



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

[HTTP://WWW.ARHOA.ORG](http://www.arhoa.org)

April/May 2010

Unlike previous newsletters, this one has 3 very serious messages for all of our neighbors.

I know this newsletter is long, but please take the time to read these 3 alerts.

The first is from our Neighborhood Watch Chair Scott Hopson:

Robberies: As you are aware there were multiple break-ins in the early hours of May 3. These incidents happened sometime between midnight on Sunday May 2nd and 6 am Monday May 3rd. The Suspects broke into 6 or more garages in the AR neighborhood that we know at this time. There have also been 2 similar break-ins in Hawk Ridge on the south side of Arapahoe Rd. The Police dept does have some leads, and are currently following up on those. Most of the burglaries or attempts were through the side entry doors that gave them access into the garage of the homes where items were taken. Of the homes affected, one was unlocked on the side door; most the others had entry gained by forcing the regular door latch with a screwdriver or some similar tool.

So as a reminder, the Police have asked us all to lock our cars at night, and do not leave personal contents in your vehicles. If you have deadbolts please engage those on all doors equipped with them in addition to the regular door latch. We are encouraging everyone to check to see if you are missing anything, if things have been disturbed in your garage, or if you see signs of an attempt to gain access to your garage to report it right away to the Police. Also, you might think about turning on your outdoor lighting during the evening hours. If you see a garage door left open, call them or walk over and let them know they left it open.

The second issue that is going on throughout the AR community over the last 3-4 months is vandalism. The Clubhouse, the Clubhouse bathroom, the playground, signage throughout AR, park benches, resident fences and utility boxes have all been damaged, tagged or in some manner vandalized.

There are multiple reports of teens out late at night and in the early morning hours of 2-4 am. **Do you know where your children are?** We all need to work together to get this stopped before things get worse now that summer break is here. Please take this opportunity to talk with your children about vandalism, theft, not sneaking out of the house at night, and most importantly the "Make My Day Law". It would be very sad to have a teen injured or killed while breaking into a home because they were not aware of the law, not realizing the danger they are putting themselves into by trespassing into another's residence.

The Police are asking that if you see anything that just doesn't seem, feel, or look right to call them. They can be reached at 303-929-2800 or dispatch at 303-441-4444.

Thank you for sharing this information with your neighbors. Give me a call if you have any questions.
Scott Hopson H 303-926-9667

The third issue affects every child in our neighborhood. That issue is Bullying.

We have reports of a group of middle school to high school age kids approaching **our** children on the street and harassing them for their names, intimidating them & generally scaring them to the point that the children run home and do not feel safe.

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These incidents have happened on the walk home from bus stops, at the park, and while children are out playing and riding their bikes. Schools across the country have targeted Bullying and have come up with the following definition:

Bullying is defined as intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, emotional abuse, or through attacks on the property of another. This may include, but not be limited to the following:

- Verbal, physical, or written intimidation or abuse
- Derogatory name-calling
- Insults
- Practical Jokes, which may result in awkwardness or embarrassment
- Unwelcome remarks or innuendoes
- Taunting or ridicule of any individual
- Derogatory or offensive pictures, drawings, and materials
- Use of derisive slang terms concerning another individual
- Exclusion from peer group
- Extortion of money or possessions

I used the term “our children” in the first paragraph because every child that lives in the neighborhood is our responsibility. It is our responsibility as parents and adults to protect ALL CHILDREN in our neighborhood. Our children have the absolute right to feel safe in their homes as well as the streets. Bullying, as in schools and the workplace, is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

- **Do you know what your children are doing?**
- **Do you know who your kids are hanging out with?**
- **Do you know about the spray paint vandalism in the park, the clubhouse and on neighborhood fences?**
- **Did you know kids are climbing on the clubhouse roof?**
- **Did you know that kids are breaking into the pool area, throwing furniture into the pool and causing damage?**
- **Did you know that kids are regularly vandalizing the monuments and light fixtures?**
- **Did you know that the restrooms are being vandalized, smeared with feces & the toilet paper is being thrown all over the place without being used?**

Again, this is an excellent opportunity for all parents to talk with their children about bullying and being bullied. Please let your children know that the police have been contacted about these incidents and asked to step up patrols of our area. If you need any further information on bullying, please contact me (secretary@arhoa.org) and I'll be glad to help you.

We are asking all of you to pay attention when outside this summer. This is not only a problem to those with children or teenagers, this is a **problem for all of us** as we have to use **our HOA dues** to pay for repairs, clean up and replacements. Use your cell phone to take a picture if you see something that just doesn't look right. Don't hesitate to contact the police. We are urging you to get involved in making our neighborhood a safe place not only for ourselves, but for **our** children.

The police department has supplied some tips on how to keep our neighborhood safe....



RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES*

Lafayette & Erie have experienced a number of burglaries in the Arapahoe Ridge, Indian Peaks Trail, Waneka Landing and Hawk Ridge sub-divisions. Suspects may be entering off open space areas that lead into and out of these neighborhoods. Suspects appear to be taking only what they can carry. With this in mind the Police Department makes the following recommendations:

1. Make sure that all doors and lower level windows are shut and locked.
2. Make sure any second story window that can be reached from the ground via a roof, standing on a fence, or other object is not left open or unlocked. Windows that are not accessible from the ground can be left open, but should never be left open when you are not at home.
3. Leave outside lights around entry points to the residence on at night.
4. If you leave on vacation, or will be gone from the residence for more than two days, contact the police department and leave information on how long you will be gone, who will be watching the residence in your absence, what lights will be on, what vehicles will be in the driveway and a contact number to reach you or a responsible party. Stop your newspaper and other deliveries. Set a few lights and a radio on a timer in the residence to come on and off at different times. Have someone check the residence daily if possible. Let your neighbors know you are leaving and ask that they watch the house, mow the yard, pick up the mail, and water the plants. Think about a house sitter while you are gone, this is cheap insurance.
5. Close and lock all garage doors including side doors from yard areas during the day and at night when you are not outside, even if you are home.
6. Lock your vehicles that are left on the street or in the driveway.
7. Do not leave valuables in your vehicle in plain view.
8. Do not leave garage door openers or house keys in your vehicle where they can be seen. Don't do this while your vehicle is parked at home, at the office or any other public places.
9. Report unusual activity to the police.
10. Report unusual noises heard at night around your home.
11. Develop a plan of action in the event someone unlawfully enters your home. The plan should be practiced with the whole family. The plan should include a safe place to meet where there is a telephone. The best place is the parents bedroom if on the same floor as the children. Dial 911, stay in the safe place, stay on the line with the police and give constant information on what is happening.
- 12. Pay attention to what is happening in your neighborhood. No one knows it better than you do. Report unusual activity.**

Board Meeting Dates:

June 15, 2010	6:00 p.m.
July 20, 2010	6:00 p.m.
August 17, 2010	6:00 p.m.
September 21, 2010	6:00 p.m.

All board meetings are held at the Arapahoe Ridge Club House.

As always, the meetings are open to the public. Please come join us in continuing to make Arapahoe Ridge a premier neighborhood!

As summer is approaching, many will notice that the grasses around our trails are getting long again. The Town of Erie owns this property but has assigned maintenance back onto Arapahoe Ridge. While your Board works to change this, we have also come up with a great way to take care of these "outlots".

First, Noble Energy is required to take care of the property surrounding their drilling areas. We have contacted them to ensure that happens.

Second, we pay an urban drainage tax and have asked that district to take care of the holding areas.

Lastly, we have contacted a local farmer to harvest the grasses for feed. This farmer will keep the hay and we won't get charged a fee. The farmer will mow once sometime in June and we'll see how the rest of the season goes.



Community Involvement

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." -Margaret Mead, American Cultural Anthropologist, [Margaret Mead books//](#)

Arapahoe Ridge Annual Garage Sale

Donna LaBella has graciously volunteered again this year to organize the A.R. Community Garage Sale! The sale will be held on:

Friday June 11
and
Saturday June 12

She will be putting up the signs to "get ready for the sale" next weekend & will put signs out the day of the sale.

Once again, roll off bins will be provided however, we ask that you put unsold items

IN THE DUMPSTER,
not on the ground.



Last year we had an absolute mess & it took 2 days of volunteers to clean up the parking lot!

If you have large items like couches, washers, dryers air conditioners etc., consider calling one of the many charities that will come to your house to pick up your donation. By doing this it helps others, recycles the items and gives you a small tax deduction!

Some of the charities that will come pick up are Sister Carmen (303-665-4342), ARC (303-527-0888), Disabled Vets (800-775-VETS or schedule a pick up on line at www.pickupplease.org), Safehouse (303-318-9989).

If you would like additional information about the garage sale, please contact a Board Member or Donna LaBella.

The Annual Memorial Day Pool Party & July 4th Party

Thanks again to Mike Dunninger and his many volunteers for organizing this year's pool opening party.

The weather was perfect & it was great to see all of our neighbors out socializing, eating and enjoying our wonderfully landscaped pool!

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO CHAIR AND OTHERS TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY PARTY! IF YOU WERE AT THE MEMORIAL DAY PARTY, BUT DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO HELP, NOW IS THE TIME! WE WOULD HATE TO CANCEL THIS FUN EVENT!



Please contact Mike Dunninger at vp@arhoa.org



Support the Erie Farmer's Market
Every Saturday through October
8:00a.m. - noon on the corner of
Briggs and Moffat.

Thank you to all the dog owners who
pick up after their pets while walk-
ing on our trails.

Please.... When
you bag your
pooch's poo,
take the plastic
bag home with
you for proper
disposal.



JULY 4TH CELEBRATION!







We are desperately
looking for someone to
head up the July 4th
Celebration at the
pool!





Mike Dunninger will not be able to
do it this year, however, he has
wonderful notes & documents to
make the job a piece of cake!!

If you would like to
help (or chair) this
fantastic party,
please contact
Mike Dunninger at
vp@arhoa.org



 Design Review Committee 

 It is easier than ever to sub-
mit landscaping, painting or any
 outside improvement projects
to the Design Review Commit-
 tee! Through the Arapahoe
Ridge Website, you can submit
 your request on line. The DRC
has 30 days in which to re-
 spond, however, with this new
on line procedure, they are
 working hard to reduce the
'turn around' time!

 Remember to submit any land-
scaping, painting or outside im-
 provement plans to our Design
Review Committee **BEFORE**
 starting your project. 



Have you signed up for Wi-Fi at the club
house?

It's only \$10.00 for the year!

Check out the Arapahoe Ridge Website for
more information!!



Did you know...

*You can now view & pay
your Erie Water Bill on
line? Check out the Town of Erie's
website for more information!*

Contact Information

Web Site: <http://www.arhoa.org>

Management Company

Judi England, Association Manager

management@arhoa.org

(720) 974-4131

ARHOA Board

Entire Board: bod@arhoa.org

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