



RISTWATCH

RCVFD Quarterly Newsletter P. O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512 Issue No. 113 January 2025

Letter from the President

New Year, New Opportunities.

2024 was another successful year for the RCVFD. We expanded our services, continued our community outreach and education, and — of course — had a fantastically successful Rist Canyon Mountain Festival.

Our responders have continued to provide emergency response that is second to none. I repeat, our responders are absolute pro level. In November, we held our annual meeting at the beautiful Stove Prairie Ranch.

In 2025, we will be celebrating 50 years of RCVFD serving this area with 100% volunteer labor and 100% donations. While emergency response is getting better, it is also getting more expensive.

We are glad to provide the services; please meet us halfway and consider donating — time or money or both — to the Department.

Let me also share a reminder that we can now take donations of stock. A stock donation means that you don't have to pay taxes on gains, but the Department can benefit from the value of the stock. If you want to learn more, please contact our Treasurer.

Stay tuned for special 50th Anniversary happenings!

**Neil Faber
President - 2025**

Chief's Report

Greetings from Chief Neuroth

The last year has been a good one for Rist Canyon VFD overall. Though, we lost a long-time firefighter, friend and community member, Larry Sippel. Larry exemplified what it means to be part of a community by participating in many aspects that benefit all, such as the Mountain Festival, the fire department and I'm sure many, many more. I didn't know Larry very well, but I wish I had. His insight and knowledge of the area would have been a great asset to me.

We had two big fires near us this year. The Alex Mountain fire and the Pearl fire. RCVFD did not get called out on these fires, but we were prepared to respond. Our trucks were full of water and fuel, and our cisterns were full of water and ready to go. Our firefighters have been training hard to learn and practice running our engines and water pumps, laying hose lines, and implementing wildland tactics. Had we been called to respond or if the fires had come into our district, we would have been ready, willing, and able.

I feel my first year as chief was successful due in large part to the hard work put in by my predecessors Carol Dollard and Jeff Elsner. My work was also supported by the Board of Director's diligence and careful

guidance in managing the business aspect of the department; the Mountain Festival, raising funds for the operation of the department; community support; and of course, my firefighters who give a tremendous amount of their time. Each of these contributions are uniquely appreciated.

I'm excited about the coming year. Plans are being made to partner with Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) to teach a Firefighter 1 course and with Thompson Valley Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to teach an Emergency Medical Response (EMR) course.

We are moving forward toward having a well-trained and equipped team to respond to any medical or fire emergency that may occur in our district. Thanks to all for allowing me the honor of being chief of RCVFD.

**Gratefully submitted,
Mark Neuroth, Chief**

Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department

P.O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512

chief@rcvfd.org

Letter from the Vice President

Many attempts at a more formal, business-like letter, while dealing with pneumonia, failed. This letter has turned out to be a bit more personal, but in a way I think we share, so it is appropriate for the RCVFD community. However, of course, feel free to turn to another page if you want more professional information. I will mention some RCVFD business at the end of this note so I do not get fired from the VP job. After many years of "Letter from the Vice President" notes, it is hard to think of new ideas to share (especially with the aforementioned pneumonia). Sitting here at my desk, in my "forever home," I look forward to more decades with my RCVFD friends and neighbors.

I am not a spiritual person, but I truly feel blessed to live in Rist Canyon. I grew up in New York City, and now I live among deer, coyotes, bobcats, bears, and mountain lions. As those of us who have been here for a while (for me, 24 years), I know to watch out for deer when driving here, especially after one crosses in front you, and the next one is waiting to dart out. So many nights recently I am awakened by my dogs barking at the howling coyotes nearby, or even better, howling with them (all from the confines of my bedroom). A couple of years ago, at dusk, I went out to see why my dog kept barking non-aggressively; he was about six feet from nose-to-nose with a bobcat, who wisely stood his ground until I got my dog's attention, and then the bobcat left (my dog, bigger than a bobcat, was only in play mode).

Last month, when I entered my driveway, all three of my horses were lined up together looking across Davis Ranch Road, so I looked over and, across the road, a black bear on my neighbor's driveway was staring back at them.

Continued on page 4.

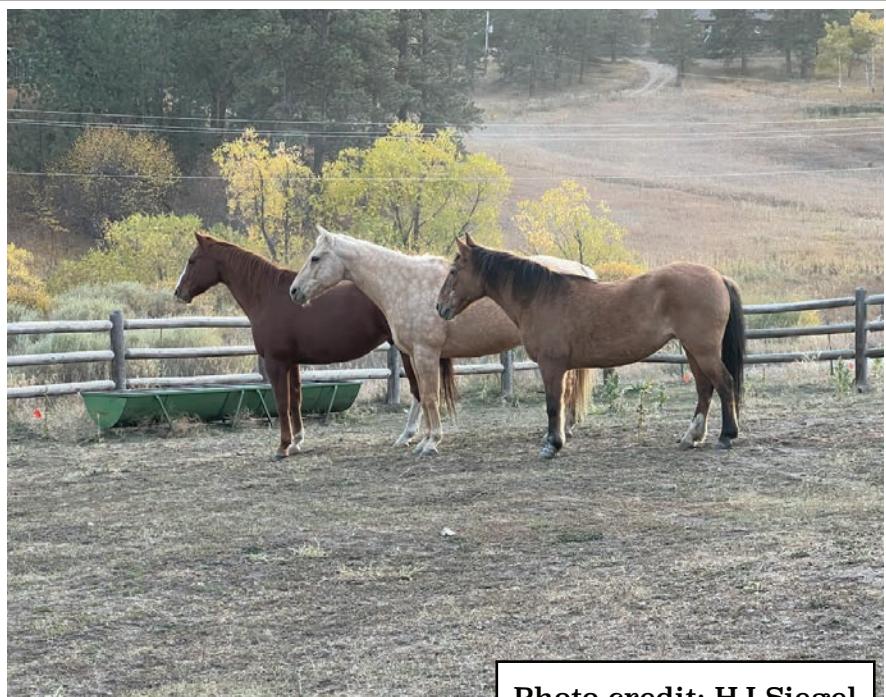


Photo credit: HJ Siegel

Letter from the Vice President

Continued from page 3. My most concerning encounter was years ago, one evening, when I was out with my pup-age dog, and he was with his back to barbwire fence between my property and my neighbor's: motion detectors in my eyes saw a silent, slowly padding, totally unafraid mountain lion about 20 feet away moving along the neighbor's side of the fence, and I carefully got to the side of my small pup away from the lion, so my pup never saw the lion, and we went into the house.

Well, my plan for this morning was to do my real Board VP job and use the notes I had prepared pre-pneumonia to share about what the RCVFD Board does and who they are. So, to help me avoid getting fired, please go to "RCVFD.org" "About RCVFD" "Contact RCVFD" for who we are, and please go to "RCVFD.org", "About RCVFD", "RCVFD Bylaws", Article IV for what we do.

I had fun reminiscing. I hope it reminds you of similar happy feelings you have experienced living in the RCVFD area.

