

the Sunshine fire protection district newsletter

Jan 07
Vol. 07 Iss.1



A Sunshine Fire Code

Although most people think of fire departments in terms of emergency response to fire, medical and trauma incidents, much of what we do is the development of an infrastructure to help keep our community safe and to lessen the negative consequences of an emergency incident. After all, Sunshine is a fire protection district.

One of the primary tasks that we do as SFPD officers is to provide guidance to District residents, contractors and the County on infrastructure and public safety questions. Some of the most common issues have to do with the sizing of cisterns, the width of driveways and turnarounds, and whether or not it is appropriate to burn slash or have any kind of open pit fire. In the fire service, the fire marshal is typically the person holding the responsibility for fire prevention issues.

A fire code is a set of standards and regulations to help prevent the loss of life and property due to fire. City departments have long had fire codes. In fact, some historians attribute the Code of Hammurabi (ca. 1760 BC) as having the elements of the first building code. For example Law # 229 states, 'If a builder build a house for some one, and does not construct it properly, and the house which he built fall in and kill its owner, then that builder shall be put to death'. (See: wsu.edu/~dee/MESO/CODE.HTM) While you may say that the code element is light on construction details, it certainly provided an incentive to do it right! In the New World, Governor Peter Stuyvesant of New Amsterdam (New York City) (1648) was the first to appoint fire inspectors with the authority to impose fines for fire code violations. The International Code Council (ICC) is the

current body that reviews and updates codes on an approximately two to three year basis.

The Sunshine Fire Protection District exists in what is called the 'urban-wildland interface' (UWI). The UWI is a geographical area where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with wildland or vegetative fuels. In addition, the particular type of UWI that we live in, the foothills, is topographically

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Calendar of events

Training and meeting schedules are also available at the Sunshine Fire Department website: www.sunshinefire.com

Firefighter trainings:

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

Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12, Jun 9

* Pack Test and Cinco de Mayo Party May 3 6:00

Squad meetings:

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

Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 15, Apr 19, May 17

Medical trainings:

Medical trainings are held from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at Gold Hill or Four Mile
Jan 17 4M, Feb 8 GH, Mar 21 4M, Apr 12 GH, May 16 4M, Jun 14 GH

Board meetings:

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

Feb 13, Mar 13, Apr 9, May 8, Jun 12

Team Sunshine

Meetings are fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00, location rotates.

Feb. 22 Mesch residence 5188 SCD

Special Events

Spaghetti Feed & Bingo, Sunday Mar 4, 4:30 - 8:00, fire station, \$5/adult, \$3/child under age 12, \$20 max/family

Flapjack Fling, Sunday June 3, time tbd, fire station

Board Members

Pavel Bouska, Chairman
Don Dick, Treasurer
Jennifer Lansky, Member
Frank McGuire, Member
Pat Noyes, Member

Board meetings are at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of every month at the fire station and are open to the public.

District Officers

Steve Stratton, Fire Chief
Bruce Honeyman, Asst. Fire Chief & Fire Marshal



Contact information

Steve Stratton, Fire Chief
Home & work ph. 303-786-8255
Pager 303-441-3851 #4561
steve@stevestratton.tv
SFPD-Chief@egroups.com

Bruce Honeyman, Asst. Fire chief & Fire Marshal
ph. 303-786-7731
SFPD-FireMarshal@egroups.com

In any emergency, call 911.

Specialty Appliances Inc.

Wanda Bennett

Sales Consultant

Ph 303-516-4015 Cell 303-588-3273

Your local contact for kitchen appliances

Premiere Property
Brokers

Tom Stevens

MOUNTAIN REALTOR
AND RESIDENT

449-7720 or 459-0457
1113 Spruce
12286 Switzerland Trail

Chief's Message

I am sure you feel the same way I do... where has the time gone? I wasn't ready for Christmas, and now it's all over. Another year has flown by and that means it is time for Sunshine Fire to start gearing up for spring. The next few weeks are a busy time for us. Wildfire trainings have to get planned. And some of us have to start getting back in shape in order to pass the "Red Card" physical test. The Red Card test is necessary because it pretty much assures that if you are likely to have a heart attack, you'll have it during the test and not on a fire. Encouraging.

Of course, every time I start a new year I look back on what has gone before. At our SFPD Christmas party this year I reviewed the previous months and recognized three of our outstanding firefighters. I thought you ought to know about them.

