



# Stratmoor Hills Neighborhood Association Newsletter

**Fall 2017**

## Fall Greetings from the Board of Directors (BOD)

New Article Section -  
Hobbies and  
Collections! Pages 8-9  
This item belongs to  
James Pesicka Please  
share yours with us!



Early 60's Parmi  
Single Stage Snow  
Thrower

Book signing event!  
November 11<sup>th</sup> from  
1-2:30 @8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Library  
Introducing An Author in  
the neighborhood-

Discounts Galore! Find  
out how to get the best  
deals around town!  
Page 13

### Upcoming Events!

Holiday Potluck  
**Stratmoor Hills  
Elementary School  
December 6, 2017  
6:00 Pm -Bring a  
side dish**

The summer seemed to go by so fast and fall is now upon us. Sadly, we have lost several of our beloved long time neighbors and community members this summer. Please keep our community in your prayers, especially those that are elderly. They set the brick work for our wonderful neighborhood.

The BOD decided to work even closer with the El Paso Code Enforcement Officer (Mr. Michael Shannon) on properties that needed brought to the front burner this summer. One of the notable properties was 613 Crestridge. After the El Paso County Sheriff's assisted with the eviction of the previous occupants the property was sold in a foreclosure sale and the new owner is completely remodeling the house from the inside out. Thank you Mr. Jeff Crandall!! Another two properties on Loomis Ave. are now compliant with Code regarding lawn/tree care and cleanup of 11 parked vehicles(only 6 left now). Also 333 Crestridge Ave. had the occupants evicted by the property management company. The house has been sold to Josh, the new owner who is completely remodeling the inside of the house and landscaping the yard. Lastly, a property on Clover is also closer to compliance; hauling off much excess waste from the grounds.

The BOD is thankful to our community for your interest in properties that may benefit from Code Enforcement's involvement. Thanks to you and our El Paso Code Enforcement Officer Mr. Shannon, we can make a difference.

Another hot button the BOD is working on is our drainage ditches which are in total disrepair. A kind neighbor Mr. Gasset has been monitoring the deterioration of the ditches for years. These drainage ditches stretch from Loomis Ave. to Sinton Park. In 2008 Mr. Gasset, successfully tackled the cleanup of the ditches in partnership with El Paso County. They have not been cleaned/touched since then. I, as president of SHNA, have been working directly with El Paso County and our Stratmoor Hills Water and Sanitation department to effect a year long cleanup plan. More to come on this subject. Thank you Mr. Gasset for caring so deeply about our exceptional neighborhood.

Finally, thank you neighbors for making our Stratmoor Hills such a gem of a community. Without the caring stewardship of your property, we would not be nearly as wonderful a community as we are.

The BOD is looking forward to seeing everyone at our annual Christmas potluck at the Stratmoor Hills Elementary School on December 6, 2017 at 6 PM.

Sincerely,  
James F. Pesicka, SHNA President

# THE GRASS MAY BE GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE... BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE..."

Written by:  
Laura Ander and Victor Finnell

## Fall:

It means many things to many people; it's the season for color-changing leaves, over-the-knee suede boots, pumpkin spice lattes, and warm fuzzy blankets. It's also the time to obsess over blades. Wait, what? Was that a poorly written Halloween joke? No, not at all! I'm talking about blades of grass and lawnmower blades. Fall is the time to take control of your lawn and make it lush. How can your lawn dress to impress? Here are some fall tips to help you achieve the green you see on the other side of the fence. (Please note: this regimen applies to lawns with 20% grass or more; otherwise, a lawn renovation is required.)

### **1/3 Rule: Do not cut more than 1/3 the height of your grass.**

*(The grass needs sufficient blade area for photosynthesis!)*

IF YOUR LAWN HEIGHT GOAL IS...	THEN YOU NEED TO MOW WHEN GRASS IS:
4.0 inches	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> inches tall
3.5 inches	4 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> inches tall
3.0 inches	4 inches tall
2.5 inches	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> inches tall
2.0 inches	2 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> inches tall

## MOWING

Frequent mowing promotes grass growth! If the grass isn't allowed to grow vertically, it will spread horizontally, making your lawn thicker over time. Even though you're mowing frequently (2-3 times per week,) you should make sure you're also mowing tall (3.5-4 inches.) By leaving the turf blades taller, the grass will shade the soil, grow deeper roots, and prevent weeds from germinating. Check your lawnmower blade often to make sure it is sharp! Using a sharp blade is critical to grass health; a cleaner cut will better allow the grass to retain water, and it will also make your lawn more disease resistant. When the lawn has stopped growing (and mowing at your

current height no longer cuts anything,) then it's time to consider mowing the lawn a bit lower to prepare it for winter. On the last mow of the season, you should cut your grass a little bit shorter than normal to avoid winterkill. A good height for the last cut is between 2.5-3 inches.

