

**PINECREST VILLAGE
IMPROVEMENT ASSOC.**
A Covenant Controlled Community
Website: www.pinecrestvillage.org

PVIA Board Members

President Rob Collins
303-910-1470
Vice Pres. Bob Johnson
303-914-9906
Secretary Rachel Collins
303-935-8508
Treasurer Nancy Polak
303-986-9334
Parks Dave/Clorie Lovato
303-989-5121
Safety Rick Reed
720-219-3183
Social Com. Loretta Schuh
303-980-5828
Island Com. Kay Reed
303-988-0594
Membership/Directory –
John Polak.. 303-986-9334
Arch. Control Comm.
Mike Schuh. 303-980-5828
Dave Sussman... *Not Listed*
Dan Brennan 303-986-2068
Village Editor..... Jane Brown
303-988-7608

For announcements, errors or newsworthy events that you would like to appear in the newsletter e-mail:

jubdenver@earthlink.net

All entries are subject to the approval by the Pres. of PVIA

PVIA Meetings: Monthly meetings are held at Sabin Elementary School, (Dartmouth & Vrain) on the First Tues. of the month at 6:30 pm

PVIA 2015 Social Events

Easter Egg Hunt – 3/28
Garage Sale – 6/5 & 6
Christmas Party – 12/5

Trash Schedule 2015:

4/29 – Trash, Overflow,
Recycle
5/6 - Trash
5/13 – Trash & Recycle
5/20 – Trash, Overflow, Lg.
Item Pickup
5/28 – Trash & Recycle
6/3 - Trash

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Newsletter Distribution

Anson Mark Coordinator
303-986-7995

Block Reps:

West of Lehigh Ave.

Kay Reed 303-988-0594
Loretta Schuh 303-980-5828

Next HOA Meeting is Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at Sabin Elementary at 6:30 pm.

HOA VOTE A vote to increase the Pinecrest HOA dues resulted in a unanimous decision to increase the dues rate to \$40/year. It is very important that all our residents know that the association does not waste money and is accountable for all spending. Please be aware that if yearly dues are not paid, that household is not entitled to any social activities of the HOA. In addition, when the resident's house is sold, the collective unpaid dues will be attached.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL There are currently a couple of folks knocking on doors - one asking if yard work is needed and free estimates given, the other is a meat salesman trying to sell meat out of his truck. All we can say is **buyer beware, seriously buyer beware.**

SOCIAL The Easter Egg Hunt was a big success this year, we had about 60 boys and girls. The weather was great! There were lots of parents and grandparents to watch everyone look for all the eggs. A big THANK YOU to everyone who baked /brought cookies and those who helped with the hunt. Also, a big THANKS to Kay Reed for all her help in getting this set up.

It is that time of year to start looking in your garage, basements and any other rooms for items that you would like to set out at our annual **Garage Sale on June 5th and 6th.** There will be an ad in the newspaper and also an ad on Craigslist. Pinehurst will again share the cost of the ad in the newspaper as they will have their garage sale at the same time.

ELECTION DAY This is an **ALL MAIL IN BALLOT!** The election for Councilman is May 5th. Please take the time to read up on the people who are asking for your vote. Make your selection and return the ballot.

ATTENTION If you happen to see or suspect any questionable activity in the cull de sac by the park during the day or evening, call 311 to report it.

GOOD NEWS At the April HOA meeting the police reported that there has **not** been any criminal activity reported in our area to date. YEAH!

CAUTION School will be out soon. Please take extra care while driving and watch for kids walking, riding bikes or crossing streets. Safety first!

BLOCK REPS - Jim Holmes has been delivering the PVIA newsletter in place of Helen Holmes who is experiencing some health problems at this time. Dianne Atencio will be the substitute for Jim for the area North of West Lehigh. We hope Helen will be feeling better very soon.

IN SYMPATHY Our sympathy goes out to the family of Jim Sanders whose wife Coleta passed away in April after a long illness. The Sanders have lived in Pinecrest for many years and Jim has been a block rep for several years and a regular attendee at our HOA monthly meetings.

FROM COUNCILWOMAN JEANNE FAATZ

City sidewalk policy seems stuck between lawn and a hard place

A recent *Denver Post* article profiled Council District 2 as part of its election coverage. (http://www.denverpost.com/council/ci_27787366/denver-council-district-2-suburban-slice-looks-stay-course). The reporter interviewed homeowner presidents Julia Bourlakov in Harvey Park and Ben Blanchard in Bear Valley. Each made excellent points. This article will expand on topics they raised.

Ben said the city should address cracking sidewalks. To me, a major issue is maintaining city assets instead of always adding them, a song I've sung since I was first elected. For

South of West Lehigh

- Anson Mark.. 303-986-7995
- Dave Newman 303-986-3481
- Bill/Lori Robirds . *Not listed*
- Helen Griffin 303-984-1311
- N. Mollerstuen 303-986-3808
- K. Mindenhall 303-985-5157

North of West Lehigh

- Doris Frick.... 303-988-4397
- Clorie Lovato.....*Not Listed*
- Bonnie/Bruce Holman.....
303-988-5009
- Greg Hastings 303-985-8439
- Jim Sanders... 303-986-0021
- Laura Conway 303-988-4849
- Karyn Berres..... *Not listed*
- Lupe Seim..... 303-980-9334
- Jim Holmes... 303-988-4397