I joke that it seems I am always giving Don Dick an award of some kind or other. Don is one of our SFPD Board members, as well as our treasurer. He helped build our new fire station, designed and built our new road signs, shows up at almost all emergency incidents, manages the maintenance and repair of our radios, shows up at every available training opportunity and still has time to walk the road each morning, waving to each of us as we head to work. Don has become my right-hand-man. Thanks Don.

Peter Beresford could probably run for president, except he wasn't born here. England, then Australia, then New York, Florida and Colorado, Pe-

ter has seen it all. He joined our group about a year ago and is fighting it out with Don to see who can get the most training the fastest. Several times over the last months I have received calls or emails from Peter letting me know he saw something that needed to be done so he did it. In fact, he is starting to make the rest of us look bad. This guy never slows down. I declared him our official "Rookie of the Year". Peter, do you have a brother?

For the last several years John Clark has managed our truck maintenance program. He and Francelle moved out of Sunshine a year or so ago but John continued his volunteer work anyway, until just a few weeks ago. John had probably the most important job in our department, making sure the fire trucks would run when we needed them. Whether it was an oil change, new tire chains or a trip to the mechanic, John was always on top of things. He is a great guy who is greatly missed. Thanks John for your wonderful work. (By the way. Do you want to help with John's job? No fire fighting experience necessary. Let me know, 303-786-8255.)

Along with the New Year comes a whole new group of volunteers. A lot of what needs to get done around the firehouse has little to do with actual emergencies. Several of you have approached me about helping out SFPD but didn't feel you could go to trainings or become emergency responders. Mary Mesch, Janice Wheeler and Ardie Schulster, with the help of Wanda Bennett, have enthusiastically answered my request



for non-fire fighting firefighters. They are organizing a group of people to help with individual tasks like cleaning a fire truck, straightening up the station, providing meals at emergencies, welcoming new folks to the community and flipping pancakes at party time. This group will report directly to the fire chief and will allow individuals to become part of our Sunshine volunteer community with the freedom to help as their time allows. Here's your chance to get to know your neighbors and make an important contribution. Contact Mary, Janice or Ardie for more details.

So, as I look back over the year, what I see is the people of Sunshine. I haven't mentioned the other dozen or so folks that make Sunshine Fire the strong community effort it is. But each one has played an important role in making this a great place to live. Thanks to each one of you for your help and wonderful support.

Happy New Year!

Steve Stratton
Fire chief

Thank You from the Family of Davis Young

This past October our family suffered a crushing tragedy. On October 11, 2006 our beautiful 12 year old son Davis died tragically and unexpectedly at home. From the earliest moments, our fellow Sunshine friends and neighbors rushed to our aid. You all saw a family overwhelmed with grieving and mourning for their lost child. What we saw was a vast and diverse community that came together in the face of unspeakable tragedy to rediscover its heart and soul. You rediscovered each other as friends, neighbors, and witnesses to the strength that this event has forged in every one of us. We thank you all for the outpouring of love and support that we received. We were well-fed for months, and our every need was met. Thank you all, many times over. Such is the beautiful yet tragic irony of life, that so much unbridled love and beauty shall pour forth after such an unfathomable tragedy.

I have a small, humble favor to ask of you. Please think of Davis as you drive up into our canyon. Think of Sunshine Canyon as the River of Davis 's Life.

Davis would've turned 13 this January 5th. Thirteen years ago, we were driving home from hospital in a new car with a new baby. We were scared, and tenuous, and felt totally unprepared to care for this beautiful creature. We turned the very corner outside the Seventh Day Adventist church and drove up the can-

yon to our home.

As you drive up the canyon, look left, to the south, up at the Red Rocks. Davis loved to climb on them, in fact we climbed on them just a few weeks before he died and his strength, agility and grace on the rocks was beautiful. His spirit is still up there.

As you pass the fire danger sign and see a straightway ahead, think of Davis riding his bike down the canyon, hair flying out under his helmet, with his brother and me, or with his friend Wilder. After another half mile

with twin towers on the left. It is the Rubin's house, and Bunny Rubin is a gifted artist. In fact, the weekend after Davis died she was hosting an Open Studio at her home. Davis was thrilled to know a real artist in Open Studios, and had been looking forward to visiting her that weekend. Next to the Rubins, the Callihans, whose daughters Logan and Eryn had babysat for our children for many years.