## FERTILIZING

It's time to grab your calculators and crunch some numbers! Properly fertilizing involves some math, and the fall application is most important.

*Step One:* Measure the size of your lawn. (Area = Length x Width)

*Step Two:* Buy some fertilizer from your local Lowe's and check the three numbers printed in the bottom right hand corner of the bag.

Nitrogen (N)- Phosphorus (P)- Potassium (K)

The numbers represent the bag's percentage of the above three primary grass nutrients (in that order.)

*Step Three:* Nitrogen should be applied at a rate of 1 pound per 1000 square feet.



If your lawn is overall thin, it's a good idea to use a synthetic fertilizer in the beginning. This will help get your grass growing faster than with organics. Later on however, when the grass is thick, you should switch to organics. Organic fertilizers are more effective in the spring and summer and help to build the soil rather than directly feed the grass; this is key to maintaining a strong, healthy lawn.

### WATERING

Your lawn needs to feel like it is monsoon season, so bring on the H<sub>2</sub>O! Believe it or not, your grass is speaking to you through its color. If you put your ears close enough to the ground, you'll hear the little grass voices tell you the following:

#### **Brown= Dormancy**

If your grass is dormant, then it's like a hibernating bear- nothing is happening.

#### **Grey/Blue= Thirsty**

If your grass is slightly grey or blue, then you need to water that area within 24 hours to prevent dormancy.

Two things to keep in mind when watering: water *deep* and *infrequently*. Lawns that receive water daily will have shallower roots than lawns that receive water less frequently. It is essential for grass to develop deeper roots (it makes the lawn stronger and discourages weeds from invading.)

How much water does the grass really need? Answer: 1-2"/week

In general, you want to water your lawn in 0.5" increments per day. You can determine how much water you are giving the lawn by eating some tuna! Place a tuna can in each sprinkler zone and see how much water accumulates in each can (this is known as the "tuna can test.") Ideally, you should leave your sprinklers running until the tuna can is half full.

Now you know how much water your grass needs to stay hydrated, but when is the best time to water?

Watering infrequently means that your lawn is allowed to dry out (and signal that it's thirsty) between watering sessions. A good starting point is to water every other day early in the morning. Remember, you want to deliver 1-2" of water during a 7-day period, so be sure to set your watering days accordingly.

The fall season brings lower temperatures, and the lawn will naturally need less water than it does during the summer. One inch of water per week should be enough to keep the lawn from going into dormancy from lack of irrigation. When night temperatures start to dip below freezing, the lawn will naturally go into winter dormancy. Once this occurs, the lawn care season will be finished until spring.

### **Do the math!**

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#### Example:

20-10-15 (N-P-K)  
30 lb bag of fertilizer

Lawn size- 835 sqft (It's okay to round up to 1000 sqft. General size is what counts!)

$(0.20 \times 30 \text{ lb}) = 6 \text{ lb}$  of bag is nitrogen

$(30 \text{ lb} / 6) = 5 \text{ pounds}$  to get 1 lb of nitrogen

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## WEED CONTROL

During the fall and spring, you should throw down crab grass pre-emergent. By using a pre-emergent, you can help prevent annual grass weeds such as crab grass and poa annua.

Post-emergent herbicides (i.e. Round Up) can be used on general broad leaf weeds (dandelions, clover, etc) when the weather is warm. Be sure to use a weed control that is safe for lawns (otherwise you may end up killing everything, including the grass!) Weed control should be misted onto the leaf of the weed. This method allows for absorption through the leaf, and it is then moved around inside of the plant.



## KEY THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- Fall brings piles of colorful leaves that are fun to jump in, but it's important to keep the leaves off of the lawn. Too many leaves can choke out the grass by blocking out sunlight.
- During the fall season, grass slows top growth (green leaf production,) and instead focuses on root development. It stores nitrogen in the roots for winter. Then, when spring comes, the grass plant uses that nitrogen to green up. This is why fall fertilizing is the most important.
- The best time to aerate your lawn is during the fall. Aerating breaks up the soil, which allows the grass roots to spread. Clay soil tends to harden in the summer. This hardened soil can be thought of as trying to grow grass on concrete. When you aerate, you loosen the soil after the hot summer, and this allows the grass roots to relax and grow.