H. J. Siegel
RCVFD Board Vice President and Mountain Festival Coordinator
HJ@computer.org

RCVFD Monthly Meeting Schedule

Operations—1st Wednesdays (6-7 PM)

Fire Training—2nd Wednesdays (7-9:30 PM)

Board Meeting—3rd Wednesdays (6-8 PM)

Medical Training—4th Wednesdays (7-9 PM)

Ops, Fire, and Medical Trainings are at Firehouse #1 at 11835 Rist Canyon Road. Board meetings are held at Firehouse #1, or on Zoom if necessary. All Rist Canyon area residents are welcome to attend. Around the first of each month, RCVFD sends out a Community Alert with the deadline to request a copy of the agenda. If you would like to receive the agenda, please email your name, email address, and phone number to the RCVFD Board Secretary at secretary@rcvfd.org. Please note that the agenda will arrive one to two days before the scheduled meeting. To sign up for Community Alerts, visit RCVFD.org.

Celebrating 50 Years of Community Support

RIST CANYON MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF RCVFD COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Fueled by a common desire among area residents to protect their communities, the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department was established 50 years ago. In 1975 volunteers from all walks of life came together to begin building a fire department that today has 35 volunteer firefighters serving a 110 square mile area. The coverage area includes Rist Canyon, Stove Prairie, and the Buckhorn, as well as providing mutual aid for an additional 50 square miles in conjunction with other local emergency response agencies.

The first fleet of vehicles were donated and using their own personal credit, the volunteers-built Station 1 on Rist Canyon Road. In 1975 it acquired its first pumper, a 1947 Army-surplus, 2 ½ ton 6x6 converted by the Colorado State Forest Service into a 900-gallon capacity vehicle. Today the RCVFD owns, operates, and maintains 12 vehicle and three stations with the planning process for a fourth underway.

Excerpts from a RCVFD letter to residents outlined four reasons for creating the Department: "The fire danger is getting much worse because of the rapidly increasing population, the greater number of tourists, and the many pine trees killed by bark beetle which serve as ready fuel for any fires that do start." A state forest service

Celebrating 50 Years of Community Support

Continued from page 5. A state forest service warning to the founders provides reasons 2-4: “that we’re just sitting on a pile of kindling waiting for the right match; that the small-fire capability, with slurry bomber backup, of past years is not going to be enough to save our forests, range, homes, and lives under these conditions; and that we must organize ourselves for the possibility of larger and more frequent fires than we’ve had to worry about before.”

Today the RCVFD is staffed by approximately 35 volunteer highly-trained emergency responders. Its response area has grown from 38 square miles (more than 24,000 acres) in 1975 to approximately 110 square miles (more than 70,400 acres) today.

This year we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary with *Ristwatch* articles, Facebook and Website updates as well as with celebrations during the annual Mountain Festival on Sept. 6 and at the RCVFD annual meeting next fall. We want to thank and celebrate 50 years of volunteers’ dedication to our community.

Karen Salaz



2024 Rist Canyon Mountain Festival

1975

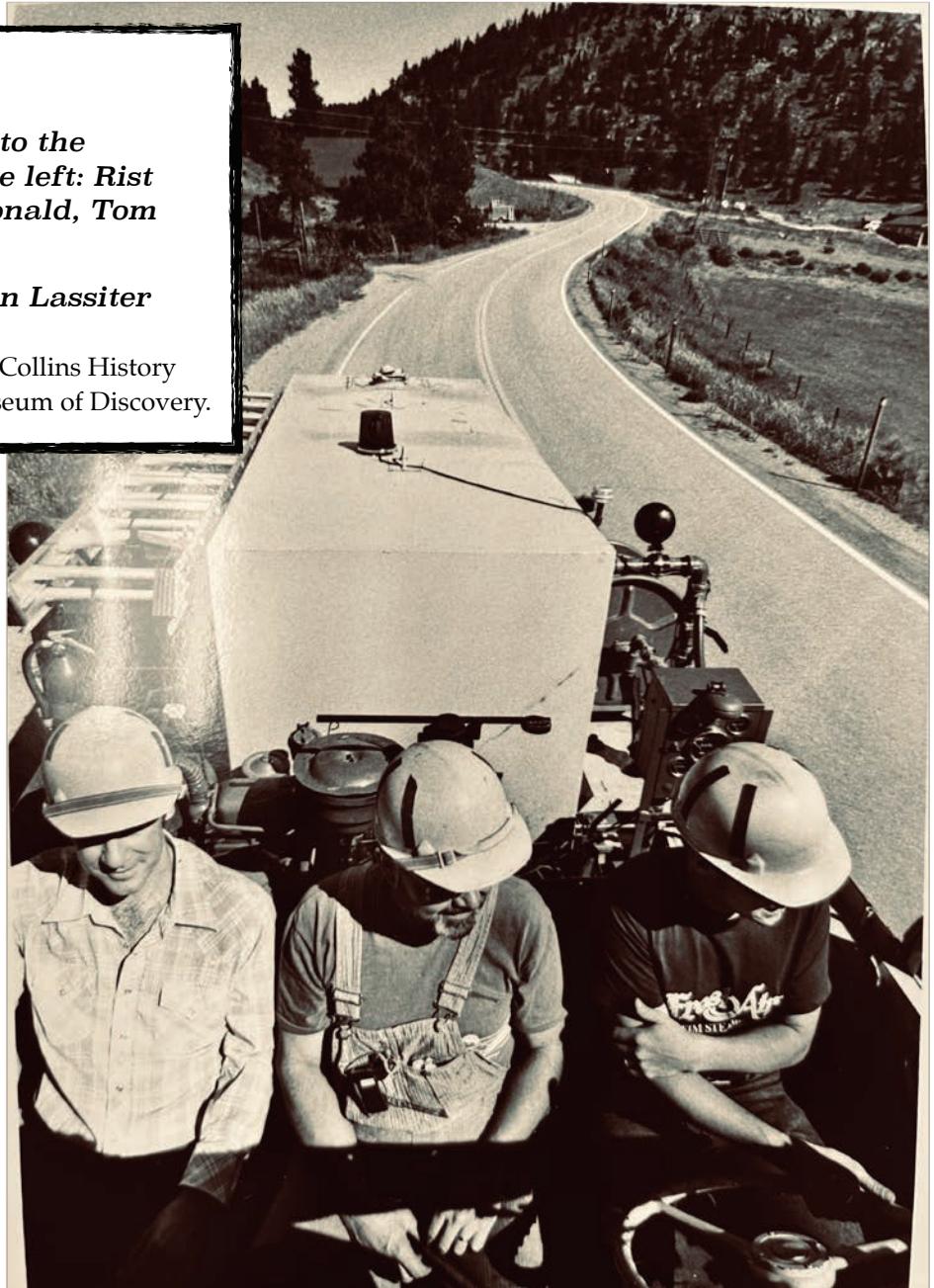
TAKING A TEST DRIVE prior to the Mountain Festival are from the left: Rist County fire fighters Jim McDonald, Tom Bender, and Bob Gann.

Triangle Review photos by Dan Lassiter

Photo and caption, courtesy of the Fort Collins History Connection Archive at Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.

Do you have photos or short stories from years past to share?

We would love to hear from you and learn what you might have to share and incorporate into this year's 50th Anniversary Celebration of the RCVFD activities. Please be in touch or send submissions to the Ristwatch Editor at ristwatch@rcvfd.org.



