated PG and will run for 1 hour and 50 minutes. Bring your chairs and/or blankets to sit on at the tennis court. HOA to provide popcorn and soda. *Rain Date is scheduled for August 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

## WARM WEATHER THEFTS

Castle Rock Police suggest simple measures help protect against crime. Many crimes that take place are crimes of opportunity. It's important to not create opportunities for criminals. With warmer temperatures everyone spends more time outside – and that includes thieves. Keep from being an easy target for criminals with a few simple safeguards.

- Keep valuables in your car out of view
- Keep car doors locked
- Ensure windows and sunroofs are closed
- Never leave your car running, even if you are gone only a minute
- Never leave your keys inside your car
- Keep your home's garage door closed when not in use, even during daytime hours
- Close windows on the bottom floor of your home
- Keep all home doors locked

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## COVENANT CORNER

Many Diamond Ridge families have chosen to install swing sets, trampolines and recreational equipment on their property. In some cases, the equipment has been installed in areas that are not in compliance with the Landscape Design Standards. In part, our established standards state: ***“Features such as play sets, trampolines and other recreational equipment***

***are allowed, but a plan must be submitted and approval obtained prior to installation on the lot.***

Such features must be located in a position that does not create a significant negative impact on the views of neighboring homes and must be substantially buffered from the view of neighboring properties and the street(s) by use of trees, boulders, shrubs, birms or other approved means”. Our standards further state that “features such as play sets and trampolines must be of natural wood and/or earth tone colors (brown, green) instead of bright colors that make the masking of the feature much more challenging. In fact, play sets and trampoline type features will not be allowed in areas where they cannot be extensively and effectively screened from the view of neighboring properties and streets”. ***To review the Landscape Design Standards for recreational equipment in its entirety, please go to our website and open HOA Documents, then open Landscape Design Standards and Procedures (Appendix 4).***

If you are contemplating the addition or replacement of recreational equipment or have already installed a trampoline, swing set or recreational equipment without prior approval, please contact Greg Miller at [gmgwiz@msn.com](mailto:gmgwiz@msn.com) or call Greg at 303-660-1813.

- Keep an eye on your neighborhood for suspicious activity

Writing down serial numbers of valuables and keeping those numbers in a safe place is also helpful. If an item is recovered, having the serial numbers documented enables the items to be returned to the owner more quickly. If you would like more information on how to better protect yourself and your valuables log onto [www.CRGov.com](http://www.CRGov.com).



## TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY

As many of you know, our neighborhood’s concern over speeding led us to the Town’s Traffic Calming Program. Representatives from the Town attended last year’s Town Hall Meeting where they provided an overview of the program and explained that we would first need to petition the Town to undertake a traffic study.

Last fall we successfully gathered enough signatures from those living along the Parkway (The only road within DRE that the Town would consider studying) to file the petition. Then winter came and it wasn’t until spring that the Town completed their traffic study, which in fact showed speeds along the Parkway average over 40mph.

As a result, the Town has proposed 3 similar mitigation measures, all of which involve building small islands and/or using boulders in about 10 different locations along the Parkway to effectively narrow the road, making cars slow down to pass through them. These ideas were presented and discussed at our recent Town Hall Meeting where the consensus among

everyone seemed to be that these measures may work but the design/appearance doesn't exactly measure up to our neighborhood's standards.

The next step will most likely be for the Town to call a meeting of concerned residents from Diamond Ridge and the surrounding neighborhoods of Puma Ridge and Sapphire Point probably in September. Based on community feedback, the Town may revise the proposed ideas, or propose entirely new ideas.

Ultimately, the installation of any traffic calming measures will come down to a vote by residents living along the Parkway only. We would encourage everyone in Diamond Ridge to watch the mail for the Town's meeting announcement and make a point to attend this important meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Raasch at 303-663-5733 or [Raasch@msn.com](mailto:Raasch@msn.com).



### **SAVE THE DATE – ADULT HOLIDAY PARTY**

Don't miss out on this year's Holiday Season Party. The event has been scheduled for Saturday, December 6th at 7:00pm. Details will be announced in the next Newsletter and on the website at a later date.

### **COMMUNITY VANDALISM**

Sometime during the evening of July 23rd our community pool, spa and tennis courts were vandalized. A chemical was thrown into the pool and spa resulting in clouding of the pool and spa water. The pool needed to be shocked and two filters needed to be replaced at a cost to the community of \$1,400.00. The vandal(s) then moved on to the tennis court and proceeded to cut the chain link fence on one side of the court. The cost to repair the damage to the fence

is in excess of \$500.00. As if this event was not bad enough, the repair company determined the fence was cut from within the court and not from the outside. What this means according to the repair company is that someone with the entry code is responsible for the damage to the tennis court, pool and spa. A vandalism report was filed with the Castle Rock Police Department. If the vandal(s) are caught and found to have caused the damage, it is the intent of your homeowners association to prosecute to the full extent of the law. *If you have any information that could help the Police Department, please contact them at 303-663-6100.*

### **TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK – NO KNOCK LIST**

We're still encouraging those in the community who have not signed up for the "No Knock List" to do so. Thus far we have 59 families who have responded to our request. Anything short of full participation legally enables solicitors to target those homes that are not signed up for the program. To register your home on the No Knock List, e-mail Sally Misare at [smisare@CRgov.com](mailto:smisare@CRgov.com). Give her your name, address, sub-division name, phone number and e-mail address. Let's strive for 100% community participation in this effort.

### **FAQ COMING SOON**

Look for the most **Frequently Asked Questions** by homeowners to be in print form and on our web site. Hopefully this will alleviate the repetition of questions and frustration that happens among homeowners.

*Enjoy the rest of Summer!*

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