WOODMAR SQUARE

RESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

Community that cares

Facebook Group: Woodmar Square Community • Nextdoor.com: Woodmar Square/Columbine Knolls N Website: www.WoodmarSquare.org • WOODMAR SQUARE EMAIL: woodmarsquarehoa@gmail.com

Residents Meeting: December 7

Direct link Fiber will be making a presentation and answering your questions. Anyone interested in the new product, or concerned about the construction in the neighborhood should attend!! Columbine Library, 7706 W Bowles Ave, on Thursday, December 7, 5:30 to 6:30.

The 3 Pillars of Giving

Time: Time may be the most valuable resource we all have—once it's gone, it's gone. That's why it's universally understood how precious the gift of time truly is. This type of giving is providing someone else with your own time to help others. Your gift of time may be direct, hands-on service such as tutoring children

at a homeless shelter or an indirect service, such as stocking shelves at a food pantry.

Talent: Whether you share your unique skills or professional expertise, you can use your own talent to give back to your community, or anywhere there is a need. Examples may include a doctor providing pro bono office hours at a local clinic or an investment advisor who manages the endowment of a charity. It's not only rewarding for philanthropists to donate their talents, but also highly valued because it provides a service or expertise that is often out of reach for the recipients.

Treasure: When many people think of generosity, they think of donating their treasure—a euphemism for money or other items with value. While cash is the most common type of charitable donation, it may also come in the form of real estate, collectibles, and more.

-https://foundationsource.com/

December 2023

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'Tis The Season For Christmas Trains in Colorado

What Christmas would be complete without hot cocoa, a trip to the North Pole, or a visit with Santa Claus?! Do all that and more aboard one of these Colorado Christmas holiday train rides.

From the Front Range to the Western Slope, there are a number of historic rail-roads in Colorado that offer something special for the winter holiday season. While

most tourist trains shut down over the winter, a few keep rolling on. Board these unique Christmas themed trains for an unforgettable time with your friends, family, and loved ones. Here are Colorado's best Christmas holiday train rides, in no particular order:

santa's LIGHTED FOREST: Witness the snow-covered mountains in all their glory every evening aboard the Georgetown Loop Railroad for an enchanting experience. The train makes a stop at Santa's Lighted Forest where the spirit of the holidays is on display with thousands of colorful lights that cover the trees and Christmas village at the North Pole.

trees and Christmas village at the North Pole.

Passengers can meet Santa himself, enjoy hot cocoa and cookies all while watching the beautiful light show synchronized to selected Christmas carols. Passengers have a choice of the Presidential Car, Parlor Car, or the Coach Car. This train departs only from the Devil's Gate Depot in Georgetown, Colorado. Website: georgetownlooprr.com

SANTA'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE: Perfect for the entire family, hop aboard the Georgetown Loop train for a ride to the North Pole. Passengers will join up with Santa and his little helpers who help pass out presents, treats, and goodies for the children. Choose from the Presidential Car, Parlor Car, or the Coach Car — each decorated with the festivities of the season. This train departs only from the Devil's Gate Depot location in Georgetown, Colorado. Website: georgetownlooprr.com

SANTA EXPRESS TRAIN: With your pajamas on, catch a ride aboard the Santa Express Train where Santa's helpers offer hot cocoa, cookies, and candy canes and even read Christmas stories to all the passengers. Ride through the Royal Gorge for an unforgettable journey to the North Pole, which shines with all the colors and brilliance of Christmas.

Kids, get your Christmas wish list ready for Santa as he makes his way through each class of service, visiting every child aboard the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. It offers up to four daily departures, one of which includes an early morning train ride that includes breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus. There are a variety of classes of service available, from the Vista Dome and first-class lunch and dinner train to the club and coach class.Website: royalgorgeroute.com



Kiwanis Club of Columbine

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. Our local club, the Kiwanis Club of Columbine, fulfills that mission in our community with volunteer hours on some fifty active projects and making philanthropic gifts to over twenty different organizations throughout the year.

Anyone is welcome to join in on any project or attend any of our social events. You do not need to join the club to participate. We have a lot of fun, meet new people, and do a lot of good things for our community.

Recent project highlights:

Columbine Hills Elementary Science Fair Judges, Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry (consistently serving about 200 families every week), IFCS grocery distribution, and area high school Key Club Halloween Trick or Treat Street events.

