



Columbine Hills News

A Covenant Protected Community
"Neighbors Making A Difference"

www.ColumbineHillsHOA.com • e-mail: ColumbineHills80128@gmail.com

Event Calendar

CHCA Board Meeting: Thurs., December 1, 6 p.m. at St Philip Lutheran Church (this is the November meeting, one week after Thanksgiving). This is the last Board Meeting of the year. All are welcome.

Evening with Santa: Sun., December 17 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Come to the pavilion on Kendall Blvd and Elmhurst Ave to enjoy cocoa, Christmas treats, and of course, meeting Santa!

First CHCA Board Meeting of 2024: Thurs., February 29 (Leap Day!!!!), 6 p.m. at St Philip Lutheran Church.

How Much Is A Billion?

We hear about so many billionaires these days; how much worth does a billion represent? Look at it this way: one million seconds equals 11.5 days. One billion seconds equals 31.7 years.

Evening With Santa

Sunday, December 17, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Come join your neighbors and friends at the annual Evening with Santa. Held at the pavilion on Kendall Blvd. and Elmhurst Ave, we will celebrate the holidays with cocoa, plenty of treats, and Santa himself! Come anytime after 4:30; Santa will arrive at 5:00. Dress warmly; see you there!

Adulthood is saying "but after this week things will slow down a bit" over and over until you die.

Next Board Meeting

*Please join us! We want your input.
St Philip Lutheran Church*

Thur., December 1st: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

December 2023

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Oh! Christmas Tree

Christmas trees, bedazzled with tinsel, randomly decorated by families with children, or austere: just the few, well-chosen ornaments from trips abroad, are an integral part of the holidays. Though most closely associated with Christian households, millions of other families of different faiths have embraced this emblem of December. Usually an evergreen conifer such as spruce, pine, or fir, the Christmas tree, perhaps more than any other symbol, reflects the joy of the holidays.



Modern Christmas trees originated during the Renaissance in early modern Germany. Its 16th-century origins are sometimes associated with Protestant Christian reformer Martin Luther, who is said to have first added lighted candles to an evergreen tree. The Christmas tree was first recorded to be used by German Lutherans in the 16th century, with records indicating that a Christmas tree was placed in the Cathedral of Strasbourg in 1539. The earliest known firmly dated representation of a Christmas tree is on the keystone sculpture of a private

home in Alsace (then part of Germany, now France), with the date 1576.

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, "The use of evergreen trees, wreaths, and garlands to symbolize eternal life was a custom of the ancient Egyptians, Chinese, and Hebrews. Tree worship was common among the pagan Europeans and survived their conversion to Christianity in the Scandinavian customs of decorating the house and barn with evergreens at the New Year to scare away the devil and of setting up a tree for the birds during Christmas time."

So what kinds of trees are the best Christmas trees? Conifers, which as the name suggests, bear their seeds in cones, are usually the trees of choice. Conifers are ancient plants: there are conifer fossils as old as 300 million years. The most widely used conifers for Christmas trees are pine, spruce, and fir. Pine trees grow their needles in groups of two, three, or five (think *packet*); If a twig carries its needles singly, it is a fir or spruce. If you pull off a needle and it does not roll because it is *flat*, it's a fir.

continued on page 2

Newsletter Delivery Route Available

Hi neighbors, We have a route available starting in January if you are considering being a newsletter deliverer. It includes 44 houses around Jay and Monticello. Interested? Drop a line to ColumbineHills80128@gmail.com.

