



NEWSLETTER OF THE STRATMOOR HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

“Where Country Charm Meets City Convenience”

Winter 2011 – Spring 2012

Check out our web site at: stratmoorhills.org

Santa and his reindeer fly over the Stratmoor Hills community and water tower

UPCOMING EVENTS and MEETINGS

December 7, 2011, Christmas Potluck Dinner, 6pm, Stratmoor School

January 2012 ~ no meeting

February 1, 2012, Regular monthly meeting, 6:30 pm, Stratmoor School

March 7, 2012, Regular monthly meeting, 6:30 pm, Stratmoor School

April 4, 2012, Regular Monthly Meeting, 6:30 pm, Stratmoor School

May 5, 2012, Clean Up Day, 8am until dumpsters are full, Stratmoor School

June 16, 2012, Garage Sale at your house, 8am until everything is sold

July - 2012, No meeting

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK PARTY

Musicians of the 4th Infantry Division Band will entertain us again this year at our annual Christmas pot luck. The band played Christmas music for us last year and they were frequently interrupted by applause from the appreciative audience. The Association (SHNA) furnishes cutlery, drinks, comfortable seating and door prizes. Residents bring something delicious and generous to share with their neighbors. Ink December 7th at **6pm** on your calendar. Santa has promised to show up so bring your kids and your neighbors for a musical evening.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

The judges will be out touring Stratmoor Hills just after dark on the 21st of December to determine which house has the best, most creative decorations. The prize is a gift certificate to King Soopers.

WALMART* and SAM'S CLUB

The Gazette reported in October that WalMart* and Sam's Club will erect stores near the intersection of I-25 and South Academy Blvd across the street from Pikes Peak Community College. While Stratmoor Hills will certainly support these businesses, we are well aware that their presence will cause even more vehicles to travel through our neighborhood on our overworked streets ~~ not to mention the increase in emissions.

THE DEAL IS DEAD !!

In late November 2011, County Commissioner Dennis Hisey reported to us that “the deal is dead” regarding the plan to building rental apartments on Venetucci. Place Properties could not raise the money it would take to complete the project. The stretch of land is for sale once again, reportedly for \$999,000.

VETERANS CEMETERY

In September 2011 The Gazette printed a story that the issue of water rights is holding up the final decision on a VA cemetery. The land being considered consists of 400 acres two miles east of Fountain. If all problems can be solved, construction will start in 2014. But the VA may wind up selecting another site in El Paso County. Stay tuned for further developments.

SAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

Save the front part of your Christmas cards and mail them to St Jude’s Ranch for Children, 100 St Jude’s St, Boulder City, Nevada 89005. The ranch (a home for abandoned, abused and troubled children) recycles as many as half a million cards a year. Reach them at 702-294-7100. Another organization that sells Christmas cards is St Joseph’s Indian School, Chamberlain SD 57326. They may be contacted at 605-234-3300 or www.stjo.org.

EMAIL ADDRESSES ~~~ WEB SITE ~~~ FACEBOOK ~~~ WELCOME PACKETS

We believe in communication! Give us your email address and we’ll keep you up to date on emergency alerts, meeting notices and other topics of interest. Please notify us when you change your email. Our web site is up and running at stratmoorhills.org. A Facebook page is on its way. Newcomers are given a Welcome Packet so let us know (576-0831) if you are new to Stratmoor Hills but have not yet received your package full of coupons, the newsletter, a letter from the Board of Directors, menus, Sheriff’s Office news and other information newcomers need to help them settle in.

AUTHOR! AUTHOR!

Newcomer to Chamberlin Avenue, Carl Goodwin (wife Nancy) has written a book titled “They Started in MGs.” The book contains 80 profiles of sports car racers of the 1950s, including 278 photographs. If you’re interested, call Carl at 576-1439.

GIFT FOR STRATMOOR ELEMENTARY

We were able to come up with another \$300 this year as a gift to Stratmoor Elementary School. From left ~ Assistant Principal Shelly Renaud, SHNA Vice President Jessica Kuhn, President Emeritus Tom Egan, School Counselor Diana Pike and Principal Pamela Robinson.



**EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
STRATMOOR HILLS INCIDENTS 01/01/2011-10/31/2011**

CASE TYPE	DATE OCCURRED	STREET NAME
THEFT - FROM BUILDING	01/01/2011	LOOMIS*
FUGITIVE OF OTHER JURISDICTION (FOJ)	01/04/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - VANDALISM OF VEHICLE	01/05/2011	CATALINA
THEFT - FROM BUILDING	01/06/2011	CATALINA
3RD DEG ASSAULT - FAMILY - WEAPON	01/08/2011	CATALINA
FUGITIVE OF OTHER JURISDICTION (FOJ)	01/12/2011	LOOMIS*
3RD DEG - SIMPLE ASSAULT	01/15/2011	LOOMIS*
2ND DEG BURG - FORCED ENTRY - RESIDENCE	01/20/2011	CATALINA
1ST DEG CRIM TRESPASS - VEHICLE	01/23/2011	CHEYENNE MEADOWS
FUGITIVE OF OTHER JURISDICTION (FOJ)	01/27/2011	VALJEAN
HARASSMENT	01/28/2011	WESTCOTT
HARASSMENT	02/04/2011	LOOMIS
3RD DEG - SIMPLE ASSAULT	02/08/2011	CHAMBERLIN
HARASSMENT	02/08/2011	LOOMIS*
THEFT - FROM BUILDING	02/09/2011	CATALINA
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - VANDALISM OF VEHICLE	02/15/2011	KEARNEY
2ND DEG CRIM TRESPASS	02/17/2011	LOOMIS*
VIOLATION OF RESTRAINING ORDER	02/17/2011	CATALINA
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - PRIVATE	02/20/2011	CHAMBERLIN
2ND DEG BURG - FORCED ENTRY - RESIDENCE	02/23/2011	KEARNEY
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - DAMAGE PROPERTY	02/23/2011	LOOMIS*
2ND DEG BURG - NO FORCE - RESIDENCE	02/27/2011	LOOMIS*
THEFT - LARCENY - FREE TEXT	03/10/2011	KEARNEY
2ND DEG BURG - FORCED ENTRY - RESIDENCE	03/15/2011	LOOMIS*
1ST DEG CRIM TRESPASS - VEHICLE	03/18/2011	LOOMIS*
HARASSMENT	04/02/2011	CLOVER
THEFT - LARCENY - FREE TEXT	04/14/2011	LOOMIS*
3RD DEG ASSAULT - NONFAMILY - STRONGARM	04/15/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - BUSINESS	05/08/2011	LOOMIS*
2ND DEG BURG - FORCED ENTRY - RESIDENCE	05/11/2011	CATALINA
UNLAW POSS/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	05/13/2011	WESTCOTT
MENACING - NONFAMILY - GUN	05/20/2011	LOOMIS*
HARASSMENT	05/28/2011	LOOMIS*
1ST DEG CRIM TRESPASS - VEHICLE	08/08/2011	LOOMIS*
STLN VEH OUTSIDE - RECOV LOCAL	08/16/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - VANDALISM OF VEHICLE	08/25/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - VANDALISM OF VEHICLE	07/02/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - PRIVATE	07/04/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - VANDALISM OF VEHICLE	07/08/2011	CATALINA
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - BUSINESS	07/09/2011	LOOMIS
GATHERING IDENTITY INFORMATION BY DECEPTION	07/11/2011	LOOMIS
2ND DEG BURG - FORCED ENTRY - RESIDENCE	07/22/2011	LOOMIS
THEFT - FROM BUILDING	07/24/2011	CRESTRIDGE
1ST DEG CRIM TRESPASS - VEHICLE	08/05/2011	CATALINA
3RD DEG ASSAULT - NONFAMILY - STRONGARM	08/16/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - VANDALISM OF VEHICLE	08/20/2011	CATALINA
1ST DEG CRIM TRESPASS - VEHICLE	08/31/2011	LOOMIS
IDENTITY THEFT-USED FINANCIAL DEVICE	09/05/2011	LOOMIS
3RD DEG ASSAULT - NONFAMILY - STRONGARM	09/07/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - BUSINESS	09/14/2011	LOOMIS
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - PUBLIC	09/14/2011	LOOMIS
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - PRIVATE	09/18/2011	CRESTRIDGE
3RD DEG - SIMPLE ASSAULT	09/30/2011	LOOMIS*
3RD DEG - SIMPLE ASSAULT	10/03/2011	LOOMIS*
THEFT - FROM YARD	10/04/2011	WESTMARK
HARASSMENT	10/15/2011	LOOMIS*
HARASSMENT	10/16/2011	LOOMIS*
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - PRIVATE	10/18/2011	LOOMIS
3RD DEG - SIMPLE ASSAULT	10/31/2011	JEWEL

* denotes this occurred in the 4200, 4300, or 4400 blocks of Loomis (south end)

11/15/2011 ay

CRIME PREVENTION COORDINATOR

Liz Dreher is the newly-appointed Sheriff's Crime Prevention Coordinator. She is the person who furnishes us with the crime statistics (above) for Stratmoor Hills and alerts us to problems within the County via a newsletter that she publishes online. You can get ahold of Liz at 520-7151, 101 W Costilla St, 80903.

