

**FROM DICK CAMPBELL
PRESIDENT OF THE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION**

What happened to 2015? If it were not for all the projects accomplished both in this association and in my business and personal life, I would have believed this past year only had 6 to 8 months ... not 12!

So what's next ... 2016. More projects in the neighborhood ... driveways, sprinkler replacement, new concrete at the swimming pool and our common areas getting additional lighting. The Board is embarking on even more significant improvements around here to continue supporting all of your property values.

Wait until the first time you come back to our clubhouse. The work is just now being completed and it certainly looks upgraded. New furnace, fully insulated ceiling and walls, new kitchen counters, bathroom redone and fresh painting with color. Come to our "spring coffee on Saturday, April 30 and see for yourself. We do believe you will be pleasantly surprised.

We had a Reserve Study done and it appears that Knolls Village is in really good financial condition, all of which places us in a very strong position to hold property values for our homeowners and those who may be considering purchasing here in future. Holding our dues to \$145 a month in 2016, places us among the strongest associations in value with the lowest dues. Many of these issues go unnoticed and unappreciated, but your Board is proud of this association when compared to many of the other neighborhoods in Centennial and southern Denver counties. We will continue to encourage all of our residents to take a little extra pride in this place that we call "home." Everyone needs to do their part.

We are still looking for a couple more volunteers from within the community to become involved with our Architectural and Hospitality Committees. No heavy lifting or previous experience required. We will train and you will get to know more personally some of the wonderful folks who keep our community operational. Neither of our openings requires more than very part-time effort. Call me if you want more information before even deciding.

Would like to believe better weather will arrive soon, but it is winter yet for a couple more months so bundle up, stay warm and keep watch for your opportunity to perform a "random act of kindness."

Hope to see you in the neighborhood.

Dick

The Open Gate

Ads are free, but you must be a Village resident to advertise. Email your ad with your name, address and phone number to: nan@themattgrp.com; drop your ad in the black box by the bulletin board at the clubhouse; or call 303-843-6414. For Sale ads will appear one time and service ads will be published for 3 months and must be renewed to start in January, April, July and/or October. The deadline to place an ad is the 1st day of the month.

<p align="center">Your Village Resident Jewelry Appraiser 28 years of Experience - GIA Certified Appraisal While You Wait Neighborhood Discount! - Call Kate Swanstrom 303-550-4459</p>	<p align="center">100% vegetarian sourced and organic, high-potency mineral powder for gardens Amend to your garden now for superior spring/summer plants. Only \$5 per 1 cu. ft bag. NatureSoil Products, 720-432-9667 Naturesoilproducts.com</p>
<p align="center">Garage Space Wanted Looking for garage space to store a small pop-up camping trailer for the winter. Call Nancy Boyson, 303-916-2070</p>	<p align="center">Help Wanted Sidewalk and step hand snow shoveling for the Knolls Village. Call Warren at 303-304-8976.</p>
<p align="center">Licensed Babysitting by Village resident. Also available to house sit, walk your dog, etc. Call Ashlee at 720-771-2067</p>	<p align="center">Your Resident Realtor, Ken Deshaies, EcoBroker Home Buyers Marketing, Inc. - 22 Years Experience – Real Estate Author. 970-485-1891 TrueKen@iCloud.com</p>
<p align="center">Gutter Cleaning and Snow Removal From patios and/or walkways Call Alex—720-838-1177</p>	<p align="center">Flexible and Experienced Cat Sitter Also available to babysit or walk your dog. Call Saskia (720) 363-7934</p>

COMMUNITY INFORMATON	
<p>Clubhouse Reservations 2701 E. Geddes Place</p>	<p>Jan—March Ilena Lea—303.771.6965 April—June Linda Fletcher—303.694.6075 July—Sept Joy Stanton—303.771.6250 Oct-Dec Kathy Kurtz - 720.398.8684</p>
<p>KVTA Board Meeting</p>	<p>Tuesday, February 2, 2016</p>
<p>Newsletter Deadline Wednesday, February 3 at noon</p>	<p>Nan Matthews nan@themattgrp.com; 303-843-6414</p>
<p>Emergencies in Common Areas KVTA Message Center</p>	<p>303-304-8976 303-796-0540</p>



**The Golden of the Village (Retrievers that is....)
Our community does love dogs, so we thought it would be fun to highlight just one of the breeds who live here.**



Meet Nola, 5 years old, and Argo, 5 months old, who live with their owners, Jessica Johnson and Bruce Hillsworth.

Nola was their first Golden Retriever, with Bruce having had a Yellow Lab and Jessica Collies in the past. "We do everything with Nola. She loves to swim at the Chatfield dog park and carries her own backpack with all her food when we hike in the mountains. Argo, still a youngster, is a bundle of energy and loves playing with his "sister."

Both are very well behaved having been to a good dog trainer in Franktown. Jessica makes all their food consisting of turkey, rice, chicken, sardines, salmon oil plus other ingredients and do their shiny coats show it!