A little farther up you will pass Seven Hills Dr on the left, where our dear friends the Lapps live. They are close dear friends of ours, they have helped



or so, you will pass tennis courts on the left, where our friend Julie Lavington tried to teach Davis how to play tennis.

Right after that you will see a house

with the memorial and reception, and their oldest son Garrett was a classmate and close friend of Davis.

In about another hundred yards, you will pop up out of the canyon and

Thank you (cont.)

see a beautiful mountain vista to the west and our road Eagles Drive on the left. This is our school bus stop; every morning we would walk to this spot and bask in this gorgeous view while waiting for the school bus.

A little farther up the canyon you will see Poorman Road on the left. This is where one of his oldest friends, Zach Brimlow, lives. This was also the first "real road" that Davis and I rode bikes on together.

You will climb a steep hill, and when you start going down the other side, remember the Metzgers, some of our oldest friends in the canyon. Their son Ian and Davis were close friends from early playgroups and playdates. After a few more turns, on the left, the Soper family, their son Forrest was an early friend of Davis.

After some more twists and turns, you will pass Bald Mountain on the left. This is where I proposed to Pam 15 years ago, and it was on Bald Mountain, at a beautiful sunrise during a full moon, where I presented the infant Davis to the world.

About a half mile after that, on the left, the Shetter family, Travis was an early and dear friend of Davis all the way back to pre-school. After that, on the left, his babysitter Megan Helper, and now Davis was just getting old enough to babysit our children on his own.

When the road turns to dirt, you might continue a few hundred yards straight to the new fire station. The road to the right, County Road 83, goes past the

Sunshine Schoolhouse and old firehouse. This is also where his good friend Wilder lives, and our old and dear friends the Waltmans, who knew Davis from the day he was born. Many of our oldest and dearest friends in the Sunshine community live along that road.

If you have the chance, please feel free to walk around the fire station and enjoy the area, the volleyball court where Davis was playing happily with the other young people at our annual Community Fest just a few short weeks before he died.

After winter has lost its grip and spring has warmed the earth, Davis will be buried in the Historic Sunshine Cemetery next to the fire station. We invite you to walk around and explore. If you spend long enough in the cemetery, maybe months and years, it can tell the story of this place and the people that have lived here for the past hundred years.

Davis was at home in the mountains, in the rocky sandy soil and the ponderosa pines. Put him on a flat green soccer field and he was out of place. But put him atop a tree or rock and he would be completely at home. Please remember Sunshine Canyon as the river of Davis's life. His spirit ran large in these mountains, and poured down out of this canyon where it touched so many lives. Think of his river of life the next time you drive up the canyon. It would mean a lot to us,

more than all the casseroles and cards and flowers, if a year from now or 5 years from now, we were to run into you on the street and you told us, "It was a beautiful day, so we thought we'd take a drive up Sunshine Canyon and think of Davis."

With our warmest, deepest, and most devout love and devotion, your friends and neighbors,
Doug, Pam, Alex, and Ellen Young

And Davis, forever in our hearts.

The Young family has given so much to our community, not only through Doug's years with SFPD, but in their involvement in our social activities and as good neighbors.

And in its own sad way, Davis' passing has also given to Sunshine in terms of our strengthened bond and commitment to helping each other.

For Sunshine, Davis' legacy will be helping us become a stronger community and closer, kinder neighbors.

Team Sunshine

At the second Team Sunshine meeting, residents volunteered for ongoing responsibilities and projects as follows:

Ongoing responsibilities:

Communications: Mary Mesch

Finance: Linda Luchangco

Meeting moderator: David Wheeler

SFPD liason: Wanda Bennett

Projects:

Block leaders: Janice Wheeler

Community Education: Rey Gonzales

Community Fest: Beth Byerlein

Directory: Meghan Meehan & Mary Mesch

Station cleaning: Ardie Schulster

Station landscaping: Wanda Bennett

Flapjack Fling: Wanda Bennett

Provisioning: Abbey Silver

Snow Fence: Steve Stratton

Spaghetti Feed & Bingo: Martha Peacock & Linda Luchangco

Truck cleaning: Rey Gonzales

Next Meeting:

Meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 with the locations rotating among volunteers. Everyone is invited to attend. The next meeting will be on Feb. 22nd at the

Mesch residence: 5188 SCD.

