



**Town Bulletin #24
AUGUST 2012**

+++++

AUGUST 21ST IS THE PRIMARY ELECTION

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER OR TO VOTE

- Voting will be at Town Hall for our precinct (2-10)
- You can pre-register at Town Hall or the Lincoln County Clerk's Office
 - Last day to preregister is: August 6, 2012
 - Absentee Ballots will be available to registered voters upon request
- You may also register at the polls.

This year's National Election is going to have a large impact on every citizen of the United States of America, no matter which way you vote or which way the election is decided.

We here in Star Valley Ranch have many important local races to vote on as well...
Wyoming's only U.S. Representative seat (Cynthia Lummis) is up for election.
One of our two U.S. Senator's seat (John Barrasso) is up for election.
Our local District 16, State Senate Seat (Dan Dockstader is currently unopposed.
Our newly formed HD#21, House Seat (Marti Halverson) is currently unopposed,

We do have a County Commissioner's (Kent Connelly) up for election. There are four candidates all running on the Republican ticket, if nothing changes, this seat will be decided in the Primary Election on August 21.

IN ADDITION, the Town has three council seats up for election
One seat for two-years of a remaining term
Two seats for four-year terms.

**TOWN – COUNTY – STATE – FEDERAL
Positions will be decided!**

Planning & Zoning Board

Our Night Skies

Here in the Star Valley we are very lucky to have dark star filled night skies. Light pollution is a very real problem; visit any large town or city in any part of the world and notice what few stars can be seen at night.

It is incumbent on each of us to consider our neighbors enjoyment of the night skies when turning on or leaving on outside lighting.

Our night sky is exceptional here on “The Ranch” to ensure that it stays that way we have ordinances in place to protect it.

Star Valley Ranch Town code 9.05.140 Outside Lighting: (in part)

B)...No line of sight to a glaring light source is permitted from 5 feet or more inside a residential property line or public right-of-way property line by an observer viewing from a position that is level with or higher than the ground below the fixture.

C) 2. An outdoor light fixture emitting more than 1200 lumens except motion detector activated lighting, shall be full cutoff and fully shielded to an observer at the property line.

Visit the website “Globe at Night” for interesting information about our night skies.
www.globeatnight.org

The P&Z Board meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:p.m. because of the July holiday our schedule is slightly off; August meetings will be Aug. 8th and the 22nd

+++++

Natural Resource Board

Fire stirs a lot of emotion this time of year. In late June and early July we all watched the smoke plumes from the Fontenelle Fire, just west of Big Piney in Sublette County, as it burned over 64,000 acres of Lodgepole Pine forest. In our dry climate of the west, fire in our forests is as natural as rain or snow. It is nature’s way of returning nutrients to the soil and rejuvenating vegetation. In fact many tree species in the western North America require fire to reproduce. Lodgepole Pine, for example, has closed pine cones that require fire to open and release seeds. This adaptation allows the species to release seed when conditions are right for starting a new forest.

The Aspen forests that we have in the Town of Star Valley Ranch exist due to fire disturbance. Fire pushes our Douglas-fir forests back and allows Aspen forests to expand. Without fire or some other form of disturbance, our Aspen forests will eventually be replaced by conifer forests.

When we live in this environment, we need to come to terms with fire and learn to live within this environment by reducing the chance of property loss and possibly injury or loss of life. Each of us as homeowners can modify the fire environment around their property by eliminating dead and downed fuel, pruning and thinning trees and using fire safe building materials. Fire will always be with us, just as sure as it will snow this next winter.

Town Economic Development Board

The Art of Community – by Rick Nelson (TED Board member)