WHEN SHOULD I GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM ?

The Penrose/Saint Francis magazine "Flourish" has advice to help you decide when to go to the ER or if you should seek out an Urgent Care facility.

CONDITION	GO TO THE ER	GO TO URGENT CARE
Chest Pain	Pressure or squeezing feeling, shortness of breath, numbness, sweating, nausea, high fever or sharp pain in chest	Cough with or without mucus production, chest muscle soreness
Headache	Described as "worst" headache of your life, severe pain, stiff neck, vomiting, injury to head, numbness, tingling or weakness in arms or legs or slurred speech.	Dull pain accompanied by cold or or flu symptoms, history of migraine or sinus infection
Abdominal pain	Abdomen tender to touch, bloody or black tarry stools, vomiting blood, fever, pregnantaches, chills, burning when urinating	Watery diarrhea, fever with muscle

GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO.....

Captain Drew Russell of Clover Circle East who lost his life in Afghanistan in October, Janet and Paul Stevenson who assisted Captain Russell's Michigan family who came out to Fort Carson for their son's memorial services,

Nick Budnella, former Sinton Avenue resident, who is in boot camp with the Marine Corps in San Diego, Wally Mosher who underwent neck surgery in November,

Lila Rae who is working hard to establish a Stratmoor Valley Association,

Caleb Whitlock, Westcott Avenue, who will graduate the USAF Academy with honors in June,

Tom and Sheila Egan's grandson Zachary who was recently promoted to Cadet 2nd Lt at Mitchell High School ROTC,

John and Jessica Kuhn who are expecting their third child in January,

Sheriff Terry Maketa who presides at the most informative meeting we host all year,

To Meredith and Cherrie of the Nail Closet (near the Fire Department) who are offering a 20% discount to military ID holders on their first visit ! So handy, so clean , so all-American.

.....***your announcement isn't here? Email to stratmoorassociation@gmail.com or phone 576-0831.....***

WINTER HINTS

Contributed by Dianne Cooper

Here are some winter helpful hints that could make your winters easier to deal with.

Keep your headlights clear with car wax! Just wipe ordinary car wax on your headlights. It contains special water repellents that will prevent that messy mixture from accumulating on your lights – lasts six weeks.

Squeak proof your wipers with rubbing alcohol. Wipe the wipers with a cloth saturated with rubbing alcohol or ammonia. This one trick can make badly streaking and squeaking wipers change to near perfect silence and clarity.

Ice proof your windows with vinegar. Frost on the way? Just fill a spray bottle with three parts vinegar to one part water and spritz it on all your windows at night. In the morning, they'll be clear of ice. Vinegar contains acetic acid which raises the melting point of water preventing water from freezing.

Prevent car doors from freezing shut with cooking spray. Spritz cooking oil on the rubber seals around car doors and rub it in with a paper towel. The cooking spray prevents water from melting into the rubber.

Fog proof your wind shield with shaving cream. Spray some shaving cream on the inside of your wind shield and wipe it off with paper towels. Shaving cream has many of the same ingredients found in commercial defoggers.

De-ice your lock in seconds with hand sanitizer. Just put some hand sanitizer gel on the key and the lock and the problems are solved.

WILD KINGDOM

Submitted by Mike Haze

Stratmoor Hills is clearly a wild kingdom. Recently I answered a knock at the door. It was one of my neighbors. He wanted to alert us to the presence of a wild cat in the neighborhood. He had seen a cat that was either a Lynx or a Bobcat. I thanked him for the information and considered it carefully. As the owners of two small dogs, our Shih Tzu Security System, I am concerned about their safety. If this cat does exist, it could be bad news for small dogs. Well, we kept our eyes open for this animal and on the evening of September 22nd, we captured these photos. That cat is about 40 pounds and does not look hungry. All residents of Stratmoor Hills should be aware that we are in a true wild kingdom and be wary of strange animals.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergencies 911

El Paso County Sheriff's Office Dispatch (non emergency) 390-5555

EPSO Telephone Reporting System for minor crimes without suspect information 520-7111

EPSO Traffic Hotline for reporting problem areas or traffic violations 520-7192

EPSO Tip Line for reporting suspicious activity or the location of wanted persons 520-7777

Stratmoor Hills Fire Department 576-1200

Code Enforcement 580-6748

Ambulance 597-1277

“Nobody can go back and start a new beginning but anyone can start today and make a new ending.” Maria Robinson



RECIPIES IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

Two neighbors have given us recipes just in time for those big dinners we prepare at Christmastime.

