

THE RAMBLER

HOA Meeting

The May HOA Meeting will be:

June 17, 2008 at 7:00 PM

Dutcher Residence

10689 Union Way

One of the main discussion topics this month will be the several developments that have happened regarding the roundabout and the City of Westminster. We would like your participation and comments, so please plan on attending.

Prairie Dog Issues

We need your help!

As you may have noticed, the area around Walnut Creek has become inundated with the latest proliferation of prairie dogs. I have had several reports of these critters getting into garages and yards. Just last weekend, a prairie dog got into a neighbors yard and was attacked and killed by their two dogs. However, in the process, one of the family pets was also injured resulting in \$160.00 in veterinarian bills.

What or who is next? Could one of your children find a cute little prairie dog in your yard and be attacked because the the critter feels cornered and tries to defend itself? These injuries could be very severe and your child may have to undergo a series of injections to counteract any serious diseases the prairie dog may have been carrying.

Perhaps one of the cows in the pasture surrounding Walnut Creek will step in one of the prairie dog holes. If that happens

and the cow breaks a leg, it will have to be put down as there is no other solution.

A Few Facts

Prairie dogs become sexually mature in the second February or March following birth. Breeding season along the Front Range starts in March and lasts until early May. Prairie dogs normally have one litter per year and of one to eight young. Pups emerge at about 41 days and will stay with their natal coteries for a minimum of two years. Prairie dogs are herbivores and feed on a variety of vegetation including grasses and forbs and to a lesser extent, seeds and insects. Grasses and other vegetation are clipped close to the ground to allow for a greater range of sight.

What can you do?

Charlie McKay, the landowner surrounding Walnut Creek is willing to take care of our problem, but he cannot get permission from the City and County of Broomfield. With your help, we can let the officials know that we have some very serious concerns and that we expect their cooperation in this situation.

Attached to this edition of the Rambler is a letter complete with addresses of officials that can help us with the situation facing our neighborhood.

We would appreciate you taking the time to re-word the example letter (in your own words) and send it to the appropriate official. Even better, if you would take the time to call the official and "tactfully" express your concerns, it may be more effective than a letter. We encourage you to do one or both. Your HOA board has sent a letter expressing our concerns for the safety and welfare on your behalf, but

your letter or call would only help to emphasize that you also are concerned. Thank You!

New HOA Directories

Our new HOA directories should be printed and showing up on your doorstep in the next 2-3 weeks. Please be on the look out for them.

Deputy James Riddle

A special meeting was held on **June 3rd** with Deputy Riddle to discuss several animal control issues. Officer Riddle was very interesting and informative.

He had a few ideas regarding the prairie dog situation. He said that we, as homeowners, need to be aware of our children and pets in the event of a prairie dog getting onto our properties. He also indicated that coyotes are getting more daring in Jeffco, to the point of jumping fences and taking small dogs and cats. He recommended that homeowners do not feed their pets outside, as the food will attract the coyotes as well as raccoons and skunks. He also said that it is a violation of state law to feed wildlife, as this has a tendency to make the animals depend on humans for food. This can endanger them as well as your neighbors in the form of a wildlife confrontation.

He also warned that experts are saying this could be the worst year in Colorado history for "Hantavirus". What you say, is hantavirus? The definition from the CDC's website says "Hantavirus pulmonary syn-

drome (HPS) is a deadly disease from rodents. Humans can contract the disease when they come into contact with infected rodents or their urine and droppings. HPS was first recognized in 1993 and has since been identified throughout the United States. Although rare, HPS is potentially deadly. Rodent control in and around the home remains the primary strategy for preventing hantavirus infection.

You can find more details at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/>

“COW” Contact Info

It was recently learned that Charlie McKay is leasing his pasture to another rancher. In the event that you see a calf has been searching for freedom, or another issue with the cattle, please use the following contact information to voice your concerns. Between 7 and 8:30 AM or after 7:30 PM call the following numbers:

Leo Hogan (303) 666-7800

Babe Logan (303) 494-7593

In the event of an emergency or loose cow you may call:

Aaron (720) 224-3269

Digging in your yard?

Recently, we have a couple neighbors lose their phone service because someone was digging a new fence post hole and cut through wires. Did you know that you can be subject to fines for cutting a line or cable?

Save yourself and your neighbors the inconvenience. **Call 811** to request your FREE utility locator markings. You may also call (303) 232-1991 and allow 72 hours before starting your project.

Round-about Update

It was decided at last months HOA meeting that Walnut Creek will work with the Meadow View Estates HOA to present a formal presentation to the City of Westminster City Council on July 28th. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan on attending the meeting to show the City Council your support. Location and time will be posted in the July Edition of the Rambler.

Vehicle Vandalism

This past weekend, several vehicles were “egged” in our neighborhood. This can be very damaging to paint if not removed in time. The sheriff's office has been made aware of the occurrence. If you know who is responsible, please contact the Jefferson County Sheriff's office at 303-277-0211. Thanks!

Hal Smith's Computer Repair Service

Did you know we have a computer repair person located right here in Walnut Creek?

Babysitter Needed

Babysitter needed for occasional evenings on weekends/weeknights. Should be CPR certified and have experience with ad/hd kids. Please call Hope at (303)993-7660

Panama Canal Cruise

We have a few cabins available for our group cruise to the Panama Canal in April 2009. See our page for details: http://www.journeysct.com/Pages/Groups/2009_panama_canal.html and give us a call at (303) 466-4264

Humor of the Month

Dearest Redneck Son,

I'm writing this slow because I know you can't read fast. We don't live where we did when you left home. Your dad read in the newspaper that most accidents happen within 20 miles of your home, so we moved. I won't be able to send you the address because the last West Virginia family that lived here took the house numbers when they moved so they wouldn't have to change their address. This place is really nice. It even has a washing machine. I'm not sure about it. I put a load of clothes in and pulled the chain. We haven't seen them since. The weather isn't bad here. It only rained twice last week; the first time for three days and the second time for four days. About that coat you wanted me to send. Your Uncle Billy Bob said it would be too heavy to send in the mail with the buttons on, so we cut them off and put them in the pockets. Bubba locked his keys in the car yesterday. We were really worried because it took him two hours to get me and your father out. Your sister had a baby this morning, but I haven't found out what it is yet so I don't know if you are an aunt or uncle. The baby looks just like your brother. Uncle Bobby Ray fell into a whiskey vat last week. Some men tried to pull him out but he fought them off and drowned. We had him cremated, he burned for three days. Three of your friends went off a bridge in a pickup truck. Butch was driving. He rolled down the window and swam to safety. Your other two friends were in the back. They drowned because they couldn't get the tailgate down. There isn't much more news at this time. Nothing much out of the normal has happened.

Your Favorite Aunt,
Mom