Save the date:

The following dates were set for Team Sunshine-supported special events:

Spaghetti Feed & Bingo—Sunday, Mar. 4th, 4:30 -8:00 p.m.

Flapjack Fling—Sunday, June 3rd, time tbd

Community Fest—final date and time tbd, most likely Sept. 8th or 15th

Team Sunshine Webpage:

Over the next months, Team Sunshine will work with Rick Lansky, SFPD's webmaster, to provide information about TS activities and contacts on SFPD's website: www.sunshinefire.com. This is a great site with SFPD's training and events calendar, back issues of the newsletter, and other good information and links for mountain residents.

In the meantime, if you'd like more info or to help out on any of these projects, please contact the project leaders or Mary Mesch at 303-447-1471 or mmesch@ionsky.com.

Special Neighbor Assistance!

Madeline Koehler is in the hospital recovering from foot surgery. After she's released, she'll need to stay off her foot completely for three months.

Ardie Schulster is investigating how we can help Madeline during her convalescence, such as picking up groceries, food preparation, light household help, etc. If you'd like to volunteer your help, please call Ardie at 303-443-6060.

Junior Volunteers

If you'd like to earn community service hours, there's plenty of opportunities. Just contact Team Sunshine.

Community Photos

Sunshine community photos from the holiday season and Halloween, can be viewed at: marymesch.myphotoalbum.com

Anyone who has photos you'd like to post there, please e-mail them to mmesch@ionsky.com. In the future, these photos may move to SFPD's website.

Directory Information

Thanks, everyone who responded to our first request for info. If you haven't already responded, could you please mail your form or send an e-mail to mmesch@ionsky.com with the following information:

Household names; street address and mailing address, if different; phone numbers, including office and cell; # and type of pets; e-mail addresses; and whether you want this info used only for SFPD emergency purposes and not published in our directory

Spaghetti Feed

Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread,
dessert & soft drinks
BYOB

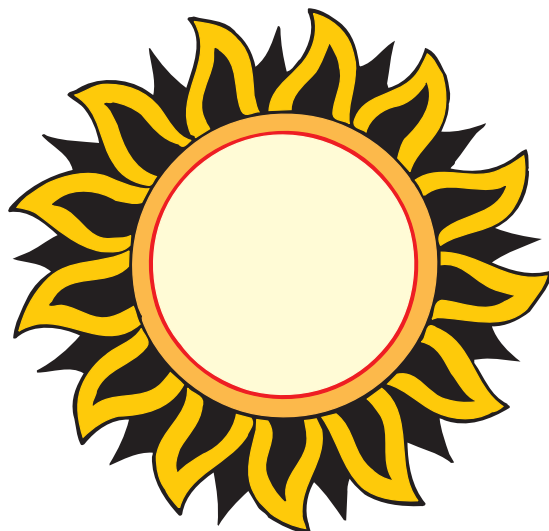
When: Sunday, March 4th from 4:30 to 8:00

Where: Firestation

Cost: \$5 per adult, \$3 per child under 12,
maximum \$20 per family

After the food service,
there'll be bingo with fun prizes

Hosted by Team Sunshine
“Building Stronger Community”



If you'd like to help, please contact Martha Peacock at
303-442-2966 or Martha@mythosandcompany.com

Fire Code (cont. from p. 1)

complex. We also have an infrastructure that is characteristic of rural, mountainous areas: narrow, winding roads; sometimes remotely-located homes; and the lack of a pressurized water delivery system for fighting fires. Up until the last decade or so, fire officials in rural areas, and specifically the UWI, were left without guidance specific to our non-urban needs.

The ICC has developed *The International Urban-Wildland Interface Code (Iuwic)* that addresses issues of direct need to Districts such as the SFPD. While the *Iuwic* does contain some provisions that are not relevant for Sunshine (e.g., permits for auto wrecking yards) or does not speak to other issues, it does provide us with a good (~90% 'on target') framework for adaptation to Sunshine's needs. Another advantage of adopting the (modified) *Iuwic* is that the basic code has been accepted and is in place in many Districts. The County also refers to the *Iuwic* in some instances and is increasingly adopting some of that code's attributes. In other words, it is a known quantity and 'accepted practice'.

