



The Kipling Villager

Newsletter of the Kipling Villas Homeowners' Association

May 2007

Dedicated to Improving Our Community

www.KVHA.net

Kipling Villas Wants You

Ever ask yourself the questions: Why did they do that? What were they thinking? Just what does my \$25.00 membership due get me?

Here is your chance to become one of "THEM." Elections are held every May (Tuesday May 8th) during our first of the year meeting. Over the past few years the board has made great improvements to our neighborhood. These improvements include all the new trees, shrubs and grass along Holland and Park Hill as well as the entrance signs. We are turning into a good looking neighborhood thanks to their hard work.

We will be voting on the following positions:

President - Represents the neighborhood association with Foothills, Jefferson County and other municipalities

Vice President - Attends board meetings, backs up the president when needed

Secretary - Documents the meetings and events and posts them on our web

Treasurer - Receives funds, makes disbursements and reports on the fiscal state of the association

District Reps - Represent the 9 districts that make up our neighborhood in our quarterly meetings

Naked Trees? We got Naked Trees!!

You may have noticed that the wrappings and stakes have been removed from the trees along the green-belt along Kipling and Holland. Thanks to the hard work of Jerry Shin, other members of the Board, as well as the hard work of dedicated residents, we were able to realize a significant savings over having Foothills hire someone to remove them. We were also able to lend a hand to our neighbors out on the Eastern Plains by selling the posts to some hard working ranchers and farmers.

May Homeowners Meeting

Tuesday, May 8, 2007 7:30-9:00 pm
Lilley Gulch Rec. Center

AGENDA

?? Elections

Prstd US
Postage
Paid
Permit
#4444

Carrier Route*****

Name
Address
Littleton, CO 80123

Spring Cleanup May 12th

Our annual Spring Cleanup is Saturday May 12th from 7:00 AM until 1:00 PM. We will have two dumpsters available for neighborhood residents. The dumpsters will be located at the south end of Holland known to locals as the Iris street closure. Space is limited in the dumpsters so, as always, it is first come first served. Stop on by if you would like to help out and watch Ken beat stuff up .

How much does it cost?

?? Cost for dropping off a car or truckload is \$25.00, which also covers your 2007 membership dues.

How many loads can I bring?

?? We ask that you be reasonable. Each additional load is \$10.00.

What can I bring?

?? Tree branches, lumber, yard waste, general stuff you don't want anymore.

What can't I bring?

?? Batteries of any kind, tires, paint, chemicals, oil, insecticides, fertilizer or other hazardous items. Please see accompanying article on how to dispose of these items.

Will that guy be doing the donation thing?

?? Yes, Emery will be collecting your usable items for donation to local charities.

What's new this year?

?? We will also have a trailer for recycling metal items .

What do we do with the money from the cleanup?

?? Surprisingly we almost break even. This is something we do for the neighborhood and to have an opportunity to meet people face to face.

So what do I do with the nasty stuff?

We just finished telling you that you can't take hazardous items to the cleanup. So what can you do with them? Well don't put them under your bed. There are a number of resources available to you for disposing of hazardous waste.

Paint, Solvents, Oil, other Chemicals and Electronic Waste

?? Rooney Road Recycling Center 303-316-6262, (www.co.jefferson.co.us) then select Recycle.

?? Cost is on a sliding scale based on item and volume.

?? They do not take explosive items. If you have bullets, gunpowder, fireworks Etc., please call the Sheriffs office at 303-277-0211.

Batteries Automotive or UPS

?? Batteries Plus will allow you to drop them off. Please call first to make sure they have room.

?? Last time we checked there was no charge.

Tires

?? Discount Tires will take tires for recycling. Depending on their mood they may not charge, otherwise it is just a few dollars.

Appliances

?? Western Recycling will pay you for your used appliances and other metal including Aluminum cans.

Kipling Villas Green Belt Update

By Jerry Shin Vice President and Greenbelt Guru

As you have probably observed, the *T* posts and tree wraps are coming off of the green belt trees. I would like to thank the numerous people that have helped in this effort. It is quite an undertaking. There are over 500 trees that were planted in the project. Some of the people that have taken part are: Greg and Jean Nelson, Al Finken, and Ken Schauer. I would like to thank the many others that have picked up trash, tended the planting beds, and trimmed the shrubs and trees of dead wood. I know the green belt maintenance has been contracted out, but the scope of the agreements have not included some of these tasks.

Foothills Parks and Recreation District has put the green belt maintenance out to bid. I don't know the status of the contracts. You can see the specifics the maintenance on the KV web site, KVHA.net.

