



**Town Bulletin #17
January 2012**

Happy New Year

+++++

Retiring Councilman

Carol Warren steps down January 1, 2012 for personal reasons after five years of dedicated service to our Town.

Carol has been an involved and active Councilman. Her contributions were many, but the two most outstanding were the efforts to communicate with our citizens and the formation of the Natural Resources Board.

She took on the task of communication early in her service. She championed the Town's Newsletter until we were ready to bill for water on a monthly basis. Then she continued with the monthly Bulletins enclosed with the water bills.

The Natural Resources Board is an extension of her everyday life. Carol loves the outdoors, the trees, the flowers and just about everything nature has to provide. The Board is responsible the naming "Fox Run Park", the Town's first Arbor Day Celebration and our classification as a "Tree City - USA".

+++++

New Councilman

Please join the Council in welcoming David Ward as our new Councilman. David will serve until the results of the November 2012 General Election are implemented in January 2013.

David has served as a Director and Chairman of the Association Board.

His career as a Fireman was all encompassing. He worked for and led the Kern County's (Bakersfield, CA) countywide fire department in fire fighting, organization, funding, financial and over-all administration. His experience and talents will be valuable to our Town.

TSVR Planning and Zoning Board

INTRODUCING JODY TIBBITTS, THE TOWN'S BUILDING INSPECTOR

We are fortunate to have in our midst a highly qualified and industrious Building Inspector, Jody Tibbitts. If you have built a home or other structure in the Town of Star Valley Ranch within the last 4 or 5 years, you may have already met him. However, if you have yet to meet him, you should know that Jody is your good friend and partner in the building process.

Jody was born in Los Angeles, California in 1970 and within a few years the family moved to Jackson, Wyoming where he received his elementary, middle, and High School education. Jody is married, has two children, and lives on the Ranch. His hobbies are family time, snowmobiling, skiing, fishing, and hunting.

Early in life, Jody learned to work hard. At age 11, he began helping his Mother with her housekeeping job at the Spring Creek Ranch and assisting his Father with his dog grooming business. After high school Jody joined the Coast Guard but the tour was cut short during boot camp due to an injury. Upon returning to his family in Jackson he worked with his father again, grooming dogs, managing a snowmobile company, and a white water rafting business as well as clerking at a local drug store. He went on to learn the plumbing trade and became good enough to work for the most technical and highly ranked company in Jackson. He later became a carpenter, which led him into the home inspection business.

About 10 years ago Jody brought his superior trade skills to Star Valley. His expertise came to the attention of John Woodward, of the Lincoln County Planning and Building Committee, who suggested that Jody consider expanding his knowledge and capabilities. Jody liked the idea and mortgaged his home to obtain money for schooling, which would be accomplished in Denver, CO and locally. After several months of intense comprehensive training and study on the finer points of construction, with emphasis on the building codes, Jody became an official "Building Inspector". He was immediately employed by Lincoln County and soon afterward by SVRA, then the Town of Star Valley Ranch, and later by the towns of Afton and Alpine.

When asked what he liked most about his work, Jody responded that "helping people" brought him great joy and he was very happy and pleased when he could say to a builder, "Your project has passed all the building code requirements". On the other hand, he said that the worst thing about the job is having to tell a builder their work does not meet all the requirements. Jody is adamant that everyone be treated the same. He will not give preferential treatment to anyone regardless of their status, relationship or pressure. A project either passes or fails on its own merit. People who work close to him describe Jody as being exceptionally helpful in explaining the requirements of the building codes to all building permit applicants before they begin construction.

Jody's goal in life is to "leave a good footprint", to be remembered for helping others, being ethical, and contributing to the world in a positive manner.

Natural Resource Board

Tree of the Month: Lodgepole Pine (*Pinus contorta*): Lodgepole Pine is a common pine tree found throughout the northern Rocky Mountains. It grows in subalpine forests from southern Colorado north into the Yukon and Northwest Territories of Canada. While not that common within the Town of Star Valley Ranch, it does exist naturally below some of our major canyons and on the Bridger National Forest to the east. It has also been planted around residences within the town with some success.

Lodgepole pine is named for its use by Native Americans in constructing tepees. Because of its long, straight and lightweight characteristics made it an excellent building material for nomadic plains bison hunters.

Lodgepole Pine is a tree that is adapted fire for reproduction. It has a thin bark that minimizes its ability to survive fire but provide the perfect environment for a new forest to start. Lodgepole pine stands regenerate so densely they self thin, or out compete, each other leaving dead trees in the stand. These trees fall and become fuel for very large crown fires. This process repeats itself every 300 years or so. Lodgepole Pine is also highly susceptible to attack from insects especially the Western Pine Beetle.

Mark your calendar! The Natural Resource Board has recommended to the Town Council that Saturday, June 9th be observed as our second annual observance of Arbor Day. Our goal for that day will be to plant 10-12 new trees in Fox Run Park. More information will follow as the spring approaches.

Town of Star Valley Arbor Day Fund: The Town of Star Valley Ranch has established a fund to purchase trees for planting on Arbor Day. Donations can be mailed or dropped off with the Town Clerk, Brenda Bauer at Town Hall. The Natural Resource Board will maintain a plaque, to be displayed at Town Hall or other suitable location, displaying the names of donors, memorials or remembrances for donations of \$50 or more. For this year's plaque donations must be received no later than May 1st, 2012.

+++++

Winter Road Information

We remind everyone to be sure their garbage cans are not in the roadway to keep them from being hit by snowplows

Please remember that only licensed drivers are allowed to operate any motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles, golf carts, 4 wheelers, motorcycles, automobiles, etc. on the roads of Star Valley Ranch.

+++++

**The Town of Star Valley Ranch is proud to be a part of
our first ever Winter Art Show.**
(see details below)

Association's Corner

Association's Corner

Star Valley Ranch is a winter wonderland! Let's celebrate!

Winter Art Show – Feb. 10-11, Town Hall

The Winter Art Show, a first for Star Valley Ranch, is open to all valley artists. This is a chance for residents from the entire valley to assemble and enjoy the accomplishments of members of the art community. The public is encouraged to attend either or both events.

It will start with an Artist's Reception on Friday evening, February 10 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The Flying Saddle will donate prizes for the top three artists honored at the reception.

Saturday, February 11, the Hall will be open from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please drop by. The plan is to have Town Hall as well as the upper level of the building open for displays.

Interested artists should contact Mark Marino at 307-413-9911 in advance.

Winter Sports and Celebration

As weather permits, the ice skating rink will be maintained and new cross country skiing and snowshoe trails will be established on the back 9 holes at Cedar Creek. The trails will be linked to the hill below the SVRA Office that will be groomed for family sledding. The Winter Sports Celebration will be held at the SVRA Office area and will feature sledding, cross country and snow shoeing demonstrations with representatives from Skinny Skis from Jackson, a chance to see the new grooming machine and hot chocolate! Watch for the date on your SVRA email.

Better Communication

Members can access information on current issues, plans, achievements and meeting minutes more easily than ever before on the SVRA website – www.svrawy.com. Click on the link *Communications from the Board of Directors* at the left of the lower green section (below the photos). Also, please keep your email, phone and address information updated with a call at 307. 883. 2669.

Association's Corner

Association's Corner