The development of a fire code for Sunshine has been long-term goal of the District. Over the approximately eight years that I have been fire marshal for Sunshine we have developed a set of guidelines for a range of fire safety issues. These are based on our interactions with contractors, homeowners and County officials. When new questions arise, Chief Stratton and I consider the best response and it becomes part of what has become a de facto Sunshine code: a set of con-

sistent guidelines for fire prevention in the district. In other words, the code will be a natural product of what we have been doing all along.

Our next step is to formalize our experience and set of guidelines into a code for adoption by the Sunshine Board. Its adoption will create a specific policy for some of the recommendations that we have been making to homeowners, contractors and the County for the last decade or so. With an ever-increasing paperwork load imposed on fire districts, such a Code should make everyone's life easier.

We are currently completing a draft of the code that will be circulated to SFPD firefighters for comment and modification. Once we are satisfied, the draft will be forwarded to the Board for their consideration and adoption. Look for an opportunity for public input over the next year.

Bruce Honeyman
Fire Marshal

Yoga Classes!

* Join us for an established, gentle yoga class that tones, strengthens, stretches, and relaxes
* Call for schedule.
Limited space.

Dee Spencer
(303)-443-0121
Local Sunshine resident
1254 County Road 83
deefish@starplay.com

Fire Station #1 Rebuild

Though it might not look like it, progress is being made on the rebuilding of our Fire Station #1. Settling with the insurance company, drawing up plans and getting a building permit from the county all took quite a bit of time.

Betters Construction Company, the same contractor that built station #2, began work on the project in October. All materials have been ordered and the wood trusses for the roof are complete and awaiting delivery. Of course, the big hold up at the moment is the weather. But in spite of conditions, demolition of the north facing wall and hose tower have been completed, as well as the pouring of concrete to repair the floor and reinforce the cement block walls. As soon as the temperatures move up a bit the framers will start work on the north wall. Once that happens the building should take shape very quickly.

The plan for Station #1 is to house our medium size pumper, 4502. Though not totally complete, the building will be somewhat finished inside, enough to allow SFPD to use the facility for Board meetings, fire-training sessions, as well as storage of equipment and supplies. Having this new facility will be a great asset for the fire department as well as the community.

Steve Stratton
Fire Chief

A Very, Very, Very White Christmas

The Christmas holidays saw Sunshine hit by a succession of three blizzards then blasted by 100+ mph winds causing drifted driveways and roads.

The storms were a huge inconvenience for the Engellenner/Helper family. Butch and daughter Madeline drove back to New York while Nancy and daughter Meghan planned to fly out a few days later. Their flight was for the Wednesday before Christmas, right when the first storm hit. They spent eight hours in the airport that day. Believing that they'd catch a flight the next day, they got a room in a nearby hotel. Three days and countless pool games later, they gave up. Nancy spotted a Home Depot within walking distance where she was able to grab their last snow shovel. Armed with the shovel, she and Meghan went to the airport parking lot to dig out their car. A tired but valiant airport employee insisted upon digging them out and

refused Nancy's tip, a true example of the holiday spirit.

The family's problems weren't over though. After spending Christmas in New York, Butch and Madeline drove back where they ran into the second blizzard while crossing Nebraska. Twenty miles of black ice and spun out vehicles made them seriously consider getting a hotel for the night, but the road conditions improved and they continued home arriving at 1 a.m. on December 31st. Despite staying up till 4:30 a.m. opening presents and enjoying their reunion, the family was definitely in the party spirit at the annual Sunshine New Year's Eve Party.

The Honeyman family was also separated, with Joyce stuck in California over New Year's Eve while Bruce and Alex partied in Sunshine.

Our severe winds created even more serious problems. On Christmas Day, Tom Fox was involved in a two car accident on the severely drifted section of road near the top of Bald Mountain. The accident closed the road for hours, during which time Sunshine SFPD volunteers, including Don Dick and Peter Beresford, worked hard to manage the accident scene. Tom heartily thanks SFPD for their assistance at his accident.

During our windiest night, Jack and Donna Edward were awakened by a banging noise in their living room where their glass doors had blown open. While trying to shut them, a door hit Jack in the head requiring a trip to the emergency room. SFPD responded to their 911 call, helping staunch Jack's bleeding and closing and securing their doors, an act that took five firefighters. Just getting to the call was a huge feat as most fire fighters had to shovel out from their homes. Upon their return from ER, Jack and Donna were unable to navigate their badly drifted driveway and had to spend the night at Madeleine Koehler's home.