I was able to sell 300 *T* posts to Dennis at Variety Landscaping in Englewood. He was also kind enough to loan me a post puller. These posts belong to the homeowners association. We will invest the proceeds into replacement of dead trees and other green belt needs.

While pulling the *T* posts along Holland Way and Iris Street, I made several observations. First, the green belts have less trash than before the improvements, but the planting beds still gather some litter. Most of the trash is fast food wrappers and cups. The most trash is near the Holland Way-Bowles entrance. Please use the trash cans and don't throw trash from your cars. Second, I have seen more dog waste along the walkways. Please pick up after your pets. This is a health issue as well as an aesthetic one.

If you have questions and/or comments please contact me, Jerry Shin at 303-979-4879 or gjshin@msn.com

**2006 MEMBERSHIP
KIPLING VILLAS HOMEOWNERS'
ASSOCIATION
Only \$25 per year!**

All memberships to the Kipling Villas Homeowners' Association expired May 1, 2006. Please renew your support and consider participating in the quarterly meetings.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Please make checks payable to:

**KVHA
P.O BOX 620714
Littleton, CO 80162**



Law Enforcement Approaches to Citizens with Mental Illnesses

by Sheriff Ted Mink

About a year ago, the Sheriff's Office got a call about a woman threatening to kill herself by driving off a cliff. Deputies eventually found her standing on a bridge. She was despondent, suicidal, and had a history of mental illness and use of psychotropic medications. She had given up on doctors and the other mental health resources she had tried.

The deputies on scene talked to her for 45 minutes. They took a relaxed approach, remained patient, and tried to redirect her to think about planning for the future. Most of all, they recognized that she needed to be heard, and they listened as she talked about years' worth of problems.

After nearly an hour, she gave up on her suicide mission, and deputies took her to get treatment and contact family.

Crisis Intervention Training

In 2003, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office began training a number of deputies in crisis intervention skills, so that we might provide better services to the mentally ill in our community. About 5 percent of Americans suffer from a serious mental illness, according to the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). Many more have milder diagnoses or experience suicidal thoughts.

Because of the nature of some of these illnesses, mentally ill citizens may be more likely to have contact with police. The law enforcement approach to crises involving the mentally ill has changed. Today, more deputies have the skills to identify characteristics of mental illness, the ability to intervene in a crisis, and the resources to help the person in question.

The crisis intervention program has educated thousands of officers throughout Colorado, including 66 at the Sheriff's Office. The program involves selective recruitment of officers and an intense 40-hour training course involving expert lecturers, role-playing scenarios with actors, and visits to local mental health facilities. Once certified in crisis intervention, the deputies are dubbed CITs, for Crisis Intervention Team.

Today, a CIT-trained deputy will respond to most incidents involving mental health issues or suicide attempts in Jefferson County. Of course, a deputy isn't a doctor. But the more education a deputy has in assessing and defusing a crisis, the better.

Dangerous Games Kids Play

by Sheriff Ted Mink

In January 2007, a 12-year-old boy from south Jeffco died in his home. The coroner found that the cause of death was asphyxiation due to strangulation. The boy died playing a game: "the choking game."

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The Choking Game

The choking game is not new. Usually, a group of children will gather around one child who willingly submits to being “choked” by a friend. The purpose of the game is to feel lightheaded before fainting. The game has many other names, including Space Monkey and the pass-out game.

The choking game is dangerous because it’s not actually choking. It’s strangulation. Strangulation cuts off breathing, but more importantly, it cuts off the supply of blood and oxygen to the brain. It can take only moments to cause permanent brain damage this way.

But this game is even more dangerous, and in some cases deadly, when children play it alone. The boy who died from the choking game died because he was playing the game alone, and when he quietly hung himself there was no one around to save him. This was not a suicide. Sheriff’s Office interviews revealed that he had played the game many times before.

Huffing

Huffing, also called puffing, involves inhaling vapors from household items as common as a can of cleaning spray or whipped cream. Spraying the propellant into a bag or rag and breathing the fumes can produce a “high.” Other items that can be huffed or sniffed include markers and gasoline. Among the most dangerous and most common inhalant is spray paint, especially metallic colors. Inhaling spray paint or other toxic chemicals like it can cause brain damage or death.

Legal Drugs

Abuse of prescription drugs has surfaced as a recurring problem among kids. This kind of drug abuse may include ingesting or selling prescriptions belonging to friends or relatives, purposely taking too many of one’s own prescription, or taking excessive amounts of over-the-counter drugs. In late 2005, in a case that made the news, a student at a Lakewood high school brought a family member’s morphine capsules to school to sell to other students. The buyer ingested the morphine and became ill, but lived. More recently in Jefferson County, school resource officers have noticed a trend in students ingesting alcohol-based herbal supplements in large volumes. As any doctor will tell you, ingesting drugs in a manner not prescribed can be extremely dangerous.

