

## July 2021



# An update from your Elk Falls Ranch POA Board of Directors

## 2020/2021 Board of Directors

Renae Braun, President - <u>elkfallspoa@gmail.com</u> or 720-480-9328 Dave Shaffer, Roads Chair - <u>elkfallsroads@gmail.com</u> or 303-816-5004 Dan Mueller, Secretary - <u>elkfallsfirewise@gmail.com</u> or 630-240-9066 Bev Long, Treasurer - <u>bevlong2555@gmail.com</u> or 720-633-2454 Mike Long, VP & Architectural Chair - <u>mlongpine11817@gmail.com</u> or 303-757-2222

#### Next Board Meeting: August 17th, 7pm, Mike and Bev's House 11817 Northwest Court, Pine

All POA members are invited to attend. If you are interested in attending, please email <u>elkfallspoa@gmail.com</u> to let us know you're coming.

# **Resident Profile**

In order for us, as the Elk Falls Ranch Community, to get to know each other a little better, we are profiling residents, especially newer residents.

We know you'll enjoy getting to know **Tristin Thompson and Nathan Bullard. Tristin** (on the left) and **Nathan**(on the right) live at 34417 Highview Drive.



Welcome Tristin and Nathan!

Hey neighbors,

We just wanted to introduce ourselves! We moved in a couple weeks back and have loved every second. We moved from Denver but are originally from Georgia. We have two dogs - Charlie, an Australian Shepherd and Toby, who is a chocolate lab. We love to go on hikes and ski/snowboard whenever we get the chance. We are very excited to settle into the neighborhood and get to know you all!



Tristin and Nathan



# Saying Goodbye to Elk Falls Ranch

My husband Jim and I bought our second home at 11552 Elk Creek Road at the foot of Lions Head in 1999, and enjoyed it thoroughly all these years. Sadly, Jim died last winter and I have decided that our time here is done and am selling our house.

Over the years, we got to know many residents and worked with them on ranch issues and just plain fun. I remember how we had to fight to keep control of Elk Creek Road, starting the Firewise program,

improving our defensible space, and collecting all those slash piles along the roads.

I leave you all carrying wonderful memories of the ranch and the friends we made there.

#### Charlotte Winzenburg

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The Board would like to offer condolences and thank Charlotte for her friendly presence and contributions to the community over the years . She and her husband will be missed.



# **Broadband Grant Update**

South Park Telephone will submit our grant application in the July 2021 grant cycle, most likely increasing the match to 30%. The grant is due, this Thursday, July 15th.

Total commitments from residents and land owners within

the project area stands at 298 commitments.

## THE NEXT PARAGRAPH IS THE BEST NEWS!

The Governor signed HB 21-1289, which earmarks \$35M of Federal stimulus dollars to the Colorado Broadband Fund. **This \$35M will be available in the July grant cycle!!** There will be two funds - approximately \$6.4M via the current funding mechanism and \$35M via the Broadband Stimulus Fund (one time) for a total of \$41M. Any unused funds are carried over to the next grant cycle until expended. South Park Telephone will apply for both funds.

If you remember, our Winter 2021 grant was approved, but there wasn't enough money to fund all of the approved grants. This extra funding should strengthen our chances of being funded immensely. There are no guarantees; but we can hope!

Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Staunton State Park remain huge proponents of the project.

South Park Telephone was awarded a grant in the January grant cycle to provide fiber to the Burland Subdivision in Bailey. This project will kick off in Q4 2021.

Thanks for hanging in there everyone!

As always, contact me if you have questions.

Bev Long Broadband Committee Chair and Champion for Elk Falls Ranch and S. Elk Creek Road <u>bevlong2555@gmail.com</u> 303-838-4373

## It's Not too Late! You Can Still Participate.

We are still accepting commitments. You don't want to miss out on this opportunity.

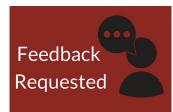
The online Commitment Form can be found at this <u>link</u> and the **Pricing Sheet** can be found at this <u>link</u>.

For real-time updates join our <u>Facebook Group</u>. The site is called <u>Staunton Area</u> <u>Broadband Initiative</u>.

Our website is 285broadband.com,

# We need your help for Broadband Grant and Appeals Preparation.





## A few questions:

- Century Link is claiming they have upgraded their network to offer higher speeds compared to the coverage area map presented in the Winter 2021 application. Is anyone receiving up to 940 Mbps from CTL? Anyone receiving up to 100 Mbps from CTL?
- 2. Has anyone been denied service or upgrades from Century Link?
- 3. Has anyone experienced issues with Rise telling you they can service your home, but then when it comes time to actually do an install they cancel saying they can't provide service?
- 4. Have you simply been denied service from Rise.
- 5. Has Rise improved their speeds?