On a lighter note, Karen Schumacher was in bed when a blast of wind rattled the house so badly that her books flew off their shelves onto her head.

And finally, our frigid weather caused a bottle of wine, intended for a friend, to explode in Ardie Schulster's SUV. Ardie is a non-drinker, so her driving around reeking of alcohol was the final twist on an eventful holiday season.



And then some people enjoyed the snow! The Luchangcos pose next to a snowman that son Charlie and wife Jessica made during their visit from Hong Kong.

Sunshine Trivia

1. Match these intrepid residents with their provisioning triumphs.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| a. Last eggs in town, but had to buy 6 dozen | 1. Eleanor Mahoney |
| b. Last snow shovel in airport vicinity | 2. Linda Luchangco |
| c. Last turkey at Safeway, almost mugged for it | 3. Nancy Engellenner |

Hint: who was seen hiding Easter eggs on Christmas Day?

2. Who was seen hitchhiking to town for booze in our frigid weather?

- a. Not Chris Voorhees, in fact Liquor Mart called him to help them restock!
b. Dee Spencer, for her Bunko party. The mail may not get delivered, but Bunko must go on! *(Steve--next time, forget the broken truck trick. Nothing gets in the way of us women partying!)*

3. What time did the last revelers leave the progressive New Year's Eve party?

- a. 5:30 a.m. Jan 1st
b. 5:30 a.m. Jan 2nd
c. They're still there, Lisa just found a group partying in the basement

4. Who was the happiest party goer on New Year's Eve?

- a. Scott Mesch, who unveiled moves on the dance floor not seen since the 70s.
b. Steve Hall, who was introduced to gin & ginger ale earlier in the day
c. Tom Fox, who cranked on the guitar after his swing shift

5. Who was stuck at DIA for three days?

- a. Ruby Heflin, who could have turned it into a profit if she had packed her fishnet stockings
b. Nancy Engellenner and daughter Meghan, who paid their hotel tab by hustling pool
c. The Honeymans, who passed the time by singing "99,000 Bottles of Beer on the Wall"
d. Maybe Karen Schumacher, but there's a gap in her memory since her books landed on her head

6. Who received the 2006 SFPD Rookie Award?

- a. Peter Beresford, and no, he wasn't the only rookie last year!
b. Jack Lansky, but he's waiting till he gets his driver's license to go for Chief



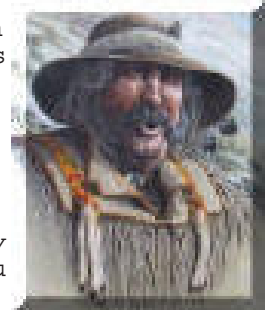
7. Whose house was stormed by a swat team due to a case of mistaken identity?

- a. Jane Sanders, who convinced them of her innocence with a plate of homemade cookies and wearing her church-going dress
b. Chris Voorhees, using the same strategy

Answers: 1) eggs-Linda, shovel-Nancy, turkey-Eleanor 2) Dee 3) 5:30 Jan1st
4) all of the above 5) Nancy & Meghan 6) Peter 7) Jane

The Dear Chris Column

Advice from
the Mountain
Man Who Calls
It like He
Sees It



Dear Chris,
I hear you
snowplow. Any
chance of you
helping me?
--Morgan of
Misty Vale

Let's get one thing straight:
are you a "Morgan" like Morgan
Fairchild or Morgan Freeman?
You see, I dig the single
mountain mamas, that is to say
I plow them, er ...well you
know what I mean! It's cuz I'm
a chivalrous kinda guy. And
any rumors that I get my pay-
ments in their hot tubs is just
hogwash! And come next winter,
I won't be even taking calls
from the ladies ...at least
not while it's snowing.--Chris

Dear Chris,
I'm new here and having problems
with mail delivery. What's up?
--You've Got (No) Mail!