Columbine Hills Civic Association: 2023 Suggested Annual Donation: \$25

Your 2023 donation will help support:

- Mailing of the monthly newsletter
- Beautification & improvement projects in our development
- Neighborhood events and activities such as:
 - Neighborhood Garage Sales
 - Dumpster Day
 - Holiday Hayride
- Park Maintenance - xeric garden care

Please return this form with your Annual donation to the Columbine Hills Civic Association at P.O. Box 621452, Littleton, CO 80162-1452. **Names and phone numbers in our database are held in strictest confidence and are never sold or given out.**

Names: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

☐ I would like a copy of the covenants. Filing # _____

☐ Donation for improvement and beautification projects \$ _____

☐ Are you interested in being a Col. Hills board member? _____

☐ Would you serve on a committee for a special event? _____

Thank you for supporting Columbine Hills Civic Association and the effort to keep Columbine Hills a great place to live!

Christmas Tree, *continued from front page*

Customs range from setting up a tree on the weekend after Thanksgiving, all the way through December 24. Christians often follow the tradition of decorating the tree on the first Sunday of Advent (December 3rd, this year). Some enjoy decorating on Black Friday when family is still in town. Many of us choose the day we have the time and energy and have found the right tree for us.

Whether yours is 15 feet tall and commands the room, or a table-top white or silver tree, or anything in between, decorate it with joy and compassion in your heart. The Tannenbaum is a symbol of goodwill; let it be so this year.

Enjoy your holidays, good neighbors. I am grateful for each of you.

— Galen Wiese

Advertise in this Newsletter!

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

**Newsletter Connections: 303-979-7499 or
info@newsletterconnections.com**

To find ad rates and discounts, go to
NewsletterConnections.com or scan QR code.



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The *Columbine Hills News* is published monthly by the Columbine Hills Civic Association, a non-profit homeowners association. The newsletter is delivered by direct mail to all the residents of Columbine Hills. *Association member's names and phone numbers are held in strictest confidence and are never sold or given out.*

News Articles

We welcome "Letters to the Editor". The deadline for news articles is the 13th of the month before the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th. Please email news articles to the editor at **columbinehills80128@gmail.com**. All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits. All letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number in case the editor needs to clarify information. When the letter is printed, names will be withheld upon request. Thank you. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter.

Correspondence to be sent to:

Columbine Hills Civic Association,
P. O. Box 621452, Littleton, CO 80162-1452



Vacant House?

Neighbors, if you live near a vacant or abandoned house, please send CHCA the address. We are going to contact the owners, remind them that this is a great time to sell their home, and encourage them to do so.

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

Questions? Concerns? Ideas?

Jeffco County Commissioners 303-271-8525
 Jeffco Graffiti Hot Line 303-271-8247
 Jeffco Sheriff. 303-271-KOPP
 Jeffco Sheriff (*non-emergency / parking violations*) 303-277-0211
 Zoning Violations 303-271-8725
 Animal Control 303-271-5070
 Weed & Pest Management 303-271-5989
 Colorado State Website: **www.state.co.us/index.html**
 Jefferson County Website: **www.co.jefferson.co.us/**

Letter to the Editor: Say **NO** To Saint Philip Lutheran Church Cell Phone Tower!

Health Concerns:

- **The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)** has classified radiofrequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B), a category used when causal association is considered credible, but when chance, bias or confounding cannot be ruled out with reasonable confidence.
- **German Research on cell tower safety** discovered that the proportion of newly developed cancer cases was three times higher for those living within 1300 feet (a quarter of a mile) of a cellular transmitter compared to those living further away. In addition, they found that the patients became ill with cancer on average 8 years earlier.
- **American Cancer Society** suggest there is no strong evidence that exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic waves from cell phone towers causes any noticeable health effects. **However,** this does not mean that the radiofrequency electromagnetic waves from cell phone towers have been proven to be absolutely safe. Most expert organizations agree that more research is needed to help clarify this, especially for any possible long-term effects.

Cell phone towers are not properly researched and regulated, don't let them make you and your family a test subject!

Property Values Decrease Substantially:

- **Environmental Health Trust** research indicates that over 90% of home buyers and renters are less interested in properties near cell towers and would pay less for a property in close vicinity to cellular antennas. Documentation of a price drop up to 20% is found in multiple surveys and published articles.
- **The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** long considers cell towers as "Hazards and Nuisances."