Submissions to the Ristwatch

Submissions of written work or photographs are welcome and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please send submissions to the Ristwatch Editor at ristwatch@rcvfd.org.

The Ristwatch reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, or cancel any article or ad at any time. We base this decision on our responsibility to our readers. We will not knowingly print any article or ad that is misleading or untruthful. Articles submitted to the Ristwatch are a representation of the author and not necessarily an endorsement by the RCVFD.

Notes from Your Area Representatives

As I write this, the New Year's bells ring in the new year! Happy New Year! The canyon has been pretty quiet this winter. Minimal snow has left the road in good shape, but as the season progresses, watch for ice and snow on the roads. The county does maintain the roads with plows to keep the roads clear. Some deer, moose, and elk have started to shed their antlers. Reminder that shed collection is prohibited on public lands until April 30 west of I-25. Hope you all enjoyed the holidays and look forward to a successful new year!

Erica Michel
Upper Buckhorn Area Representative



Photo credit: Randall Stanley | "Turkeys forgot to move their clocks back by an hour"

It's been such a dry winter so far. Beautiful weather, and evenings with a gorgeous super moon, and recently colorful Northern Lights. As it is so dry, don't forget to put some water on trees you have planted. Even some perennials could use a little drink when it's a bit warmer for the ground to absorb. Also, if you haven't cleaned your chimney yet this year, it's never too late to have the chimney sweep come up and do so. Good insurance against potential chimney fires. Keep your Chimfex away from the fireplace, but close at hand. The cold nights are just starting and we'll be using our fireplaces and wood stoves more. That said, be sure not to leave any firewood around your house, specially under your deck. Enjoy the sunny brisk days and have some winter fun. Cheers,

Louise Creager
Stratton Park Area Representative

Houseplants Stay Green All Year

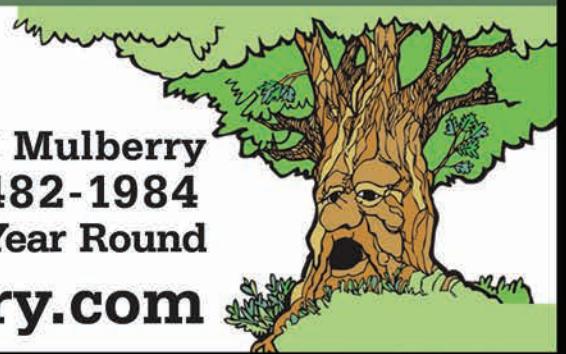


Plants • Supplies • Gifts • Tools • Fertilizer • Seeds

Fort Collins
NURSERY

www.FortCollinsNursery.com

2121 E Mulberry
970-482-1984
Open Year Round



Notes from Your Area Representatives, cont'd from pg 8

Things have been surprisingly boring in the lower Buckhorn since the last Ristwatch. I would say that the most potentially alarming news, though, has been the complete lack of moisture in the form of precipitation. Even the dew point has produced little noticeable frost every morning. With that said, I'm sure that everyone is aware of the regular high winds we get here in the foothills. Thus, please be careful of any open flames outside. The extreme dryness and low humidity coupled with our winds are a recipe for a major wildfire. A word to the wise is sufficient. Happy New Year.

Dean Yoder
Lower Buckhorn Area Representative



Photo credit: Paige Hogan

As the year comes to a close, we are thankful that we still live in this beautiful area with all our great neighbors. This month, we on FR2 had a mountain lion kill. Neighbors out walking also shared a sighting of a bald eagle.

Please sign up for a burn permit. Contact your local rep for Chimex sticks, house # signs, and helicopter insurance. We are here to help you or answer your questions about the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department.

Also, keep in mind we would love to have you join the FOTF (Friends of the Festival) meeting to lend a hand in kicking off our 50th anniversary!

Carolyn Stanley
Davis Ranch Area Rep

IN NEED OF ELECTRICAL SERVICES?

WE ARE YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR
SERVING RIST CANYON, BUCKHORN CANYON,
POUDRE CANYON, AND THE FRONT RANGE

AV^ERY ELECTRIC INC

FAMILY OWNED
&
LOCALLY OPERATED

970.493.3027

www.averyelectricinc.com

ERNST SCHOLZ OWNER/MASTER ELECTRICIAN



Co-op Membership Benefits

Discover the Youth Support Your Cooperative Offers

There are many ways your co-op adds value to your life and supports our kids.

- Summer youth trips for high school juniors & seniors
- Scholarships for high school seniors continuing their education
- Electrical safety demonstrations
- Online safety activities, games & information
- Grants for STEAM classroom projects
- & MORE!

Applications open 8/1.

Scan this code to learn more or visit us online at
pvrea.coop/my-community/for-our-kids/



Here's My Card

"Connecting with Community...
Connecting with God"

STOVE PRAIRIE COMMUNITY CHURCH



Worship Service every Sunday at 10 AM
at Sky Corral Ranch—970/682-7311
Everyone welcome!

High Altitude Honey



HighAltitudeHoney.com
(970) 577-6001

HighAltitudeHoney8500
@gmail.com

Edward Jones®



Mike Boyles
Financial Advisor

St Michaels Town Square
6560 29th St Unit 106
Greeley, CO 80634
970-330-6771

> edwardjones.com

MKT-5894M-A



From Your RCVFD

Address Signs & Chimfex

Address signs help your fire fighters find you FASTER when you call. Be prepared for a chimney fire. Ignite and place into a closed firebox to extinguish a chimney fire in seconds. To order, email officers@rcvfd.org or your Area Representative or call Louise at 970/217-6843.

Notes from Your Area Representatives, *continued from pg 10*

I hope the new year is bringing you joy. We're having a tough one. Just like many of our neighbors, our insurance was dropped. The company pulled out of Colorado all together. I call this one huge STRESSFUL mess. It affects and strains things in a way I have never experienced. Quite frustrating!

So, we are going through the mitigation process with the RCVFD and Larimer County. It's time consuming and labor intense. These are two things we can deal with. We have until February sixth to complete our mitigation and get signed off by the county. I'll let you know how it goes.

Fingers crossed!

Take it Easy,

Tim Stratman
Stove Prairie Area Representative

Notes from Committees

We Need Book Donations for the Book Tent

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We have very few books for the 2025 Mountain Festival Used Book Tent. Over the winter, please consider going through your book collection to see if there are books you could donate. Ask family, friends, or if you know someone that is moving, if they have books they'd like to donate.

We can pick them up at your location and we can bring you boxes to pack if you need them. Also, you can drop off books anytime at the drop box in front of Fire House Station # 1, located at 11835 Rist Canyon Road or the Pleasant Valley Church of Christ near the Bellvue Post Office.

If you need us to pick up books, please contact Carolyn Stanley (cloud9sewing@gmail.com, 970-221-2024), Patti Clutter (clutterp28@gmail.com, 858-248-6328), or Kathy Cox (kathyc228@yahoo.com, 970-472-1972). Thank you!

Book Tent Co-Chairs

From Your Sponsorship Committee

Do you own, work for, support a business, or are you personally interested in sponsoring the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department Mountain Festival? I encourage individuals to support the RCVFD Mountain Festival by dropping off a sponsorship donation package at their place of work, businesses they frequent, and individuals they think might be interested.

