



# the Sunshine fire protection district newsletter

Feb 02  
Vol. 02 Iss. 1



## Upcoming Board of Directors Election

The Sunshine Fire Protection District is seeking Sunshine residents who would be interested in serving on the District's Board of Directors. All five of the seats on the Sunshine Fire Protection District Board of Directors are up for election this coming May. Two of the Board seats are four-year terms and the remaining three are to complete two-year terms. Any Sunshine resident who is eligible to vote in the District is eligible to run for the Board. Election is by a ballot of all registered voters in the District.

The Board is responsible for setting the policies for the fire and medical services in the District. It also has financial and legal responsibility for the provision of fire and medical services to the District. Operations for the fire and medical services are delegated to the Fire Chief and a staff fire and medical offic-

ers. All positions, both Board and operations, are volunteer.

Obligations of Board members include willingness to serve, ability to attend the regular monthly meetings of the Board, communication and interpersonal skills, basic business and financial management skills and ability to deal with policy issues.

If you are interested in being a candidate, please contact Bruce Honeyman (see contact info on next page). Bruce has volunteered to serve as this year's Election Official. The state of Colorado will be distributing the election materials shortly. Candidates must fill out certain forms, including affidavits on eligibility and a nomination form requiring signatures of District residents. For further information about being a Board member, feel free to contact

any of the current Board members: Bill Bender, Rich Landen, Jay Schumacher and David Wheeler.

On a related note, Board Member Nancy Talmey has resigned from the Board. She is moving out of the District. The Board appointed Pavel Bouska as interim replacement for Nancy until the May 7th election to be held at the fire station.



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## Calendar of events

### *Firefighter trainings:*

Trainings are now scheduled for the *second* Saturday of each month at 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the fire station.

Mar 9, Gillatt controlled burn/cistern orientation

Apr 13, Propane Defense

May 11, Fire Extinguishers/community welcome

Jun 8, Vehicle Stabilization/BES

Jul 13, Pump review

Aug 10, Advanced Quick Attach/port-a-pond

Sep 14, CAFS/foam operation

Oct 12, Burn Building

Nov 29, Radio/Communications

No Dec. Training

### *Squad meetings:*

Squad meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the fire station.

Feb 28, Mar 28, Apr 25, May 23, Jun 27, Jul 25, Aug 22, Sep 26, Oct 24, Nov 28, no Dec. meeting

### *Medical trainings:*

Medical trainings are held from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

March 13–Gold Hill, April 17–Four Mile, May 8–Gold Hill, June 19–Four Mile, July 10–Gold Hill, Aug 21–Four Mile, Sept 11–Gold Hill, Oct 16–Four Mile, Nov 13–Gold Hill, No Dec. Medical Training

### *Board meetings:*

Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the fire station. Meetings are open to all residents.

Mar 12, Apr 9, May 14, Jun 11, Jul 9, Aug 13, Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, No Dec. Meeting

### *Special Events:*

May 3rd, 8am to 5pm, 6101 Sunshine Canyon Dr: Application for and submission of absentee ballots for Board of Directors Election

May 7th, 7am to 7pm, Sunshine Fire Station: Board of Directors Election

## Current board

Rich Landen, Chairperson

Bill Bender, Treasurer

Kimberly Neill, Secretary

Pavel Bouska, Member

Jay Schumacher, Member

David Wheeler, Member

Eric Bader, Fire Chief

Steve Stratton, Asst. Fire Chief

Bruce Honeyman, Fire Marshal

Board meetings are at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of every month at the fire station and are open to all residents (see schedule at left).



### Contact information

Eric Bader, Fire Chief

Home ph. 303-440-8123

Work ph. 303-444-8420

Pager 303-441-3851 #4561

SFPD-Chief@egroups.com

Steve Stratton, Asst Chief

Home & work ph. 303-786-8255

Pager 303-441-3851 #4562

steve@talksinc.com

Bruce Honeyman, Fire Marshal

ph. 303-786-7731

SFPD-FireMarshal@egroups.com

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## Everyday Heroes

The Mapleton Elementary 2nd grade Brownie Troop has chosen the Sunshine Fire Protection District fire fighters as their "Everyday Heroes". The troop expects to pay a visit on April 6th and present an award of Girl Scout cookies. The fire fighters plan to reciprocate with a ride on the fire truck.

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**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**, and, particularly, to the electors of the Sunshine Fire Protection District of Boulder County, Colorado.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that an election will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 2002, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, 2 directors will be elected to serve 4-year terms and 3 directors will be elected to serve 2-year terms.