Property values will drop in our neighborhood up to 20%! This rezoning is also unnecessary as there is a large strip mall with plenty of empty space for a cell tower just west of this location (Pierce St. and Ken Caryl Ave.). This area would be more suitable for a tower, and it is not adjacent to private residences. Help your neighbors and voice your disapproval for this rezoning!

WHAT TO DO:

Email the city case manager with your objections.

Case Number: 23-121651CMT, Case Name: 7531 S Kendall Blvd

Where: St Phillip Evangelical Sub

Case Manager: Matthew Karney, 303-271-8764, mkarney@co.jefferson.co.us

Purpose: Rezoning from R-1 to Planned Development – building a cell phone tower in private neighborhood

File your object with Case Manager, Matthew Karney, mkarney@co.jefferson.co.us! Include the following objection points:

- There is not enough research to ensure they are safe.
- Cell towers are an eye sore and lower property values.
- The rezoning of St. Phillips Church is unnecessary as there is a large strip mall with space not adjacent to private residences. Strip mall off Piece Street and Ken Carlyn Avenue.

— Your neighbors, Michele and Francisco



**COLUMBINE HILLS
ELEMENTARY**



OUR VISION

"Aiming for Success, Believing
"Together We Can!"
This drives our decision making to
ensure alignment and
sustainability in our work.



OUR MISSION

Through our shared values, the students,
parents, staff and community members of
Columbine Hills collaboratively ensure an
environment where everyone succeeds:
academically, socially, and emotionally to
cultivate independent thinkers and
problem solvers in a diverse and ever-
changing world.

6007 W. Canyon Ave
Littleton CO, 80128

303-982-5540

ABOUT US

We believe in a school wide approach to support the growth and achievement of all students. We are committed to creating an enriched educational environment that promotes student achievement and success for all students.

SHARED VALUES

GROWTH MINDSET - SHARED LEADERSHIP
STUDENT CENTERED - POSITIVITY
COLLABORATION - COMMUNICATION

Programs & Clubs

- Orton-Gillingham Trained Teachers
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Program
- Preschool Program
- ESL and GT Support
- Before School Care & After School Care
- Enrichment Programs: Choir, Orchestra, Band
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columbinehills.jeffcopublicschools.org



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Outdoor Ice Skating Rinks

RINK AT BELMAR, LAKEWOOD

Admission (skate rental included): \$10 (\$8 for kids 12 and under; seniors and children two and under skate free) or \$6 if you bring your own skates. Park in the lot at Teller Street and West Virginia Avenue. Even in the daytime, the Rink at Belmar can get plenty of shade, so make sure you check the weather and bundle up. Extreme weather may close the rink, so check online or call ahead to make sure the rink is open as planned. Outdoor heaters and fire pits help friends or parents stay toasty.

SKATING IN THE SQUARE, ARVADA

Admission (skate rental included): \$10 (\$7 for kids 12 and under). Take the G Line to Olde Town Arvada, and you'll find a cozy little skating rink in the square on 57th Avenue, between the library and the pedestrian mall. Pick up your skates at the nearby shed and take to the (synthetic) ice.

PARKER ICE TRAIL, PARKER

Admission: \$9 (\$7 for kids 10 and under). **Skate rental:** \$4. The ice circles a center grassy area and is fenced in on both the inside and outside, offering more space for beginners to hold on as they get accustomed to the ice. Located at the edge of downtown Parker in Discovery Park (behind the library), the ice trail offers concessions, skating aids for new skaters, and a handful of fire pits and seating for spectators to keep warm.

DOWNTOWN DENVER RINK, DENVER

Admission: Free. **Skate rental:** \$11 (\$9 for kids 12 and under; fourth graders skate free). The downtown rink sits in Skyline Park, in the shadow of the Daniels & Fisher clocktower between the 16th Street Mall and 17th on Arapahoe Street. Open late on holidays and weekends, the rink offers concessions and locker storage for your belongings. Fourth graders skate free, and double-bladed skates are available in children sizes.