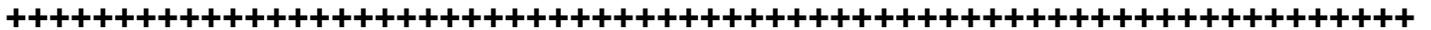
Each of us arrived at Star Valley Ranch for our own personal reasons. For many, it was the beauty of the valley and magnificent setting within the greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The animals, birds, flowers, trees and colorful change of seasons can be found in few other places on earth. For others, it is the recreational opportunities that stand at our doorstep...be it golf, skiing, hiking, biking, climbing, snowmobiling, fishing or some other pursuit. As a base camp for recreation, living on Star Valley Ranch allows us access to the best outdoor recreation opportunities anywhere. Perhaps for others, it is the relationships we share with our neighbors who come from throughout the United States and world. Everyone has a fascinating story and each person has gifts and talents to share. This has created a unique colorful mosaic that makes Star Valley Ranch a place we love and easily a place we call home. A place we call community. Portraying this community and the quality of our life comes from our senses, for example, breathing clean air, tasting clean mountain water, hearing the birds out on the feeder, seeing the stunning sunsets and touching the fresh colorful pedals of the vast varieties of mountain flowers. And it comes from our heart. It is easy to share the story about our community. Telling our story is one thing, maintaining the quality of our community is a harder trick.

The Star Valley Ranch TED Board (Town Economic Development Board) is committed to wise development that maintains the quality and life we have come to know and expect. As we grow, there will be development needs we need to address. That said, as we look towards the future, we promise to work hard to make sure our quality is not compromised. This includes, our environment, recreational opportunities and our relationships. But we are not in this alone. There are many things that each of can do to right now to assure our community maintains its unique character and quality of life. Here are a few quick suggestions:

- Take care of our Environment.
 - Don't litter. When we see garbage, take the time to pick it up for proper disposal or recycling. Pass on a friendly reminder to your guests, building contractors and others that this is a very important value to us as a community.
- Keep it safe on the streets
 - Be aware and follow the guidelines for use of vehicles on town roads, golf courses and other properties. Slow down and **enjoy the slower pace of life on the ranch**. Many of us left the hustle and bustle of the city for a good reason. It will make you feel better and makes it safer for animals and folks (including many children) who walk, run or bike on the roads.

(continued on the back page)

- Healthy Living
 - Take advantage of our magnificent and clean setting by getting out to enjoy it – go for a walk, bike, ski, run and reap the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Put the car, golf cart or ATV away and enjoy the simple pleasures of a good walk.
 - Fox Run Park is a wonderful place to exercise and at the same time enjoy the flowers, birds and other critters that share the sagebrush landscape. And the views of the mountains (east and west) are some of the best.
- Get active!
 - Take advantage of the many opportunities available through the town and Star Valley Ranch Association. There are many opportunities to participate, volunteer and take leadership. You will meet and develop relationships with your neighbors and contribute your talents and gifts that help make this an even better place to live.



Association's Corner	Star Valley Ranch Association	Association's Corner
<p>Get ready for a great month of events on the Ranch in August!</p> <p><u>Sat. August 11 9am-3pm – 19th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair at the Barn</u> This event brings some of the best artists and crafters to the Ranch for a big day of visiting, shopping and snacking. Everyone is welcome! Reservation forms are available at http://www.svrawy.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Arts-Crafts-Reservation-Form.pdf .</p> <p><u>Sat., August 18 – 9, Dine, Dance to the Linfords at the Barn!</u> Choose your event! Play in a 9 hole scramble - \$8. Enjoy a barbeque with salads and dessert by the Cedar Creek Grill for \$12. <i>To assure enough food for all dinner signups required by Wed. August 19th.</i> AND dance to the music of THE LINFORDS at no charge. <i>“Cal and Teddy Linford follow their instincts with song and music choices ... that puts a unique spin on classic country, folk and rock songs that everyone can relate to.”</i></p> <p><u>Fri. and Sat. August 24-25 – Dinner Show, “The Songs and Saga of Shenandoah” at the Barn!!</u> Get out those boots and cowboy hats and get ready for a night of fresh country fare served family style and an original musical variety show produced by JC Colley and many talented friends. Tickets for dinner and show are \$15 and go on sale at the Barn Tues, Aug. 14, 11am-2 pm and Tues, Aug. 21, 5-7 pm or call JC Colley at 883 4325. Seating is limited so get your tickets early. Groups of 8 can reserve a table.</p> <p>Thanks to all who helped with and attended the Independence Day Celebration and 10K/5K Race-Runs on July 4. See race results at http://www.svrawy.com/starvalleyranch4thofjulyfunrun/ .</p> <p>Special thanks to the Star Valley Arts Council who have brought the incredible Montana Shakespeare Company to the Ranch on July 31st for the second year in a row. We hope to continue our collaboration in years to come.</p>		
Association's Corner		Association's Corner