Self-Nomination and Acceptance Forms are available from Bruce

D. Honeyman of the Sunshine Fire Protection District at 6101 Sunshine Canyon, Boulder, CO, 80302.

Self-Nomination and Acceptance form or letter are to be returned to the Designated Election Official not less than 67 days prior to the regular election: Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that applications for and return of absent voter's ballots may be filed with Bruce D.

Honeyman, Designated Election Official of the District, at 6101 Sunshine Canyon, Boulder, CO, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., until the close of business on the Friday immediately preceding the regular election (Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002).

Sunshine Fire Protection District

By Bruce D. Honeyman Designated Election Official

### Station Notes

Board Election. As noted above, a new Board of Directors is to be elected on May 7th. We hope everyone makes the time to vote. We'd like to thank our current board members for their time and efforts: Bill Bender, Rich Landen, Jay Schumacher, Nancy Talmey (recently retired), and David Wheeler.

Metzger Thanks. Also, we'd like to recognize John Metzger who has served as Assistant Fire Chief for the past four years. John has been a real contributor in many areas, including the significant effort of organizing our trainings. John will continue to be active in the department.

The C2 position is now being filled by Steve Stratton. His main project is a Forest Service grant. Basically, it's a matching funds (50/50) program for the costs of fire mitigation undertaken by property owners. As soon as it is finalized, we'll provide information on how it works and how to apply for it. It's easy to put off tree thinning and other mitigation projects, but this grant is a great financial incentive to get going on it.

Grass Fire. We responded to a grass fire on the Shetter property at the 5 mile marker. Despite wind, we were able to contain the fire without any damage to structures or loss of trees.

Our response time was excellent and our new fire truck worked quite well. The cause of the fire was never determined.

Tax Deductible donations can always be sent to:

Sunshine FPD  
311 County Rd. 83  
Boulder, CO 80302

Anyone donating money to the fire department will get a letter from us thanking you for your donation and giving you a tax deductible record.

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## Volunteer Profile

Sunshine residents who went on the Spirits of Sunshine Historical Spook Walk no doubt recall the wonderful acting and sonorous voice of Judge Roy Coffin. That's because Steve Stratton, *a.k.a. the Hanging Judge*, carries a Screen Guild card and earns his living as a voice-over professional. His smooth-as-butter delivery on his scripts has nabbed him the nickname "Buttah" from his colleagues.

Like many mountain dwellers, Steve works out of his home, except his is equipped with a state-of-the-art sound studio from which he completes jobs for companies around the country. Steve says there is no better job than his, the constant variety suits his eclectic personality.

Steve got his start right out of high school as a disc jockey in his hometown of Columbus, Ohio. He pursued this career for ten years, including a stint in the Virgin Islands to throw in a little adventure. It was a natural progression from deejay to his current job, one that provides the flexibility to live where he wants and enjoy his many hobbies.

Three years ago, he took advantage of this and searched around the country for the place best suited to his life style. He chose Boulder and one year later moved into a home in Misty Vale. Boulder is an ideal location for Steve who lists backpacking and downhill skiing among his hobbies. He's actively involved in the Continental Divide Trail, maintaining a section by Grand Lake. He can also be found soaring high above the trail, as he's a licensed pilot and enjoys taking a spin—*literally!*—in

his acrobatic plane.

Although this keeps Steve busy, he makes time to volunteer at the Sunshine Fire Department. Like many volunteers, his initial motivation was social, Steve stating that involvement in SFPD has been the best vehicle for getting to know his neighbors.

In particular, he appreciates the support of fellow fire fighters Bruce Honeyman and Eric Bader. Steve developed a camaraderie with Bruce when they attended the Colorado Fire Academy together, a sort of boot camp for fire fighters. According to Steve, Bruce would give you the shirt off his back and has terrific energy in his position as fire marshal. Likewise, Steve cites Eric Bader's efforts as fire chief and his mentoring of Steve in his new role of assistant fire chief, which he rotated into as part of a plan to increase the pool of volunteers trained in leadership positions. John Metzger, assistant chief for the last four years, remains an active SFPD volunteer.

Ongoing programs that Steve spearheads include fire fighter training and a fire mitigation grant. This grant defrays the cost of fire mitigation by individual landowners up

to 50% and is reflective of a Forest Service policy shift to improved fire prevention. The grant is still in progress, but promises to be a great asset to our community.