District 2 ... 720-337-2222
 Councilwoman/Jeanne Faatz
 Council Aide/ D. Montaño

DID YOU KNOW

Some interesting Facts About Our Councilwoman

Jeanne Faatz

- Denver City Councilwoman (2003-present)
- College instructor (1985-98)
- State Representative for SW Denver (1979-98)
- Assistant Majority Leader in the Colorado House of Rep. (1991-98)
- Civic Leader: Past President of Harvey Park Improvement Association; former member of State Youth Council, Southwest Family YMCA Board of Advisors, and Colorado Mental Health Institute at Ft. Logan Advisory Board
- Director of Colorado School-to-Career Partnership (1999-2001)
- "Taxpayer Champion 1998" (Colorado Union of Taxpayers award)
- Family: 2 adult daughters and 5 grandchildren
- 43-year resident of SW Den.
- Education: M.A. in Communication, University of Colorado at Denver B.S. in English Education, University of Illinois Gates Fellow to Harvard University Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government
- Graduated with college honors (top 3% of class)

Our City Councilwoman, **Jeanne Faatz**, is retiring. She has served as our State Representative and our area for the past 12 years as a guardian of our tax money on the city council. **She will be greatly missed.** →

many years the city's sidewalk policies have depended on the style of curb. "Hollywood" sidewalks were the city's responsibility because the curb is part of the sidewalk; when a tree lawn separates curb from sidewalk, it is the homeowner's responsibility. Neither policy works well. The city puts people on a list for repairing Hollywood sidewalks, but the list barely moves. I contributed \$20,000 from my office funds toward sidewalk repair, but it was a drop in the bucket. Some people have been on the list for years. If the list just sits, what good is it?

Homeowners responsible for their own sidewalk repairs face enormous expense. But it's the inequity of helping some and not others that defeats the city's goal of being walkable. It's time to examine city policy and decide whether the city should find money to repair both types of sidewalks.

Ben also mentioned the need for business development along Sheridan Boulevard. My focus has been on getting a business to occupy the old Albertson's site at Dartmouth and Sheridan. In the former Target Village area, there are about 16 different landowners plus tenants. Two properties are vacant. Some have beautifully remodeled their businesses; others show less interest. Many constituents have expressed disappointment in Target's replacement.

One thing that would have helped is an ordinance stipulating that when a business leaves one area of town for another without helping an equivalent replacement business move in, it could not get a tax break for new development in that other part of town. Target has a non-compete real estate policy, yet it got tax breaks on the East side despite promises it would waive the non-compete provision for our area. Judge for yourself if that's happened.

Julia mentioned water restrictions and rates. Though the city Charter prevents council from overseeing Denver Water, the Denver zoning code sets minimum lot sizes. Ours are relatively big. Traditionally, our area had gorgeous grass lawns. But watering restrictions and high rates led to some lawns becoming rock or dirt. Conservationists recommend xeriscaping.

There is still an issue with a rate structure that penalizes homes opting to keep trees and grass on mandated large lots. Several years ago Denver Water backed off a major rate increase partially because of concerns I raised at city council, but it also faces deteriorating infrastructure. So it discourages usage to meet conservation goals and raises rates to get needed revenue. You do, indeed, pay more for less.

Some of Jeanne's accomplishments are listed below:

Actions on City Council

- Sponsored and passed ordinance to require city contractors and subcontractors to use the federal immigration database E-Verify to screen employees. All people paid from tax dollars should be legally qualified to work in the United States.
- Opposed elected official salary increases, noting a projected \$500 million shortfall in future years.
- Blew the whistle on tax-free gas to DNC dignitaries.
- Promoted more effective collection methods for monies already owed the city – past due tickets, penalties, taxes, and fees.
- Sponsored an administrative citation process to encourage quicker, better compliance with neighborhood zoning laws to keep neighborhoods from declining.
- Sponsored a charter change to allow citizen initiatives to go directly to the ballot, not through city council. Voters approved the change.
- Opposed measures that would increase tax rates.
- Opposed long-term obligations that bypassed the voter, such as "Certificates of Participation" and "moral obligations" to pay off other governmental entities' debt if they can't.
- Sponsored a city worker whistle-blower protection ordinance.
- Worked with Council District 2 communities to protect property rights.
- Kept a library open 6 days a week in each quadrant of the city by moving money from non-essential programs elsewhere in the budget.
- Worked for tougher enforcement for graffiti vandals and have pushed for quick city clean-up of graffiti in neighborhoods. My office distributes graffiti wipes and paint to cover graffiti if citizens wish to help with the clean-up effort.
- Added 19 police offices to budget at a time the department was so short-staffed morale suffered and there were too few officers to backfill if others wanted to use earned comp time. Moved money from elsewhere in budget to public safety.
- Objected to taxpayer subsidies for favored individual businesses, such as Exclusive Resorts, ProLogis, and DaVita. I oppose corporate welfare.
- Exposed problems with loans to risky ventures, such as Inner-City Community Development Corporations, Industrial Plus, and Denver Enterprise Center.
- Assembled pots of money to properly renovate Bear Creek Park (sombbrero) playground. Worked with city agencies and citizens for a great design.
- Promoted the establishment of a COP (Citizen Operated Policing) shop in our district.

Thank you Jeanne for doing a remarkable job for us!