EVERGREEN LAKE, EVERGREEN

Admission: \$14 (children four and under skate free); \$20 with skate rental included. **Skate rental:** \$10. Winning the prize for best views while skating, Evergreen Lake is open throughout the winter as weather permits. Learn to Skate classes are available for children, and athletes can sign up for hockey and broomball online. Regulars or families can purchase 10-punch skate cards for \$120 (\$30 savings). Park at Evergreen Lake House or take the shuttle from Stagecoach Park lower parking lot on weekends and holidays.

– <https://www.5280.com/best-places-for-ice-skating-in-denver/>

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RENT vs SELL

The market needs more properties. Which one makes sense for you?

✓ **Rent Paid = Steady Income**

✓ **Legacy Building for your family**

✓ **Equity Continues to Build overtime**

✓ **Equity = \$\$ in your pocket**

✓ **Low Inventory = High Demand**

✓ **Life Requires you to move**

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Homemade Candy Canes

These homemade candy canes are SO much better than store-bought, and so fun to make! Just make sure you have a stick of butter handy to keep your hands buttered for pulling so it doesn't stick to you.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1 tsp. peppermint extract
- 1 tsp. red food coloring



How To Make:

1. In heavy-bottomed large saucepan or small pot, combine first 4 ingredients and stir until sugar dissolves. Cook, without stirring to hard-ball stage. (265 degrees.)
2. Remove from heat and add peppermint extract. Divide into 2 portions, and add coloring to one part. Pour out onto buttered cookie sheets. (Pour half onto one sheet, then add coloring to the rest and then pour onto second sheet.) when it's cool enough to handle, start pulling each part separately. (Best done with 2 people, but if doing alone, go back and forth pulling each.)
3. When you feel like you just can't pull anymore, form into ropes and twist them together. Cut into 8" lengths, form into the shape of candy canes, and place on lightly buttered platter til fully hardened.

Trail of Lights Chatfield Farms

Now – Jan. 1, various evenings, 5-8:30 p.m. (closed Dec. 25). Tucked into the foothills under the dark sky, the glow of lights can be seen for miles. Just under a mile of walking trail, the illumination of cottonwoods, boxelders and pine trees line the pathway through the Green Farm, Crossroads, Deer Creek Discovery Children's Play Area and 1880s Hildebrand Ranch homestead. There is the option of an alternative path for those who want to take a shorter stroll.



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Stock Up For Winter

Living in a region with cold, snowy winters, taking the time now to stock up on winter gear and supplies will mean less stress when that first big storm hits.

- Check snow shovels and ice scrapers; replace as needed.
- If you use a fireplace or wood stove, order firewood.
- Pick up a bag of pet- and plant-safe ice melt.
- Restock emergency kits for car and home.
- If you use a snow blower, have it serviced and purchase fuel.
- If your home has an emergency power generator, review safety standards (the American Red Cross has helpful tips) and check that it's working properly.

This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

7 Ways To Make The Holidays Safer For Pets

Nothing can spoil holiday cheer like an emergency visit to a veterinary clinic. These seven tips can help prevent a holiday disaster with your pets.

1. Keep people food out of the reach of your pet, and ask your guests to do the same.
2. Make sure your pet doesn't have any access to treats, especially those containing chocolate, xylitol, grapes/raisins, onions or other toxic foods.
3. Don't leave your pet alone in the room with lit candles, a decorated tree or potpourri.
4. Keep holiday plants (especially holly, mistletoe and lillies) out of reach of pets.
5. Consider leaving the tinsel off your tree if you have a cat.
6. Secure your Christmas tree to keep it from falling over if your dog bumps it or your cat climbs it. Hanging lemon-scented car air fresheners in the tree may deter your cat from climbing it.
7. Provide a safe place for your pet to escape the excitement (such as a kennel, crate, perching place, scratching post shelf or hiding place) if you're entertaining guests. If your pet is excitable or scared, consider putting your pet in another room with some toys and a comfortable bed.