Sponsorships start at \$100 and go up from there. They help cover the costs of producing the festival and add to the net proceeds that benefit the fire department. Sponsors are recognized on large banners at the front of the festival grounds, on the RCVFD website, and in social media posts for the RCVFD Mountain Festival.

I can help you with the forms for requesting Sponsorships. We have an official packet that contains a cover letter and Sponsorship forms that I will send you. Please contact me at clutterj11@gmail.com or 970-657-5254.

James Clutter | Sponsorship Committee Chair

AirMedCare

Here's a message from Amy Scott, your local area representative for AirMedCare Air Ambulance Insurance:

"In a medical emergency, every second counts, especially when transporting patients who are far from definitive medical care. No one knows that better than the participating providers of AirMedCare Network (AMCN) - America's largest air medical membership network, providing coverage across 320 locations in 38 states. Expenses for emergency air medical transport can put stress on your finances. With an AirMedCare Network membership, you will have no out-of-pocket expenses only if flown by an AMCN provider."

Protect yourself, and anyone who resides within your home at the time of transport for 10+ years for the best value. Our local providers include: UCHealth Lifeline @ Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland, CO, UCHealth Lifeline @ Cheyenne Regional in Cheyenne, WY, MedEvac @ Boulder Community Health in Boulder, CO, MedEvac Greeley @ North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley, CO".

You can enroll in an AirMedCare membership for as low as \$99.00 per year or opt for a ten-year membership at \$769.00. Senior members can enjoy significant savings, and there may be an opportunity to receive a gift card upon signing up. With each new member, AirMedCare generously donates a percentage to the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD), which helps support RCVFD operations. Paper Membership applications are available at Station 1 or can be requested through your local RCVFD area representative.

It's also reassuring to know that RCVFD responders adhere to the UCHealth air ambulance protocol, so you can be confident that air support is called in only when a medical emergency meets the necessary criteria.

For any questions or to learn about applicable discounts and current promotions, please reach out to Amy Scott, your local Membership Manager, at 720-237-5959 or visit <https://www.amcurrep.com/msm/amyscott> before enrolling.

Hope this helps, stay safe and take care!

Jocelyn Wolf
FFT2, EMT, Co-Medical Officer,
WPP Ambassador, Grants Chair





Beautifully renovated 3 Bed/2 Bath home on over 1/2 acre. Separate 2000 sq. ft. warehouse, workshop, office & rec room. Oversized, detached 2-Car garage plus carport & Boathouse.



Perfect 2 Bedroom getaway cabin on 4 rolling acres in Crystal Park. Features hardwood floors throughout, all new windows, tons of light & wood-burning stove.



Four-level 5 Bed/5 Bath, 7356 sq. ft. home on 35+ acres w/ 3 fireplaces & huge views of Livermore! 2.5 car garage, built-in Motocross trails & separate motorcycle garage. New boiler, hot water heater & pressure tank.



Norman Wyatt
Broker/Owner
970-217-9132

Briana Aragon
Associate Broker
970-692-1078



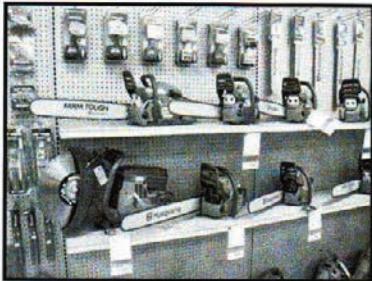
**Mile
High**
LAND & HOMES, INC.

Helping others
achieve the Colorado dream ...
970-419-4900
WWW.MILEHIGHLAND.COM

Poudre Valley



Come check out our full line of
Husqvarna power equipment.



225 Frontage Road - Fort Collins, CO 80527

221-5300

Check out our website at: www.pvcoop.com

Bellvue Happenings

Happy New Year Rist Canyon Residents.

To foster wide community outreach, I submitted a newsletter frequently emailed. Each issue includes information of events and get-togethers in and about Bellvue and beyond. If you'd like to receive timely community information, please email ivylane1934@gmail.com and request she add you to the distribution list.

Carol Miller



Mission: Food Rescue and Sharing

Next Distribution - THIS SUNDAY

January 5th from 12 - 1 pm

Thanks to Vindeket Foods, Grangers are bringing rescued food to the Cache La Poudre Grange to be distributed to the Bellvue's Seniors and the broader community. The word is spreading and more seniors are finding out about the goodness to be had at the Grange Hall on Thursdays.

Happy Holidays Dear Readers!

I can't wait to share NEW LEVELS of happiness in our little and growing community coming our way in 2025. Don't be shy about sharing items for our newsletter. We had a good conversation at the potluck over ways to support our local Post Offices, for instance. That will be covered in a future issue of Bellvue Happenings.

We support each other through the hard times and celebrate our joy together. What more can we ask?

All Glory to God for our many Blessings.

Lisa aka "Ivy Lane"



Food not taken by the Seniors is available to the broader community prior to the Grange Music Jams 1st and 3rd Sundays from 12-1 pm. Bring your grocery bags and take home this rescued food! Great for people AND the planet.

Senior Lunches at the Grange

Every Thursday 12 - 1 pm. (Weather Permitting)

Seniors - Call 970-472-9630 to reserve a FREE meal through Volunteers of America (VOA) by Weds of any given week, and be in attendance for the first choice of the Vindeket/Grange food distributions too. Or you can bring your own lunch if you prefer.

What's Happening in Your Neighborhood?



244 Blue Grouse Ln, Bellvue

- ~ 10.06 Acres
- Mesmerizing views, 6 stall barn, huge shop



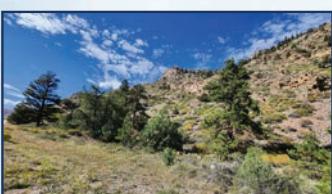
629 Davis Ranch Rd, Bellvue

- ~ 6.5 Acres
- Quiet Retreat in the Mountains



106 Beartrap Rd, Red Feather Lakes

- ~ 4.93 Acres
- Crystal Lakes Mtn Get-Away



TBD Poudre Canyon Rd, Bellvue

- ~ 0.5 Acres
- Across Road from the River



151 Stone Cutter Rd, Bellvue

- ~ 37.8 Acres
- Great Investment Opportunity



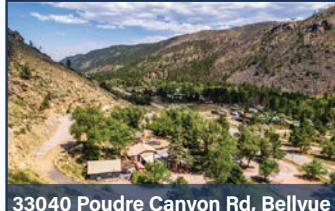
199 Redtail Ridge Way, Bellvue
192 Moondance, Bellvue

- ~ 75 Acres - 2 Lots Together
- 2688 SqFt Shop w/Full Kitchen + 2 Barns



TBD Stratton Park Rd, Bellvue

- ~ 35-39 Acres
- 6 Lots Available



33040 Poudre Canyon Rd, Bellvue

- ~ 5.44 Acres - Investment!
- 5 Cabins, 9 RV Sites, Main House



3805 Davis Ranch Rd, Bellvue

- ~ 20 Acres
- Stunning Views, Fabulous Home, & Large Garage-Shop!