The Irony

The irony of some of these games is that in many cases, the “good kids” are the ones playing. Kids who choose not to drink or use illegal drugs may believe that these games represent safe or legal ways to have a good time. Also, children as young as elementary school can be involved in these activities. Please talk with your children about the potentially deadly consequences of these activities. A simple Internet search for some of the topics above will reveal many resources for parents, including warning signs.

Parting shot from the editor

In a past life I was a Paramedic working in the Denver metro area for 20 years. In that time I had the opportunity to see the best and worst of people. Now I work in an office.

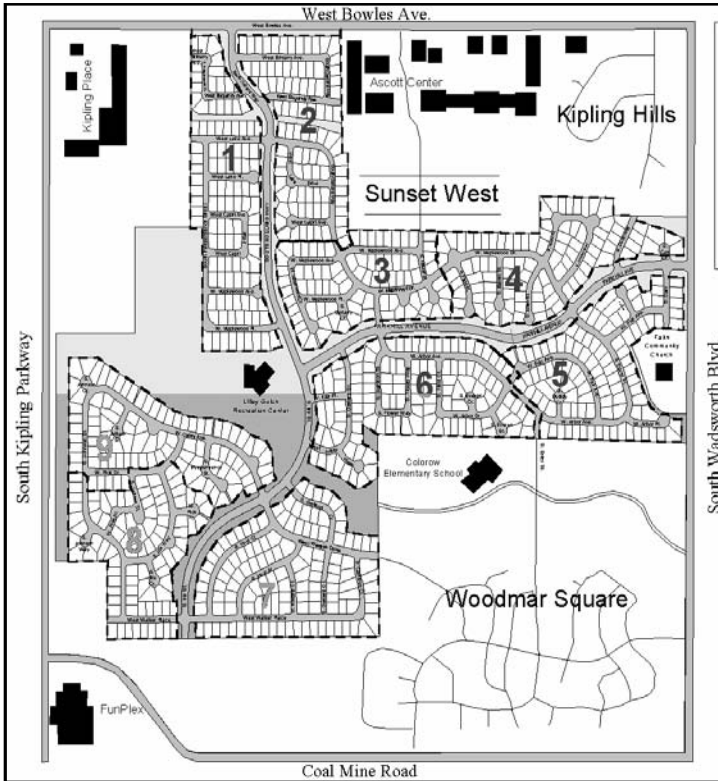
What’s the connection? It doesn’t matter if you are taking care of a persons health, their needs in an office or a community there is one constant. Without communication you’re out of luck.

We frequently hear about some five year old who dialed 911 for his sick mom who passed out. What would have happened if the people knew their neighbors? Could they have prevented it or helped her get food? Probably, maybe, who knows.

When was the last time you talked to your neighbor? Have a gripe about them? Worried about them? Take a minute and have a chat.

Remember the old neighborhood where you couldn’t get away with anything as a kid? I do, and it was because people actually knew their neighbors. Give it a try.

Kipping Villas Districts



KVHA Officers and Directors 2006 / 2007

Officers

President:	Mark Donohue	303-979-8150
Vice President:	Jerry Shin	303-979-4879
Secretary:	Open	
Treasurer:	Dwayne Redger	303-978-1880

Board of Directors

District 1	Spencer Helwig	303-948-3040
District 2	Charles Harrison	303-973-4344
District 3	Open	
District 4	Carl Gibbons	303-972-8354
District 5	Ken Schauer	303-973-2412
District 6	Sue Harding	303-932-0454
District 7	Jerry & Janet Shin	303-979-4879
District 8	Mark Donohue	303-979-8150
District 9	Dwayne Redger	303-978-1880
	Dale Anderson	303-972-0020
Newsletter/ Advertising:	Emery Mc Kune	303-726-1311

Classified ads

Kipling Villas Homeowners Association is looking for a newsletter editor. If you are interested please come to the May 8th meeting.

Want to place an ad? Please come to the May 8th meeting or call Emery Mc Kune @ 303-726-1311.

Important Jefferson County Numbers

Animal Control	271-5070
Assessor	271-8666
Clerk & Recorder	271-8171
Commissioners	271-8525
County Attorney	271-8900
Courts	271-6215
District Attorney	271-6800
Elections	271-8111
Health & Environment	239-7075
Highways & Transportation	271-8495
Human Services	271-1388
Information	279-6511
Mediation Services	271-5060
Motor Vehicle	271-8100
Sheriff's Department	277-0211
Traffic Hotline	271-5677

Jeffco Home Page:
<http://jeffco.k12.co.us/community>