**COOL FACT: 25 SQUARE FEET OF GRASS  
PRODUCES ENOUGH DAILY OXYGEN FOR  
ONE PERSON!**

## NEED YOUR LAWNMOWER BLADES SHARPENED?

If you live in the Stratmoor Hills neighborhood and would like some help sharpening your lawnmower blades, please send Victor an email at: [vfinnelluccs@gmail.com](mailto:vfinnelluccs@gmail.com) or come on over to 500 Crestridge Avenue. Please bring proof of residency, and we will help sharpen your lawnmower blades for free.

This article was written in the spring of 2017. Sadly, MSGT Ed Plante (pictured below) passed away July 9, 2017 at the age of 91. He was buried near his son Glen at Fort Logan National Cemetery and had a Christian Burial at St. Joseph Catholic Church where he and his family were long time parishoners. Born in April in Little Falls, Minnesota, Mr. Plante Served in U.S. Air Force from 1944-1965. He moved to Colorado Springs in 1966 where he and his wife Carrie raised a large family in their Stratmoor Hills home. Ed was active with the Korean War Veterans Association and the Stratmoor Hills Neighborhood Association. We thank him for all of the years of service he gave to our country and to our neighborhood.



## Saturday Morning with Ed and Caroline Plante By Dan Beilfuss

Recently, my wife and I had the pleasure of spending some time with Ed and Caroline Plante, both longtime Stratmoor Hills residents. As many of you know, the Plantes recently moved from their home on the corner of Westmark and Crestridge where they resided for 50 years. Their new home is just west of 8<sup>th</sup> ave. with an incredible view of the mountains. "We like it here just fine. We are really starting to get used to it" said Ed. Some things have changed for the Plantes and some have remained the same. For instance, instead of shopping at the commissary and King Soopers, like they did for years, they now go down the street to Walmart. While they still attend mass regularly at St. Josephs, they recently decided to sell their car and now travel by cab or with friends and relatives.

Even though they have adjusted to their new lives, they still have a soft spot for Stratmoor Hills. "We sure miss the old neighborhood, our house and the friendly neighbors," said Caroline. Added Ed, who will turn 91 in April, "We still keep in touch with the Egans, Ralph Huber and Rudy Rehbein, among others." Ironically, The Plante's old neighbors from 10 Westmark, George and Jeanette Holland, live just one floor above them. They still talk regularly and try to attend seasonal events together.



Caroline at  
the Ed  
Plante  
Supreme  
Spaghetti  
Dinner

Before we left, both Ed and Caroline made special mention to tell folks from the neighborhood that they miss everyone dearly and that they are doing well. I cannot thank them enough for taking the time to talk to us and sharing their history and wisdom from all of their years in Stratmoor Hills.



# Stratmoor Hills Big Contender in Colorado Real Estate Market

By Teresa Beilfuss

**F**or anyone who has been paying close attention to the Real Estate Market in Denver, Colorado Springs looks very affordable. According to the Denver Post, “ Denver County, the average price of a single-family home sold declined 2.4 percent in July from June to \$560,150, while the average price for condos sold was down 4.6 percent, to \$409,514”. These are average sized non luxury homes. In spite of that slight decline, affordable housing is still hard to find.

For example, a 3 Bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2,268 square foot home built in 1966 in South East Denver on a 6,500 Square foot lot sold October 11, 2017 for \$416,000. Though there is a fireplace, no pool or horse stable included with the property.

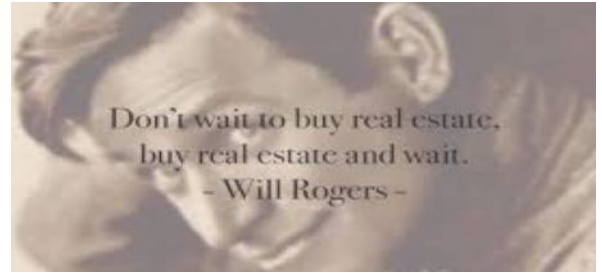
A Studio Condo (we are talking no bedroom here people) sold for \$161,750 in Central Denver with one bath and a living space of 354 sq ft sold October 18, 2017.(source Realtor.com ). A thriving economy and lively amenities have created bidding wars and low inventory. Enter: Other nearby Markets. While it is obvious that communities to the North of Colorado Springs are growing by leaps and bounds, is it clear that this economic surge in home prices will stretch all the way down to our little neighborhood? Use the data shown here so diligently collected by our neighbor **Paul Stevens** to decide for yourself. The increases are less so far but certainly impressive and if the “bubble does not burst” for example, if Denver wins the bid for an Amazon 2<sup>nd</sup> Headquarters we are sure to feel the housing boom and burn. It seems we cannot have one without the other.