Steve's initiation to a real fire occurred on the Shetter property a few months ago. Although the fire, spurred by gusty winds, had the potential

to be incredibly destructive, it was contained quickly with no structures or trees lost. Steve credits this to the timely response of volunteers and that the land had been mitigated so the fire didn't have the opportunity to move quicker than the fighters could.

Sooner or later, you're sure to run into Steve. You may hear him narrating a Discovery Channel documentary, as the voice on Ford truck commercials, or on local radio stations promoting the Hyatt Blackhawk. If not, Steve says, "Just look for the bald guy with a ponytail."

## Sunshine Schoolhouse and Cemetery News



### Schoolhouse Reseeding Project

Led by Eleanor Mahoney and John Hoffman, volunteers reseeded the area around the Sunshine Schoolhouse with a grass and wildflower mix. After the planting is established, the area will be used as a romping area for children during our community gatherings. It will probably take two growing seasons to be hardy enough for little (and big) feet. Until that time, please keep off the grass!

### Belated Thanks

A belated thank you to Holly Bender for organizing the Halloween Carnival and to Eleanor Mahoney for the Spirits of Sunshine Historical Spook Walk. Also, a round of applause for all the volunteers!

**Premiere Property  
Brokers**

**Tom Stevens**  
MOUNTAIN REALTOR  
AND RESIDENT

449-7720 or 459-0457  
1877 Broadway  
12286 Switzerland Trail

## High Speed Internet Now Available in Sunshine!

Yes, you can now get a reasonably priced high-speed Internet connection to your home! Prices start at \$39.99 per month, which is less than the cost of a phone line. The only requirement is line-of-site from your home to the antennas mounted on the Lee Hill towers.

This new system works by putting a small antenna/dish on your home which then points to the towers. From your antenna, a wire will come into your home which can be connected to one or more computers. If you have several computers, they can all use the Internet simultaneously and independently of each another.

About a month ago, this broadband, wireless link went active for residents in Sunshine Canyon. This new Internet access link provides speeds from 128 Kbps to over 1 Mbps both up and down. About a dozen residents have already been connected.

The company that put in the infrastructure and is providing the service is IonSKY, Inc., recently founded by Greg McCoy, a resident of Boulder Heights. The service provides high-speed Internet access and four email addresses per family. No phone line or separate ISP is required and you can still use AOL if desired.

This is a first-rate and sorely needed service for many residents of Sunshine. Most of us can only get a

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## Wildlife Watch

*Excerpted from a Daily Camera article discussing Chronic Wasting Disease in our local deer herds.*



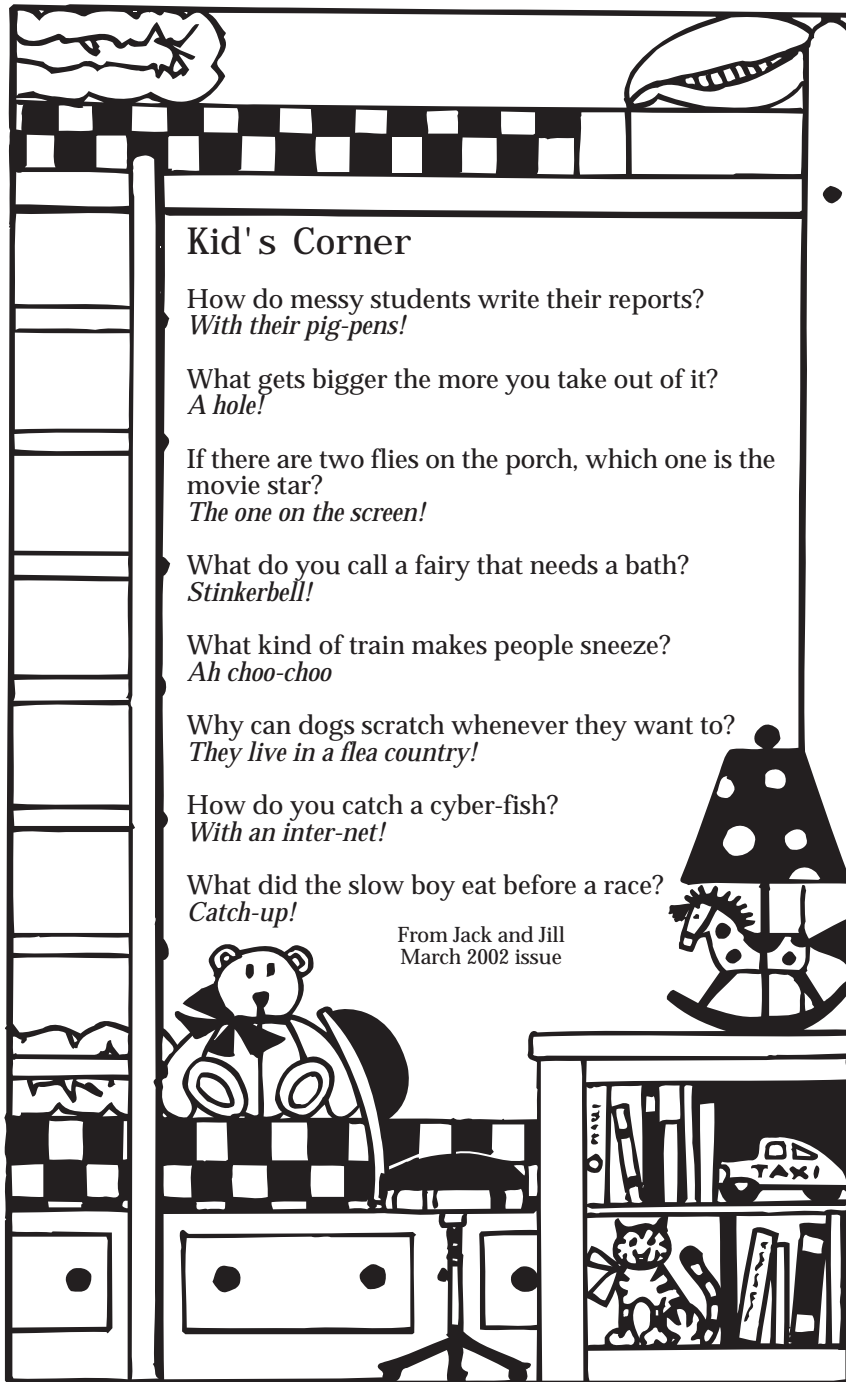
"I know it can be advisable to kill wildlife in order to improve overall survival prospects. But I'm not convinced that DOW's campaign to kill some 5,000 deer — not all showing signs of disease — makes much sense...