—<https://www.avma.org/resources>

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Symmetrical Speeds (upload matches download)	not available	\$0
Unlimited Data	\$30	\$0
Total Cost	\$154	\$89

Internet Providers	COMCAST CABLE	DIRECTLINK FIBER
Everyday Pricing - no expiring discounts	✗	✓
No contracts/commitments	✗	✓
No requirement to buy other products for a "better" price	✗	✓
Unlimited data included	✗	✓
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Classified ads are \$4.00/line (about 40 characters/line). Contact Newsletter Connections at **303-979-7499** or info@NewsletterConnections.com to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at NewsletterConnections.com. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 7th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.



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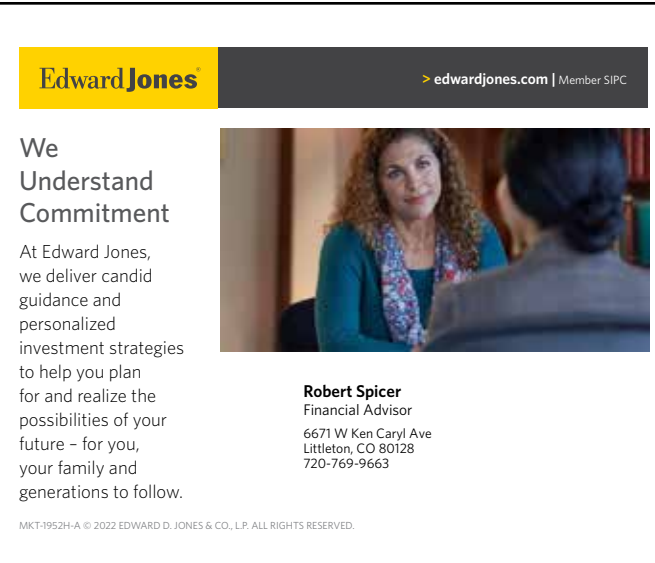
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Columbine Hills Statistics for November 2023

Current Homes FOR SALE in Columbine Hills

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	None	None	0
2-story	\$690,000	\$690,000	1
Tri/Multi-level	\$610,000	\$685,000	3
Bi-level	\$785,000	\$785,000	1

Current Homes UNDER CONTRACT in Columbine Hills

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$609,000	\$609,000	1
2-story	875,000	\$1,075,000	2
Tri/Multi-level	None	None	0
Bi-level	\$624,900	\$625,000	2

Homes SOLD in Columbine Hills (Apr. 1, 2023–Nov. 15, 2023)

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$530,000	\$725,000	9
2-story	\$725,000	\$725,000	1
Tri/Multi-level	\$595,000	\$725,000	7
Bi-level	\$685,000	\$775,000	2

The statistical information is based on MLS data Nov. 15, 2023. Not all of the properties were listed and/or sold by Duffy & Associates, LLC.



**Realtor with
real estate law
background**



What Clients are Saying About Duane...

The experience of working with Duane was phenomenal! He will tell you the truth, not just what you want to hear. He is methodical and calming—excellent personality traits that carry you through a trying time. The fact that Duane is an expert in the Columbine area is an added bonus. I would wholeheartedly recommend Duane to sell your home. Don't hesitate—he will take excellent care of you! J. S.

We would not hire any realtor, other than Duane, to find us the right home and to sell our existing property. During the process Duane became our lifelong realtor and, even more importantly, a true friend. C. & M. E.

Duane was the perfect realtor to sell the home our parents owned. He has extensive real estate knowledge and knows the neighborhood very well. Duane was attentive and his guidance was invaluable. He is easy and pleasant to work with and we are grateful for his guidance, friendship, and very hard work on our behalf. We recommend him highly to anyone seeking the finest real estate agent. K. & R. C.

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