In December we need help with bell ringing for the Salvation Army Dec 14-24, our quarterly Blood Drive on December 18, and one of our big fundraiser and social events of the year is our Christmas party and silent auction on Dec 9. NOTE: you do not need to be a member to work with us.

We have something that will fit anyone's interests and expertise, and we can use your help! Details about our upcoming projects are in our weekly newsletter, contact news@ columbinekiwanis.org to get added to our newsletter email distribution. To learn more visit our website at columbinekiwanis.org, or join us for a free breakfast at our weekly meeting any Wednesday at 7 AM at 4Gs restaurant, 5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton. We also have a bimonthly meeting at Columbine library on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 12:30 PM. For more information email kensweet@ gmail.com.





Woodmar HOA Board Members

OFFICERS

President – Christi Bontempo
Vice President – John Eiler
Treasurer – John Pagliarini
Activities Director – Amy Ascencio
Newsletter Coordinators – Dick and Mary Palmer

Our community is looking for residents to support our HOA by volunteering to help as we fill the

2022 positions of VP, Secretary and Newsletter Editor. NEWSLETTER CARRIERS

Craig Matthies; Margie Maness; Mark Pauly; Jane Morris; Joe & Olivia Gonzales; Jay & Tonja Roth; Magri Family; Hannah, Janessa & Paige Hopkins; Kyle Barrackman; Vern, Andrea, Noemi Mejia and Family; Barbara Winkel; Rich, Lisa, Amy & Bryce Rombach; John Eiler; Pat Clark; Carson Walker; Cheryl Lavan; Judy Dulac

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 12th of the month before the next month's issue. Please email news articles to the editor at woodmarsquarehoa@gmail.com. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter.

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.

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**.

This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

National Cocoa Day

December 13th ushers in a celebration worthy of the winter holidays with National Cocoa Day. What better way to warm up after a cold day outside?

Outdoor Ice Skating Rinks

You don't have to hit the slopes to have some cold, wintery fun. Check out these rinks to get your ice skating fix.

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

The competition of the property of the propert

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.

- In Part From https://www.5280.com/



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:

- 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.

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.
- Consider leaving the tinsel off your tree if you have a cat
- 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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Tutoring - provides homework help, strengthens skills, and/or enrichment. Call/text Nancy, licensed teacher K-6, 303-932-9745 for availability.

Aminals Petsitting Service - Pet sitting (in your home). Bonded & ins. Refs. avail. Call Nancy & Rick (Owner/Operator) at 303-335-6237.

Drywall - Basement finishes - Remodeling. Years of exp. w/ refs. Gary 303-829-6363

Mike the Plumber - Your reliable neighborhood plumber for 14 yrs. Competitive rates. Free estimate. 720-422-8139

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 6th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.

Christmas Trains, continued from front page

THE POLAR EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE

Enjoy the warmth and fun of the season with a trip to the North Pole aboard the Polar Express via the Durango and Silverton Train. Experience the classic book, The Polar Express, come to life with the chefs, conductor, Billy, and of course with Santa and his elves. Enjoy treats and a bedtime story of The Polar Express as you head

to the North Pole to pick up Santa. On your return to Durango, Santa visits each car while your chefs lead all passengers in the singing of Christmas carols. Passengers can choose from three different classes of service; coach, deluxe, and first-class.

-https://www.uncovercolorado.com/christmasholiday-train-rides-in-colorado/



Same Great Company, Owner & Employees... Just A New Name!

Contact us if you are interested in placing an ad in this newsletter!

Our January deadline is December 6th.

Previously:



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Woodmar Square Statistics for November 2023

Current Homes FOR SALE in Woodmar Square

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$650,000	\$650,000	1
2-story	None	None	0
Tri/Multi-level	None	None	0
Bi-level	None	None	0

Current Homes UNDER CONTRACT in Woodmar Square

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	None	None	0
2-story	\$850,000	\$850,000	1
Tri/Multi-level	None	None	0
Bi-level	None	None	0

Homes SOLD in Woodmar Square (Jan. 1, 2023–Nov. 15, 2023)

	Lowest	Highest	How Many?
Ranch Style	\$605,000	\$815,000	2
2-story	\$600,000	\$765,000	7
Tri/Multi-level	\$550,000	\$733,000	11
Bi-level	None	None	0

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.**