MANY BUYERS ARE LOOKING - ARE YOU THINKING OF SELLING?

Don't wait until you are ready to list or buy! My marketing plan will have you ready from the first day of the listing.

Would you like a Complimentary Real Estate Review of your property?
Just call or email me for your personal update.

Your Neighbor and Trusted Local Professional - FULL service - FULL time REALTOR®.



Louise Creager
ABR, GRI, REO, CNE, SFR
Military Specialist
Broker Associate

(970) 217-6843
LouiseCreager@gmail.com
www.LouiseCreager.com

**Your Neighbor
Since 1989**

**SPECIALIZING IN RURAL &
MOUNTAIN PROPERTIES**



4703-A Boardwalk Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80525 | 970-226-3990
Each office independently owned & operated



FyrePro Website



5609 McWhinney Blvd
Loveland, CO 80538

970/213-7962 | fyrepro@gmail.com

FyrePro Facebook



Call us for all your FirePlace needs including:

Service

Keep Your Fireplace Safe and Efficient! Industry standards recommend annual servicing to ensure optimal performance and safety. Our expert technicians are here to help. With our comprehensive servicing, we'll:

- Inspect your gas unit thoroughly.
- Ensure it's operating at its best, considering its age.
- Discuss any necessary repairs with you.
- Professionally clean the unit.
- Check for gas and carbon monoxide leaks, keeping your home safe.

Don't wait until the first chill hits—get on our calendar now and enjoy a worry-free winter. Call today for more details and scheduling, 970/213-7962.

Installation

FyrePro is a fantastic resource for anyone looking to enhance their space with a fireplace!

Whether it's a crackling wood fire or the convenience of gas or electric, a fireplace adds charm, ambiance, and functionality to any space. With our expertise and range of options, we can undoubtedly help bring your vision to life.

FyrePro sales staff can guide you through the process, from selecting the perfect design to ensuring proper installation.

Reach out to FyrePro today and start turning your fireplace dreams into reality!

Outdoor Oasis

FyrePro specializes in transforming outdoor spaces into stunning, functional retreats by adding key features like outdoor kitchens, fire pits, and fireplaces.

With FyrePro's expertise and craftsmanship, you can achieve the outdoor look you desire while enhancing the comfort, beauty, and usability of your home's exterior.

Whether you're cooking under the stars in your custom outdoor kitchen, cozying up around the fire pit with loved ones, or simply basking in the warmth of your outdoor fireplace, FyrePro helps you create lasting memories in the comfort of your own backyard.

Thank You, Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department!



**For 70 years we've been treating our customers
like family. Stop in and experience the difference.**

Tires • Service Repair • Heavy Duty

899 Riverside Ave • 970-482-0156 • HouskaAutomotive.com f



**LOVELAND
READY-MIX
CONCRETE**



**JOHNSTOWN
READY-MIX
CONCRETE**

PROMPT DEPENDABLE SERVICE

"Over 55 Years - Family Owned and Operated"

SERVING

**The Front Range &
Northern Colorado**

Telephone numbers for dispatch:

Loveland 970.667.1108

Johnstown 970.203.1144

Boulder 303.444.4992

CONCRETE FOR ANY SPECIFICATION

WWW.RONSEQUIPMENT.COM

**Ron's
Equipment
Company**

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF THE RCVFD

970-221-5296 | 303-732-4321

**906 N. HIGHWAY 287
FORT COLLINS, CO**

**33894 HIGHWAY 52
KEENESBURG, CO**

**SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR ALL
AGRICULTURAL & CONSTRUCTION NEEDS**



MASSEY FERGUSON

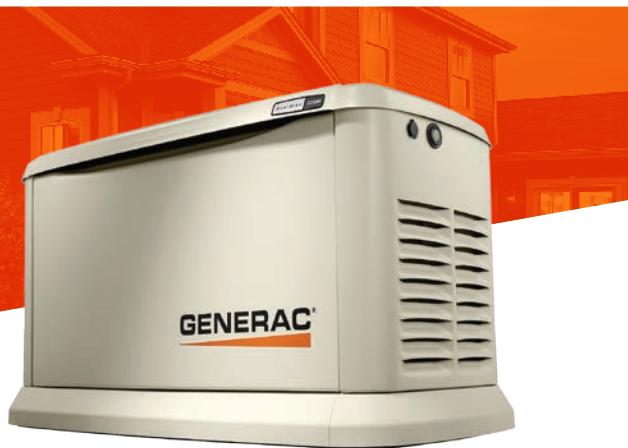


SUNFLOWER



Power your life

Make power outages a thing
of the past with a home
standby generator.



Are you prepared for Power Outages?

Power outages... we've all suffered through them. The good news is, you don't need to any longer. Generac home standby generators automatically provide backup power during a utility power outage – whether you're home or away. Whether it's for a few hours or several days, your family and home are protected. So sure, keep the candles and flash lights, but it's time to get serious about preparing for power outages.

Call or go online today for more information



Sales:

Service:

Website:

970.484.8696

970.658.6759

Collins-Control.com

GENERAC®

2649 East Mulberry Street Suite 16, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524



Garry Lundstedt
ASE Certified
Master Technician

*Lundstedt
Automotive*

1401 E. Lincoln Ave.

Ft. Collins, CO 80524

970-221-9400

We have a Medium & Heavy Duty Truck Specialist

Complete Auto and Truck Repair

Including:

- ▶ Transmissions
- ▶ Diesel Repair
- ▶ Clutch's
- ▶ Computer Controls
- ▶ 4 WD
- ▶ Air Conditioning
- ▶ Performance Modifications
- ▶ Dyno Tuning
- ▶ Diesel Emission Testing
- ▶ Registered Emissions Repair Facility

Thank You

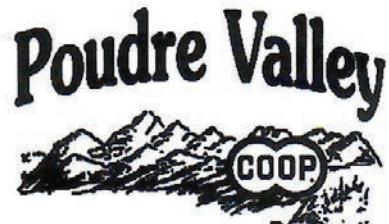
We appreciate your business & referrals!

FRAYER & ASSOCIATES, CPA PC

MONA F. FRAYER, CPA MBA
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
Telephone (970) 419-3200
501 STOVER STREET
FORT COLLINS, CO 80524
e-mail: info@frayerandassociates.com



- Monthly accounting with explained financial statements
- Long-Term Care, life, disability, and buy sell insurance
- Business, Individual, Non-Profit and Sales Tax returns
- Individual and Business Financial Statements
- Free ½ hour consults for New Clients
- Ask us about any other needs you may have



Automotive and Farm Tires, Feed / Livestock Equipment, Auto Repairs and Propane

Ace Hardware Store
Farm & Ranch Supply
Car Care Center
Refined Fuels
Agronomy & Crop Production



Our Auto Repair Shop is top notch, stop in & see us.
Overhaul – Brakes – Transmission

**225 Frontage Road
Fort Collins, CO 80527
221-5300**

Check out our website: www.pvcoop.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