## HOUSES REPORTED SOLD IN 2015 IN STRATMOOR HILLS TO DATE BY THE GAZETTE

404 Crestridge Ave	Sold on June 19
\$280,000	
23 Clover Cir E	Sold on Feb 9
\$190,000	
522 Catalina Dr	Sold on Mar 2
\$168,000	
111 Chamberlin Ave	Sold on May 11
\$260,000	
7 Jewel Ave	Sold on May 18
\$255,000	
302 Catalina Pl	Sold on Jun 1
\$199,900	
5 Clover Cir W	Sold on June 13
\$187,000	
323 Crestridge Ave	Sold on Jul 12
\$251,500	
28 Clover Cir W	Sold on Jul 20
\$184,700	
477 Loomis Ave	Sold on Jul 22
\$170,000	
615 S. Chamberlain	Sold on Sep 7
\$199,900	
22 Westmark Ave	Sold on Sep 7
\$ 280,000	
556 S Kearney Ave	Sold on Sep 14
\$194,000	
557 S Kearney Ave	Sold on Dec 14
\$216,000	
36 Clover Cir E	Sold on Dec 28
\$182,400	

**HOUSES REPORTED SOLD IN 2016  
IN STRATMOOR HILLS  
TO DATE  
BY THE GAZETTE**

409 Crestridge Ave	Sold on Dec 28 \$207,000
205 Chamberlin Ave	Sold on Jan 18 \$253,000
312 Loomis Ave	Sold on Feb 8 \$182,000
530 Loomis Ave	Sold on Feb 8 \$208,000
503 Loomis Ave	Sold on Feb 29 \$190,000
35 Clover Cir E.	Sold on Mar 14 \$181,000
508 Kearney Ave S.	Sold on Mar 28 \$211,500
637 Catalina Dr	Sold on Apr 24 \$183,000
621 Catalina Dr	Sold on Jun 6 \$188,000
591 Catalina Dr	Sold on Jun 13 \$239,300
239 Stratmoor Dr	Sold on Jun 20 \$191,000
541 Sinton Dr	Sold on Jun 27 \$265,000
240 Stratmoor Dr	Sold on Jun 27 \$282,500
617 Crestridge Dr	Sold on Jul 23 \$195,000
558 Catalina Dr	Sold on Aug 1 \$195,000
430 Kearney Ave	Sold on Aug 29 \$226,000
623 Catalina Dr	Sold on Sep 29 \$165,000
29 E Clover Cir	Sold on Sep 26 \$244,900
409 Kearney Ave	Sold on Oct 3 \$232,000
616 Crestridge Ave	Sold on Oct 10 \$199,500
606 Catalina Dr	Sold on Oct 31 \$174,900
500 Crestridge Ave	Sold on Nov 7 \$220,000
448 Kearney Ave	Sold on Nov 18 \$266,000
601 Crestridge Ave	Sold on Nov 27 \$235,500
514 Catalina Ave	Sold on Nov 20 \$261,000
605 Crestridge Ave	Sold on Dec 26 \$165,000



**HOUSES REPORTED SOLD IN  
2017  
IN STRATMOOR HILLS  
TO DATE  
BY THE GAZETTE**

<b>630 Catalina Dr</b>	Sold on Jan 16 \$177,500
<b>205 Chamberlin Dr</b>	Sold on Jan 23 \$253,000
<b>442 Kearney Ave</b>	Sold on Feb 20 \$235,000
<b>29 Minden</b>	Sold on Apr 3 \$257,100
<b>466 Loomis Ave</b>	Sold on Apr 10 \$140,000
<b>216 Chamberlain Ave</b>	Sold on Apr 17 \$275,000
<b>350 CatalinaDr</b>	Sold on May 1 \$405,000
<b>5 Westmark Ave</b>	Sold on May 15 \$286,000
<b>14 W. Clover Cir</b>	Sold on June 5 \$200,000
<b>410 Catalina Dr</b>	Sold on May 29 \$240,000
<b>426 Kearney Ave</b>	Sold on June 26 \$285,000
<b>239 Crestridge Ave</b>	Sold on Jul 19 \$325,000
<b>318 Cranbrook Cir</b>	Sold on Aug 15 \$200,000
<b>35 Clover Cir W</b>	Sold on Aug 14 \$251,500

# Collections & Hobbies

By Dana Costa

**Hobby** –an activity, interest, enthusiasm or past-time that is undertaken for pleasure or relaxation...done during one's own time

**Collection** – the act or process of collecting or gathering a group of objects

This is a new addition to our newsletter, we would like to feature our neighbors and their collections/hobbies in upcoming issues. Please contact Dana Costa ([dcolorado6@hotmail.com](mailto:dcolorado6@hotmail.com)) if you (or a neighbor) have an interesting collection/hobby that should be featured in the next newsletter.