Well, with these here winter
storms the mail has been a mite
unpredicable lately, but ya
gotta give Scott our mailman
some help. Now look at my box.
I keep the snow shoveled around
it and it's at the right height
so you can open it without even
gettin' outta your jalopy. If
you do all that, I bet you'll
start seeing mail. That is,
after you remove your "Rumsfeld
for President" sticker, cuz
you gotta unnerstan' Boulder's
run by a bunch of blasted
liberals! --Chris

Dear Chris,
I heard you were the only one
well stocked on tequila during
our storms?
--Thirsty

What can I say, the ladies like
to ply, I mean pay me with
booze. I think it's to take
advantage of me! --Chris

Sunshine Schoolhouse and Cemetery News



Recap from Arts & Craft Fair

There's some long overdue thank yous that need to be made to the contributors to the Arts & Craft Fair which brought in \$650 for the Sunshine Cemetery Association. Thank you to June Howard, Pat Noyes, and Janice Wheeler, the organizers, and to Eric Bader who came through with a generator, saving the day. Many vendors helped, but special accolades need to be given to Nancy Mason, Pat Noyes, Ruby Heflin, Marti Anderson, and Silvia Pettem. And we especially thank Ideal Market and Breadworks for their very generous donations of baked goods.

Mountain Gardening

Last October, when Eleanor Mahoney's father Patrick died, a group of her friends planted a memorial tree. Prairiefire Crabapple was chosen for its spring blossoms, vivid fall colors, and proven ability to thrive in our district. It also resists Apple Scab, a common disease among crabapples, and doesn't drop its fruit.

It seemed such a good choice that a couple of us bought some for ourselves as well. We're anticipating a welcome splash of color after our already long winter. If you're in the market for a tree, here's some info about Prairiefire that might be of interest.

"In his definitive book, *Flowering Crabapples*, the Genus *Malus*, Father John L. Fiala rates Prairiefire, our most popular crabapple, as 'Excellent' and 'Recommended', a rare dual designation among the hundreds of cultivars he has evaluated during his 50 years of crabapple

hybridization and cultivation. Prairiefire Flowering Crabapple, M. 'Prairiefire', deserves the accolade. Dr. Daniel Dayton, Department of Horticulture, University of Illinois, introduced this clone in 1982, to the immediate acceptance of nursery professionals and the buying public. Why? It's because if 'few trees or shrubs approach the beauty of crabapples in full flower,' then few crabapples approach the beauty of Prairiefire. In May innumerable crimson buds open to dark purplish-red, one and one-half inch wide flowers that do not fade. The emerging sharp-toothed leaves, a deep red-purple when young, mature to a dark tawny green for the growing season. As fall approaches the foliage changes to an outstanding orange, a perfect foil for the half-inch diameter, shiny red to purple persistent fruit, a favorite of songbirds."

From the website: hoerrrnursery.com

New Neighbors

Please extend a welcome to: Brooke & Mack Weathers and daughter Taylor on Sunshine Canyon Drive, relocated from Florida

Erin and Rey Gonzales who moved to Whispering Pines from Virginia just a few weeks ago. Erin and Rey are already pitching in with Team Sunshine and Rey is planning to join SFPD.

New Year's Eve

Thank you to the Wheeler, Spencer and van Leuwen-Hall families for another year hosting Sunshine's Progressive New Year's Eve Party.