We are proud to support the RCVFD



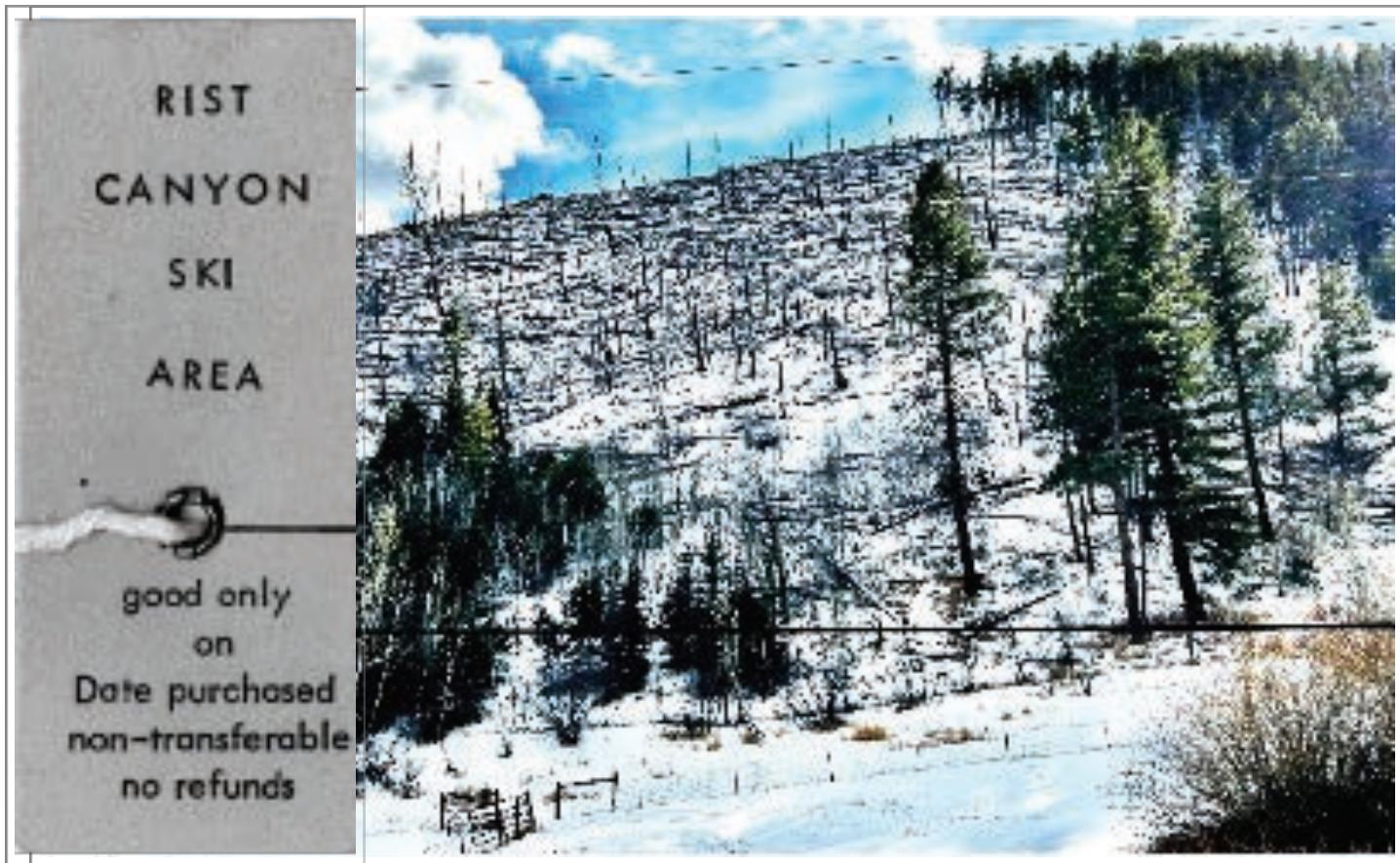
Bank of Colorado
THERE'S ONLY ONE

FORT COLLINS 1609 East Harmony Road, 970.206.1160
1102 Lincoln Avenue, 970.223.8200
107 North College Avenue, 970.267.3650



FDIC
MEMBER FDIC
REGULATED BY FDIC

Blast from the Past



Winter Sports in Rist Canyon: Dashed Dreams

Rist Canyon Ski Area

The Rist Canyon Ski Area was a short-lived enterprise attempting to draw winter enthusiasts to Rist Canyon. Open from about 1965-1974, it was on the hill adjacent to the Stratton Park Road mailboxes.

The brainchild of optimistic co-owners and ski-advocates Robert Spotts and an unnamed individual,^[1] the area had humble beginnings. The owners used chainsaws to cut runs through the pine-covered slopes then cleared rocks and stumps. Each fall the hills were “groomed” by ambitious managers with lawnmowers.^[2] The snow on the slopes and trails was hand raked.^[3] In 1966 advertisements running in local

[1] Risk it at the Rist, The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/14/1971: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19710114-01.2.44>

[1] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/22/1970: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19700122-01.2.31>

[1] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/14/1972, ad: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19720114-01.2.42.1>

[1] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 2/11/1966: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19680112-01.2.26>

[1] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/22/1970: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19700122-01.2.31>

The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/11/1968, ad: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19720114-01.1.11>

The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/31/1974, ad: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19740131-01.2.23.1>

Lift ticket: Lost Ski Areas of the Front Range and Northern Mountains, Caryn Boddie & Peter Boddie, The History Press, Charleston, NC, 2024. Available from the Poudre Libraries. Photograph in book Courtesy of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, Accession #2008.021.0001.

[1] [Olympics may come to Rist residents for 1992 — The Rocky Mountain Collegian - CSU Fort Collins April 20, 1983 — Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection](#)

Blast from the Past

The Sport Shop
122 WEST LAUREL
484-4777
We would like to announce
the opening of
Rist Canyon Ski Area
this
Saturday & Sunday

Lift Rates
adults-\$2.50
juniors-\$1.50
Under 12
Tickets may be picked
up at the Sport Shop

Lessons
\$1.50 per lesson
Beginners-10 AM-11 AM
Adv. Beg.-11:30 AM-12:30 AM
Certified Instructors
reservations must be
placed at the
Sport Shop

OPEN 10am-4pm weekends
We're not an Aspen or a Vail,
only a rope tow with plain good
skiing for Beginners & Intermediates.

OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

papers touted, "Excellent beginners and intermediate area, 600' rope tow, only 30 minutes from Fort Collins, located nine miles west of Bellvue up Rist Canyon, tow only \$1, no rentals or snack bar – bring your own, and open Sat. and Sun. 12:30-4:30."^[4] The hill boasted a 250-foot-drop. When other Colorado ski areas were charging \$6-\$8 for lift tickets, the \$1 tow tickets at the Rist were a bargain along with the 50-cent tuber fee on a separate slope. By 1974 prices had increased to adults \$2.50 and juniors \$1.50. Morning lessons were by then also available for \$1.50/hour. Spotts noted the Rist had lights for night skiing and that interested parties need only put up a \$25 minimum guarantee of business to make arrangements.^[5] The outlines of the ski runs were faintly visible prior to the High Park Fire. Now that the area has burned, there are no distinguishable features visible from Rist Canyon Road.