Bella is 10 years old and Annabelle just 16 months old, the most beloved dogs belonging to Sandy Labyortaux-Nielsen.



Sandy has had Golden Retrievers for over 20 years and obviously loves the breed. "Having four sons and just one daughter, I decided to always have female dogs with my first, Taffy, living to 15 years old and Soleil, my second, making it to 12."

"Annabelle is a late bloomer and just a puppy most of the time, but don't we all need the laughter that comes from sharing their joy. Bella, on the other hand, would have been an excellent therapy dog. She just senses when there are problems and gives her humans all her love when needed."

Sandy and her husband have been in the Village for three years having moved here from Colorado Springs where they lived for 30+ years

American Cancer Society to Highlight Village Resident's Book

Chris Foster, author and five-year resident of the Village, was recently interviewed by the American Cancer Society about his new book, **"The Upside of Cancer: How a Feared Illness Led Me to Courage, Wisdom and Inner Peace."** They plan to run a story about him and his book on their website in their "Stories of Hope" section.

Chris, a two-year cancer survivor, was diagnosed with stage 2 colon cancer in the fall of 2013 at the age of 81 following a routine colonoscopy. There is no history of cancer in his family, and it was quite a shock, to put it mildly. He wrote his book because he wished to offer courage and hope to other cancer patients, and indeed, to anyone facing a major challenge.

Everything changed for Chris when he began to see cancer not as an enemy, but as a teacher. He describes how he found joy and peace as he learned to face his fears, especially the fear of death. His big takeaway: Don't forget your colonoscopy, folks, it can save your life!

Says Mary Guese, MD, Kaiser physician, "A very touching book. The author's experience with cancer, told in stories from his life, illuminates his spiritual reflections."

Chris is offering autographed copies to members of our community for the special price of \$6.00 plus \$1.15 postage. The list price of the book is \$6.99 or \$8.99 on Amazon. If you'd like a copy, contact Chris at christopherfoster@comcast.net, phone 720 328 8246.



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS



Harold and Barb Arnold

If there ever was a couple who exemplified the meaning of volunteerism and contribution to one's community, it is Harold and Barb Arnold.

Shortly after moving into the Village at the Knolls, Harold starting working with Warren on different projects around our area. 20 years later he still helps with special projects such as address street signs.

Barb served as Board of Director for two terms and Treasurer the entire time. When on the Architectural Control Committee, she served as Chairman for a few years.

Harold was one of the original three home owners to start the painting program in 2002. Before that, every home owner was responsible for painting their own house. Needless to say it was quite disorganized and difficult to control. Now the community is divided into six areas, one of which is painted every six years. There are very specific colors designated for each home, and now all the painting is done by one contractor making life much easier for everyone. After 13 years, Harold resigned as Chair of the Paint Committee.

It is hard to list all the things that the Arnolds have been involved in, but here are just a few:

- Started the original Back Gate Villager newsletter, writing articles and organizing the delivery teams
- Sponsored Christmas parties at the clubhouse with Santa, music and refreshments
- Worked with South Suburban and our Board to secure an easement allowing the creation of the Knolls Village Garden. In addition, Harold built all 31 garden boxes
- Built the "Little Free Library" located near the Clubhouse

What one thing might people not know about you? "We created a miniature town called Camp Creek at our mountain home in the Bailey area. Over the years, it had built up to 65 buildings, including a train, Indian Village and Fort Eric across our pond. Family members had a building belonging to them with names like Brandie's Café or the Lucky Me Mine. When we sold our home, we donated our little town to Tiny Town where it was on display for years. Harold served as a Board of Director and even drove the Tiny Town train – what fun!"

"Married 40 years with six children, 11 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren, we feel truly blessed."

Tired of writing a check for your association dues each month?

Did you know that you can use automatic online bill pay, through your bank, to pay your monthly dues?

Your bank will mail us a check. Although your bank will withdraw the money from your account on the day you set, know that it usually takes about 5 days for the check to get to us. You can set up your bill pay to automatically make the payment on the same day each month. Just set it and forget it!

Dues are \$145 through 2016.

Use your address as your account number.

Our address is:

Knolls Village Townhouse Assn
2701 E Geddes Place
Centennial, CO 80122
303-304-8976

Questions about your dues?

Contact our bookkeeper, Cindy DeSirant
240-409-2706

Cindy.desirant@gmail.com

Resident's Responsibilities for Snow Removal

In addition to clearing snow as needed from back patios, residents are responsible for clearing back walkways and garage aprons. (The garage apron is the concrete between the asphalt and garage floor.)

Please keep in mind that when these areas are not cleared, it can cause ice to build up which affects neighboring homes.



Knolls Village Book Club

The KVTA Book Club will meet at the home of Katie Fralick, 2648 East Fremont Place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, to review and discuss *Jacob's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks.

Anyone interested in joining this group is welcome.