CHEESY POTATOES

Contributed by Edna Kosley

1 pkg hash browns
1 can cream of chicken soup
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sour cream
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped onion
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or margarine, melted

Topping
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups coarsely crushed corn flakes
2 T butter

Spray 2 quart baking dish with nonstick spray. Combine all other ingredients and spread in dish. Put the topping on and bake for 45” at 350 degrees.

For larger crowds just double the ingredients.

PEANUT BRITTLE

Contributed by Jackie Schimpf

Use a large sauce pan, at least 4 quarts

Butter well a large cookie sheet with about $\frac{1}{2}$ ” sides.

Combine

2 cups sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup water

1 cup Karo syrup

Cook until hard ball forms in ice water

Add

2 T unsalted butter

2 cups raw peanuts

Stir over heat until golden brown, not a dark brown. Watch carefully when it starts getting golden color.

Remove from heat.

Quickly stir in

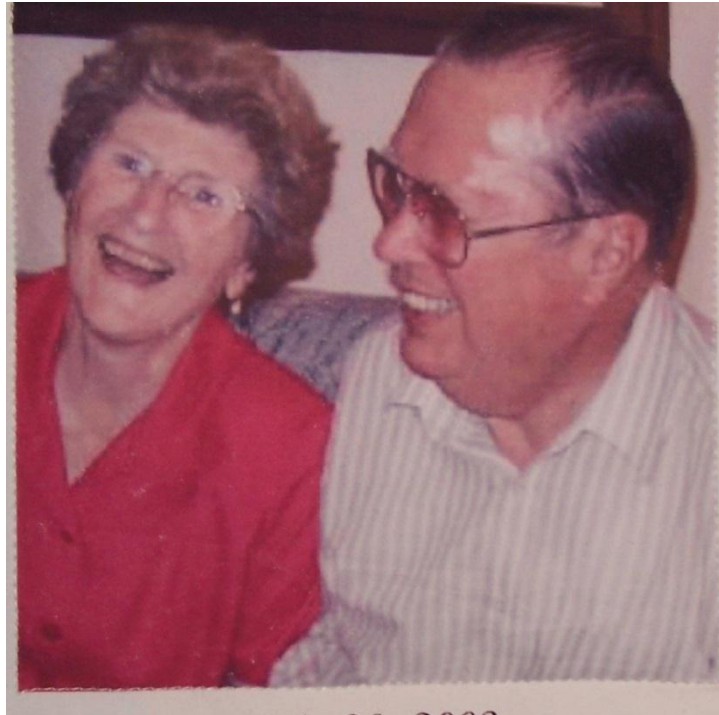
1 T vanilla and 2 t soda

Stir to mix. Mixture will bubble and foam.

Pour onto buttered cookie sheet. Careful ~ mixture is extremely hot !

Let brittle seek its own level ! Don’t smooth the mixture !

Cool, break up with hands, store in an air tight container. You will have some crumbs, they are for “test tasting” with a spoon. Enjoy and wait for the compliments!



Carrie and Ed Plante

As revised by Ed Plante

Home in Little Falls MN on leave from the United States Air Force, Ed Plante met Carrie Guck. This chance happening was the beginning of a 58 year romance. Carrie became a military wife upon their marriage in 1953. While in the Air Force, Ed and Carrie were stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base in Shreveport, LA, then on to a joyous four year assignment at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, where they bought a house. The Plantes added three more children to the two they already had while in Hawaii. Then it was off to Otis AFB, Massachusetts where another child came along to finish off their family of six children. Their final assignment was to Shepherd AFB, Wichita Falls, Texas where Ed retired in 1965. Faced with locating a permanent home for their large family, Ed began checking out several locations. He heard good reports about Colorado Springs and found it perfect in every way ~ close to Fort Carson's commissary, pharmacy and hospital, the interstate, and not far from Denver. They found a house at the corner of Crestridge and Westmark and have resided here in Stratmoor Hills since 1966.

Carrie reflected on her life as a military wife: "It was an adventure. I liked the military life. We met so many wonderful people." Of all the places she lived, Carrie preferred Hawaii. She managed her family as a stay-at-home mom.

Ed started his military career as an aircraft mechanic on B-29 aircraft during World War II. After the war Ed decided to make a career of the AF. First as a crew chief on C-46 airplanes then C-47s when the Korean war began Ed returned to his treasured B-29 as flight engineer and was actively involved in the conflict. Later on as B-29s became obsolete he transferred to KC97s and C124s.