Charles Southwick, a retired biologist from Johns Hopkins University and a hunter, believes "culling" herds at the borders of endemic regions, such as Sugarloaf, may entice infected deer to move in from areas where the disease rages. "I know, from personal experience and the scientific literature, that if there are significant culls ... in a border area, reducing the population density, it's very likely to increase the movement of deer into the area," says the long-time Boulder resident.

Taking evidently healthy animals also may interfere with natural selection processes that might otherwise strengthen herds' ability to resist the disease. (It's worth noting that animals may carry the prion for years without showing symptoms — a tricky situation).

Disturbingly, nobody really knows how the disease — related to "mad-cow disease" — spreads. Prions in the environment may pose a threat long after the deer are gone.

*Excerpted from We meddle; they die, Clay Evans, Daily Camera, February 24, 2002.*



**Kid's Corner**

How do messy students write their reports?  
*With their pig-pens!*

What gets bigger the more you take out of it?  
*A hole!*

If there are two flies on the porch, which one is the movie star?  
*The one on the screen!*

What do you call a fairy that needs a bath?  
*Stinkerbell!*

What kind of train makes people sneeze?  
*Ah choo-choo*

Why can dogs scratch whenever they want to?  
*They live in a flea country!*

How do you catch a cyber-fish?  
*With an inter-net!*

What did the slow boy eat before a race?  
*Catch-up!*

From Jack and Jill  
 March 2002 issue

**From the editor**

Remember, this is your newsletter! If you have any feedback, ideas, letters or would like to submit materials, please contact me. (Please note that my e-mail address has changed-- again.)

Mary Mesch  
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 ph. 447-1471 fax 447-2739  
 mmesch@ionsky.com

**(cont. from p 5)**

28.8 Kbps connection with our modems which is painfully slow to do much more than send email. This new service now makes us first class Internet citizens with respect to our city brethren who have Cable and DSL.

IonSKY can be reached by calling Greg at 720-406-1575. They also have a web site at <http://www.ionsky.com> with pricing under the Services tab.

You can send me an email at [scott@starplay.com](mailto:scott@starplay.com) with any questions. I'll pass your name on to Greg and put you on my email list. The email list keeps you up to date and provides feedback and tips for using this system. If you're interested, but don't have line-of-site to the towers, send me an email so I can keep you posted on the installation of repeater sites.

Happy surfing!  
 Scott Mesch

**Ad Placements**

Classified ads are \$1/line. Business ads are \$10. The deadline for the next issue is June 15th.