If you have feedback on the questions above, please contact me, Bev Long at <u>bevlong2555@gmail.com</u>.

Thank you!!



## **Roads Report**

The spring road maintenance and improvement activities were finally completed, after some weather delays, near the end of May. Road material moisture content was pretty good (too wet in places) for the road work and the roads have stayed in relatively good shape.

I hope everyone likes the widened section of Upper Ranch and the smoother roads after the new road base was applied and the roads were graded.

Please help to preserve the road surfaces by adhering to the 15mph speed limit and avoiding abrupt starts/stops and rapid acceleration.

With all of the rain we've gotten, there are some erosion issues, especially on the roads that have not had road base applied. The check dams in the ditches help to slow the runoff and allow sediment to settle out. I'll be adding more check dams as I identify needs. Our culverts have been

seeing lots of water passing through. I checked all of the road culverts in early May and cleaned a few out. Some are starting to get filled in again, so I'll be shoveling them out as I see problems. Much of the road erosion is due to improper crown and/or slope of the road surface and inadequate or non-existent ditches or driveway runoff. These are all challenging problems and I will try to address them as time and budget allows.

**Driveways that slope downhill towards the road can be problematic.** If your driveway slopes toward the road, you may be able to mitigate the erosion caused by runoff from your driveway by ensuring your driveway slope directs the water off to the side and make sure there are no obstructions that could prevent water from flowing off and down the side of the driveway into the ditch. Obviously, if your driveway is paved, you cannot adjust the slope. I have some ideas to try to redirect the water off paved driveways and will be testing them soon. If I find something that works, I'll try to apply it to more of the problematic driveways.

**Finally, to the anonymous person who submitted the HomeAdvisor project in my name** If you would like to help, I have plenty of tasks involving a shovel and rake, but I know you were not trying to help. It's pretty brazen to intentionally waste a person's time that has volunteered to spend countless hours working to maintain and improve our EFPOA roads.

As always, please let me know if you see a road problem or have a suggestion for improving the roads.

Dave Shaffer EFPOA Roads Chair <u>elkfallsroads@gmail.com</u> 303-816-5004



# Watch Your Dust! - Please be Considerate of Pedestrians.

We are always reminding you to slow down while driving to preserve our roads. However, another reason to slow down is to avoid dusting pedestrians, pets and bikers. Our roads

are very dusty right now. Please be considerate and slow down when passing pedestrians and bikers. Thank you!

## Looking for New Board Members

**Join our Board** 

We will be nominating and electing new Elk Falls Ranch Property Owners' Association Board Members soon.

We have many new residents and being on the Board is a great way to learn about our community, meet people and help make decisions that affect us all.



If you would like to consider joining our POA Board, or would like to nominate someone to join the Board, please contact Renae Braun for more information at <u>elkfallspoa@gmail.com</u>.



## Message from Zach Taylor, Stanton State Park Manager

I would like to alert residents that the speed limit on Elk Creek is 30 mph! We have had several close calls and one major traffic accident at the entrance to the Park. Since we all drive on this road frequently we can make conscious decisions to slow down at tight corners and intersections where the roadway narrows and traffic may be turning onto Elk Creek.

If we all do our part to pay attention and watch out for our neighbors we all can continue to be safe and enjoy our slice of heaven!

Zach Taylor Park Manager Staunton State Park P 303.816.0912 X 4 | C 303-495-9563



## Free Paper Shredding for IREA Customers 9 am to noon

Saturday, July 31 Conifer High School 10441 Highway 73

IREA customers are welcome to bring up to three legal-sized paper boxes or kitchen-size garbage bags of paperwork to be securely shredded on site.

# Did You Know Multiple People in Your Household can be Added to our Newsletter Distribution List?

If you have members of your household that would like to be added to our Newsletter/Communication Distribution List, please pass along their email addresses. There is no limit to the number of emails per household. Please send emails to be added to <u>bevlong2555@gmail.com</u>.





## **Roads Issues**

Please contact Dave Shaffer at <u>elkfallsroads@gmail.com</u> or 303-816-5004 with any issues related to roads.

#### **Architectural Approvals**

Any additions, fences, new construction, decks, additions, garages, sheds, etc. need Board approval. Please contact Mike Long at <u>mlongpine11817@gmail.com</u> or 303-757-2222.

#### Lost Mailbox Keys

For any mailbox issues or replacement keys, please contact Bob Wallace at 303-838-2297 or <u>bbwlinear@wispertel.net</u>

## **Email Address Changes/Additions**

Please contact Bev Long at <u>bevlong2555@gmail.com</u> with any email address changes or additions.

Visit our Website

Visit Elk Falls POA Directory To Log In: Username: Last name Password: Numeric portion of the street address.