Submitted by Karen Salaz

According to an article in The Rocky Mountain Collegian, April 20, 1983 (see references below)

Olympics may come to Rist residents for 1992^[6]

A group of Rist Canyon landowners announced Wednesday that they plan to make a bid to host the 1992 Winter Olympics. The landowners, led by Rist Canyon residents Joe Winter and Sam Snow, said they hope to convince the International Olympic Committee (IOC), to allow the games to be held in the scenic canyon 10 miles west of Fort Collins.

"It'd be fun," Snow said. "It'd be real fun," Winter agreed.

NOW OPEN
RIST CANYON
SKI AREA

*-Excellent beginners
and intermediate area
-600' Rope Tow
-No long drive-only 30
minutes from Fort
Collins.
-Open Sat. and Sun.
12:30 to 4:00
-Located 9 miles west
of Bellvue-up Rist
Canyon Road.*

Tow-\$1.00
**-No rentals or Snack
Bar-Bring your own.**

[1] Risk it at the Rist, The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/14/1971: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19710114-01.2.44>

[2] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/22/1970: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19700122-01.2.31>

[3] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/14/1972, ad: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19720114-01.2.42.1>

[4] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 2/11/1966: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19680112-01.2.26>

[5] The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/22/1970: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19700122-01.2.31>

The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/11/1968, ad: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19720114-01.1.11>

The Rocky Mountain Collegian, 1/31/1974, ad: <https://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org/?a=d&d=RMC19740131-01.2.23.1>

Lift ticket: Lost Ski Areas of the Front Range and Northern Mountains, Caryn Boddie & Peter Boddie, The History Press, Charleston, NC, 2024. Available from the Poudre Libraries. Photograph in book Courtesy of the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery, Accession #2008.021.0001.

[6] Olympics may come to Rist residents for 1992 — The Rocky Mountain Collegian - CSU Fort Collins April 20, 1983 — Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection



Locally owned! Stop by and say hello!

3035 West Prospect Road
Fort Collins, CO

970-484-4400

MANY THANKS TO
RIST CANYON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Free No Cost No Obligation
Brokers Price Opinion for
your Rist Canyon Property.
Property Owners

I will help You with any
Larimer County Property Tax
Valuation Protest for **FREE**.

Thinking of selling? Sellers I am
serious about earning your
business and I am willing to
donate 10% of my commission earned to RCVFD or the charity of your choice.

Call Us Today and I will go to work for you!

Thinking about Buying Land in Bellvue? I can be Your Buyer's Agent and Represent
your interests; AND have Seller pay all commissions in most cases, Plus credit you
\$250 at closing for any house.



Two Easy Ways to Help the RCVFD

**You can donate through Colorado
Gives any time of the year!
Please Spread the WORD to
family and friends!**



It's easy—just post this link:

<http://coloradogives.org/RistCanyonVolunteerFireDepartment>

to Facebook and ask them to donate! Your fire department thanks you!



Did You Know?

The RCVFD earns about \$1,800 every quarter, or \$7,600 annually, from the King Soopers Rewards Card.

This generous program gives the RCVFD 5% of all of your purchases at King Soopers. This includes groceries, toiletries, supplies, clothing, gas, and even prescriptions.

The process only takes a few minutes. If you don't already have a free King Soopers Rewards Card, request one from your cashier or the service desk. Once that's done, jump on your computer and go to www.kingsoopers.com/communityrewards. Click on the link to enroll. Set up an account, or sign in if you already have one. Then click on Community Rewards from the list on the left. Use the "Find an Organization" box to enter our NPO number, YP687, and click "Search". It will verify that you have selected the RCVFD. Click "Enroll" and you're done!

Always scan your Rewards Card when shopping. As a Rewards member, you'll save money and earn points towards gas discounts, and the RCVFD will receive 5% of your purchases. If you have any questions about the King Soopers Rewards Program, contact them at 800/576-4377. **And thank you for telling your neighbors to sign up, too!**

You can see your contributions to the RCVFD through the King Soopers app!



2024 Annual Drive: Budget \$130,309 - Donations YTD \$79,054

Building a Better Tomorrow

Albin-Davis, Teresa
Almquist, Clayann
Anders, Marjorie & Patricia
Anderson, Annette
Andrasik, Candace
Armstrong, Eleanor
Arndt, Cynthia
Arrieta, Ruben & Claudia
Asche, Lyle & Janese
Austin, Rebecca
Avery Electric, Inc.
Awtrey, Christopher & Sloane
Bainer, Kevin & Helene
Baker, Frank & Margaret
Baker, Pat
Barnhart, Danny & Amanda
Bartmann, Heather
Bastian, Richard & Vicki
Bates, Harry & Carol Dollard
Beck, John & Linda
Beck, Neil & Esther
Beck, Timothy & Esther Nance
Benshoof, John & D. Cheuvront
Benson, Lyle & Debbie
Bergman, Mark & S Nash
Berquist, Harold & Janice
Bevers, Mike & Melanie
Bevers, Morris
Boltz, Willie
Borden, Rogene & Beth Wright
Boscan, Pedro & K. Touran
Boyles, Mike & R. McConathy
Brandt, David & Danna
Brault, Aaron & Stephanie
Brautigam, Wayne & Myrna
Brockman, Michael & Steph.
Brotsky, Rochelle
Burggraff, Gerri
Burrows, Royal & Sue
Cain, David & Connie
Canfield, Jeff & Kim
Carlson, Ken & Ellison, Carter
Carr, George & A. Derbyshire
Center, Janet
Ceplecha, Len & Cheryl
Chandler, Ken & Rita
Chopp, Stephen & Diane
Clause, G. & Ruppert, R.
Cloudy Pass Owners Assoc.

Cluett, Albert & Jennifer
Clutter, James & Patti
Cochran, Darren & Kellie
Coors, James
Corbitt, Beth
Cordson, Jim & Eileen
Cox, Clay & Kathy
Creager, BJ & Louise
Cruse, Pamela
Dahl, Ron & Judy
Dan Kramer Memorial Fund
Davidson, Linda
Davis, Sandra
DeBerry, Hal & Jenny
DeGregorio, Mark
Dellenbach, Mary
Diederich, Tom & Lisa
Diefenderfer, Daniel & Nancy
Dilbeck, Ray & Jennifer
Divico, Joanne
Doherty, Paul Jr. & K. Huyvaert
Downing, Shane & Teri Tracy
Dukart, Lane & Sue
Duva, Charlotte
Dvorak, Josef
Eby, Elizabeth
Edwards, Robin & Robert
Ellmann, Jerry & Patti
Embrey William & Elaine
Erickson, Ward
Ewing, Rex & LaVonne
Faber, Neil & Debra
Fackler, Glen & Carol
Fagan, Laura
Fialko, John & Linda
Fisher, Carl & Holly Randell
Forbes, Glen & Karen
Forrester, Jennifer
Franklin, Ed & Laurie
Fried, Eric & Cheryl Rayner
Garner, Don & Trish
Gerhard, Carolann
Gilliland Family
Gilliland, Gary & Charline
Gobbo, Allen & Diane
Goedl, Raymond
Gore, Michael & Petra
Gorpf & Tonia Bouska
Gray, Charles & Caroline
Gray, Jim & Marcy
Grenard, Lizz
Gullikson, Mary
Hager, Jack & Linda
Hamilton, Patricia
Harr, Tom Jr. & Bonnie
Havis, Robert
Hayward, Andrew & Tristen
Hediger, Randy & Jean
Henchenski, Robert & Lisa
Henrickson, Nancy
Herman, Gregory
Hernandez Price, Linda M.
Herrera, Rachel
High Altitude Assoc., Inc.
Hogan, Scott & Paige
Hokansson, Steve & Monica
Holtzer, Thomas & Irene
Hoover, Keven & Polly
Horn, Deborah
Horner, Jim & Cindy
Huck, Tim
Hunt, Paul & Trish
Huxley, Patrice
Jacobson, Cecilia
Janssen, Wendell & Debbie
J-B Investments, INC
Jenkins, Tracie
Johnson, Anna
Johnson, Christopher
Johnson, Frederick & Antonia
Johnson, Kip
Johnson, LaRue & Mary
Johnson, Luke
Johnston, Trisha
Kainu, Anne
Kendall, Lon & Kathy
Kindsfater Family
Klein, Jerry & Kori
Knab, Tom & Lynda
Knippling, Taylor
Knoedler, Louise
Koechley, Peter
Kooser, John
Koturov, Marisue & Daniel
Kramer, Dan & Donna
Kregel, Kathy
Kreshon, Julia C.
Lamfers, Steve & Jeff