The last five years ending his AF career were spent as a data processing school supervisor until his retirement and move to Colorado Springs.

Too young to retire, Ed hired on as a salesman for several local car dealers and also owned and operated a sandwich shop for 10 years. All the children grown and gone, Carrie went to work for Sears and Exchange National Bank. Nowadays, the Plantes love to travel, read, visit their children (three of whom live in Colorado Springs) one in Virginia and one in Alabama. Unfortunately, their son Glen drowned while scuba diving. Ed served a three-year term on the Stratmoor Sanitation District Water Board. Ed's major occupation in October is cooking for and supervising the Supreme Spaghetti Supper for the SHNA. He also sells more tickets than anyone else. Every year Ed says "I'm not getting involved with that Spaghetti Supper this year," and every October he ends up organizing and supervising this fund raiser. 200 people attended this year to get yet another taste of Ed's pasta sauce, the recipe for which is a secret.

When asked what she likes best about Stratmoor Hills, Carrie replied that Stratmoor is a convenient location, has a good climate, the city is nearby, it is close to Church and downtown and good hospitals. Carrie and Ed are founding members of St Joseph Catholic Church. They belong to the Korean Veterans Association and faithfully attend their meetings. Ed said that there is great hunting in the plains and mountains of Colorado and along with its fabulous scenery, great climate and active and vibrant community what a great place to live.

NEIGHBOR BIOGRAPHIES

Editor's Note: Since I took over authorship of the Newsletter, I've interviewed several neighbors and written sketches about them and their hobbies, families, etc. So far I've done articles on Ralph Huber, Dick West, Nicholas Budnella, Jane Dillon, Dave Brademeier, Rosemary Hanson, Lesley and Matt Johnson and, in this issue, Carrie and Ed Plante. If you would like to nominate someone please let me know at 576-0831. Sheila Egan, Editor



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sheila Egan, Newsletter Editor, 576-0831

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THE STRATMOOR HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION IS NOT A HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION. WE HAVE NO DUES. WE OPERATE ON DONATIONS FROM RESIDENTS.

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!

ALWAYS BUY LOCALLY!

***** FOR SALE *****

**Antique Oak pedestal dining table
(45" round with 10" leaf). Call
Dana, 210-1482 to discuss price.**

***** FOR SALE *****

**32 cup coffee maker, used once.
Requires ceramic cup to dispense
hot liquids. Best offer. 576-0831**

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First Visit

CHANGE THE BATTERIES

This is a good time of year to change the batteries in your fire alarm, carbon monoxide alarm, cameras, TV remotes, flashlights, etc.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

We had a good turnout for the Picnic in the Park in August despite the intense heat. John Kuhn manned the grill cooking burgers and hot dogs till everyone was fed. Mounted patrolman EPSO Officer Roycroft attended with his horse, much to the delight of all the children. The formal election of officers to lead our organization was held in September. Although several persons were nominated for President, each one declined. The Board of Directors has been maintaining the Association without a president. Fortunately, Jessica Kuhn agreed to accept the job of Vice President. Holly Durham took the Secretary position and Marta McDonald continues as Treasurer. In October, Ed Plante hit the streets and sold nearly all the tickets we had available for the Supreme Spaghetti Supper. About 200 persons enjoyed the Italian meal, the largest crowd in memory. Because of great ticket sales and generous donations from our neighbors, we were able once again to make a sizeable gift to the Elementary School to benefit the children who attend there. Sheriff Terry Maketa addressed our group in November, answered questions and complimented the Association on its determination to stay afloat for the safety, society and good of our neighbors. Fort Carson representatives addressed ongoing concerns with the railroad spur. They also explained the work being done on the overpass which is being constructed for the safety of school children who need to cross to the other side of B Street from the school.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Even though there was a blizzard raging outside, I made it the half-mile to the bakery where I asked the owner for six rolls. "Your wife must like rolls," he said. "How do you know these are for my wife?" I asked. "Because your mother wouldn't send you out in weather like this." Richard Silberlust

As I was treating my daughter and her family to the buffet at a casino, all the bells and whistles for a winning slot machine began to go off. My seven-year-old grandson was awed. "Wow!" yelled Casey. "This is like Chuck E Cheese for old people!" Patricia Keyes

Larry watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. "Why do you do that, mommy?" he asked. "To make myself beautiful," said his mother, who then began removing the cream with a tissue. "What's the matter?" asked Larry. "Giving up?"