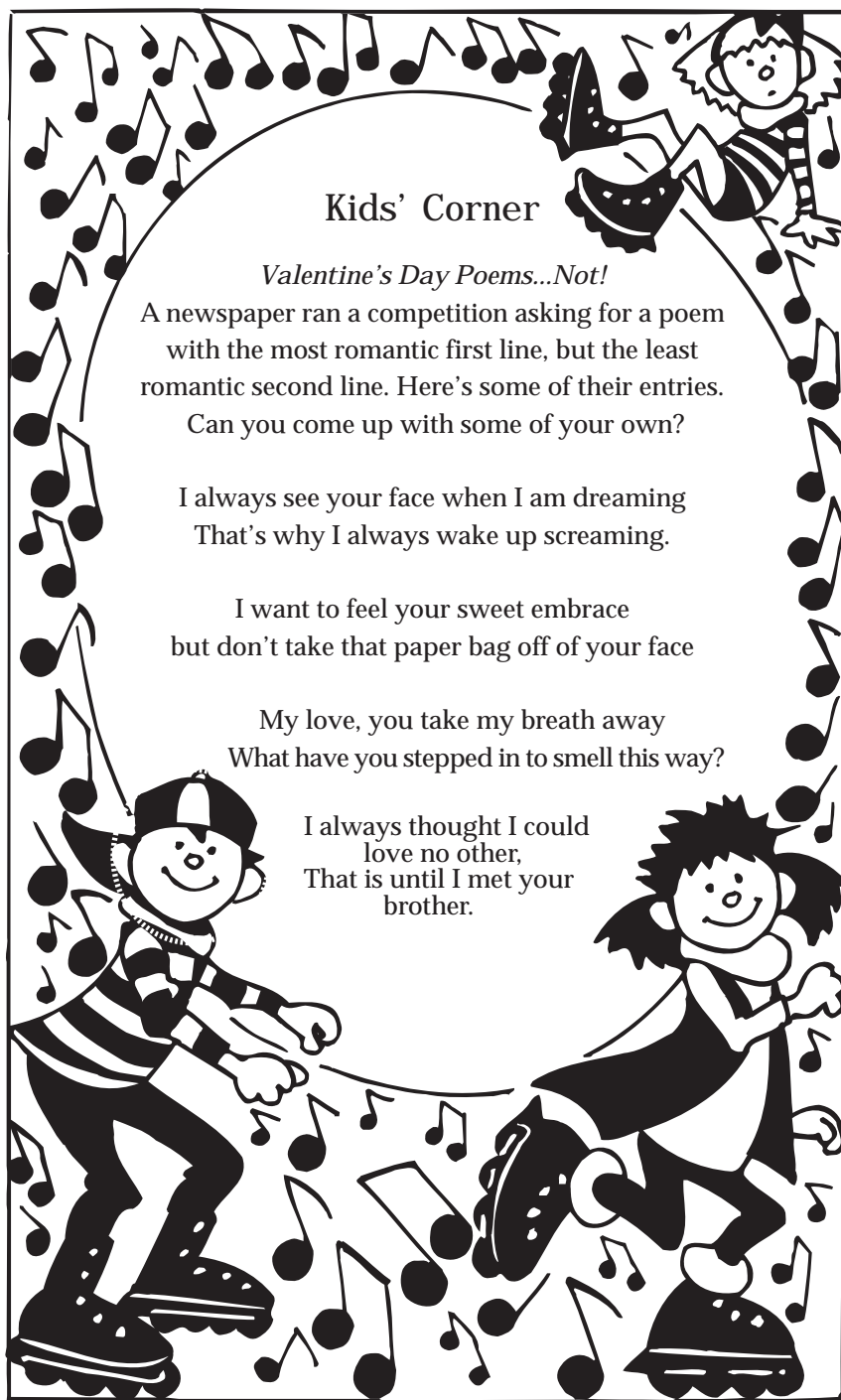
Computer Consulting & Evening Computer Classes

**Professional services for small business and residential
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Scott Mesch
Starplay Systems, LLC.
303-539-9386 scott@starplay.com
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Kids' Corner

Valentine's Day Poems...Not!

A newspaper ran a competition asking for a poem with the most romantic first line, but the least romantic second line. Here's some of their entries.

Can you come up with some of your own?

I always see your face when I am dreaming
That's why I always wake up screaming.

I want to feel your sweet embrace
but don't take that paper bag off of your face

My love, you take my breath away
What have you stepped in to smell this way?

I always thought I could
love no other,
That is until I met your
brother.

Editorial Contact

Remember, this is your newsletter!
Please contact me with comments, ideas,
or submissions.

Mary Mesch
5188 Sunshine Canyon
ph. 447-1471 fax 447-2739
mmesch@ionsky.com

Snow Removal

At the end of our blizzards, the snow had piled up so high against Ruby Heflin's garage that she was unable to get her car out. Specialized equipment was needed to remove it and Red Butte Excavating was called in. Ruby and daughter Lori want to give the guys at Red Butte two thumbs up and let their neighbors know it's a great service for these conditions.

Red Butte Excavating
303-772-1343

Sequoia Woodworks
"When Craftsmanship
Counts"

Mike Aronson
Owner & Lead Carpenter
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custom staircases

cell: 303-819-5338

Personals are \$1/line; business ads are \$10. Next deadline is Mar. 15th.

Babysitting and odd jobs: Neighborhood teenager earning money for a Travel Abroad program. Eager to work. Experienced and responsible. Call Gigi Mesch at 303-447-1471.