Building a Better Tomorrow

Lanteri, Tracey
Lauenroth, Bill & Ingrid Burke
Laux, John & Jenny
Lawson, Paul
Lebesch, Jeffery & Zia Zybko
Lee, Ladonna
Levick, William & Joan
Liley, Louis Jr.
Limbach, Peter
Lippucci, Fred & Donna
Lira, Ernest & Judith
Lough, Jack & Kathleen
Lund, Richard & Elenore
Lynam, Ronald & Julie
Magruder, Andy
Masone, Joseph & Maria
Mattison, Harold & Linda
Mattor, Bill & Kathie
Maulsby, Reid
May, Steve & Joy
McCracken, Charles & Gloria
McCracken, M. & D. McCarthy
McDonald, M & D Falkenburg
Melton, Donna
Merriman, Joannah
Miller, CW & Carol
Miller, Ted & Darla
Milliger, Mitch & Judie
Minch, Peggy Sue
Minick, Jerry & Shannon
Monesson, Larry & Barbara
Moore, Jeff & Kerri
Moreno, Jack
Morgan, Bryan & Axson
Mortensen, Michael
Mueller, Johanna
Muirhead, Larry & Sharon
Murphy, Cindy
Murray, Laura Neil
Mutcher, Dennis & Joyce
Neal, Frank & Sharon
Neergaard, Kenneth & Marian
Neil & Esther Springer
Neil, George & Joni
Nelson, Lynne
Nelson, Rob & Lisa
Newlin, Dennis
Newman, Paul & N. McElroy
Nielsen, Kurt

Nolte, Joel
Norris, Robert & Pamela Gilles
O'Connor, Mechael
Oesterle, Max & Pamela
Olson, Lisa
Oppenlander, J. & D. Richmond
Otte, Jean
Ozee, James & Barbara
Perrich, Bob & Lynn
Perry, Phillip
Perry, Phyllis
Peterson, Joel
Petross, Vincent & Darlene
Pfitzer, Neal & Marlys
Pierce, Randy & J. Klausmeyer
Pinkert Jeff & Lisa
Porensky, John & Lauren
Portelli, Jerry
Powers, Barbara
Powers, Cathleen
Pritchett, Laura
Rist, Marvin
Rommel, Kurt & Marga
Rosander, George & Patricia
Rosenberg, Walt & Paula
Rutt, Wes & Nicki
Ryan, Marie-Laure
Schaal, Herb & Cindy Lechner
Schettler, Dick & Dixie
Schipper, Bill & Linda
Schleppy, Raymond & Wendy
Schneider, Robert & Joan
Scholz, Ernst & Sarah
Schulke, Will & Erin Peterson
Schwarzbach, Mitchell & Leslie
Shaffer, David & Mary
Shandley, Jack & Renee
Shenk, Tanya
Shetler, Terry & Bonnie
Siegel, HJ & Janet
Skelton, Joe & Deanna
Skolds, Evelyn
Sloan, Cathy
Smethurst, Ruby
Smith, Doug
Smith, Marilyn
Smith, Steven & Anne
Springer, John & Linda
Standring, Carolyn

Stanley Family Charitable Fund
Stanley, Randall & Carolyn
Starkweather, Tim & Mary
Staubs, James & Peggy
Stephens, Jon & Susanne
Stove Prairie Comm. Church
Stratman, Thomas & Charlene
Striegel, Randall & Sally
Stringtown Gulch Road Assoc.
Swenson, Charles & Elizabeth
Swindler, Lee & Sheri
Talarico, Ronald & Nanette
Taylor, Leisa
Thomas, David & Pamela
Tisserat, Ned & Jan Leach
Tisthammer, Thomas & Bridget
Tjornehoj, David & Diana
Toplyn, Ron & Cathy
United Mailing
Vannatta, Angela
Vannorsdel, Dick & Carol
Weiler, Richard & Patricia
Weixelman, Gary
Wernsman, Robert & Kathy
Wiggett, Aaron
Wile, F.M. & Kathy Stowe
Willauer, David & Diane
Williams, Barbara & Heather
Williams, Tobin
Wilson, Thomas
Wolf, Jeff & Donna
Workman, Kim
Yoder, Dean & Margie
Zuverink, Matthew

Donations in Memoriam:
Friends & Family of
Ken Neergaard
Dan Kramer

Thanks to everyone!
Your support is so important
to the health of our RCVFD!
THANK YOU!

If we missed you, please call
970/419-0397.



Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department
P. O. Box 2
Bellvue, CO 80512
www.rcvfd.org

NON PROFIT ORG
PRESORTED
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 100
ZIP CODE 80538

2025 RCVFD Board of Directors — RCVFDboard@rcvfd.org

President	Neil Faber	720/205-8447	president@rcvfd.org
Vice President	H.J. Siegel	970/416-9062	vicepresident@rcvfd.org
Chief, 2nd VP	Mark Neuroth	303/748-5243	chief@rcvfd.org
Secretary	Pam Thomas	970/472-0576	secretary@rcvfd.org
Treasurer	Diane McCarthy	312/244-0976	treasurer@rcvfd.org
Asst. Treasurer	Melanie Bevers	970/817-1505	assistanttreasurer@rcvfd.org
Ristwatch Editor	Ellison Carter	219/241-7141	ristwatch@rcvfd.org

RCVFD Area Representatives

Lower Buckhorn	Dean Yoder	720/635-9012
Upper Buckhorn	Erica Michel	970/222-1795
Davis Ranch	Carolyn Stanley	970/221-2024
Rist Canyon	Debbie Benson	720/999-3003
Stove Prairie	Tim Stratman	970/484-2821
Stratton Park	Louise Creager	970/217-6843
Whale Rock	Roger Dev	970/658-0360

To add, remove, or correct
your mailing address,
please email Diane McCarthy at
treasurer@rcvfd.org or call
312/244-0976.