**B**oth are supposed to be fun, stress-relieving and help you balance work-life situations and learn new skills. Google the word 'hobby' and you can find a list so long it might take you all day to get through! Growing up on a dairy farm in South Dakota, Jim Pesicka's father put him on a John Deere 1937 Model A Tractor when he was just 7 years old. As a kid his chores often involved driving tractors and he remembers "if it had a motor, I was intrigued." So it comes as no surprise when he grew up he began collecting

tractors and fixing them became his hobby.

He is passionate about his tractors. He started collecting about 10 years ago and finds his treasures on Craig's List, Facebook and at good old Garage Sales. He researches each of his purchases and says "often just going to buy something is an adventure."

His criteria for buying a new tractor are simple, he says "it must be unique and have an engine." Everything he owns runs, though many were not when he bought them, that doesn't stop him from making an offer. Thanks to his knowledge and enthusiasm he restores these tractors and uses many of them around his home.

**60's Montgomery Wards Garden Mark Self-propelled Reel Mower**



**1985 John Deere 116**





### 1950's Sears Chain Saw

Although it's neither a lawn or garden tractor, Jim gets excited talking about this chainsaw. He found it in pieces at a yard sale. Of course it works now, it is incredibly heavy and has NO safety features.



### The 1963 Bolens Husky 800

Was once used at Meadow Lake Airport (near Peyton) to move small planes. Jim found it for sale on Facebook one night when he couldn't sleep. He texted the seller in the morning and by 7am was on his way to look at it. Although it wasn't running, Jim worked his magic and within 10 minutes had driven it onto his trailer to bring home.

### Early 60's SpeedEx S18 - Lawn Tractor

This was a well known brand made in Ohio, they produced the S-series from 1959 to 1974. Jim liked this because it was different, in fact it almost looks homemade.



### Troy Bilt Cultivator Plus

Designed for women because it is smaller and lighter. Jim found this in town and it wasn't running, but now he says it's the perfect addition to his collection.



## Self Published Author Laura Ander's Introduces : The Alchemist Saga Subversion

**N**ewly published author and UCCS graduate Laura Ander has taken a High School dream and turned it into a reality.

Ms. Ander recently relocated to the Stratmoor Hills area from Palmer Lake where she attended high school. She is the CFO for family owned waste management company, SZIA which means "Hello and Goodbye!" in Hungarian. Laura, who holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in International Business, performs her duties remotely as services are delivered in Breckenridge, Colorado. Both of Ms. Ander's parents are originally from Eastern Europe. Her mother was born in Budapest and her father in Transylvania. Formerly a Hungarian territory, Transylvania is now a part of Romania. Both of Ander's parents moved to Michigan to escape political oppression. In 1999, the family relocated to Southern Colorado, "My father left his job at Ford Motors and we lived off their savings for a while. They were looking for fresh air and found a lot of it here along with amazing scenery." Hungarian was the first language she learned prior to learning English. The waste management company was purchased in September of 2016 and is a steady source of income, but she says, "This is what I care about, this is my passion, this is my baby."

It started in a high school AP European History Class, when she first heard the word "alchemy". This term refers to the medieval version of the science of chemistry. During the middle ages, people had the ambition to make gold using lesser base metals such as lead. They believed that by using astrological events and going through a personal change as well, they would be able to transmute cheap, easy to find metals into valuable gold. The ultimate success in this 'science' would be the creation of the philosopher's stone, the source of eternal life and youth. Ander says, "I just thought it would be really great to use it in a story somehow. I spent

the next eight years or so thinking of characters and how alchemy would change their lives."

With so many young adult stories now built around vampires, alchemy provides a new and exciting twist for readers.

The actual writing process took around eight months. The first in a series of six planned books, ***The Alchemist Saga : Subversion*** became available in print and on Kindle in March of 2017. The main character, Aspen Pacific is a seventeen year old who is new to the craft. The story includes some exciting fantasy concepts like the use of portals and a money tree that supplies a person with what they need based on the type of person who is asking. Personal growth is a side affect for Aspen, "Transformations in yourself are necessary to transform other things. When those changes are achieved, you see things differently, and people and things around you see you differently also."

Ander says both positive and negative effects occur. Some of the characters who have been practicing the craft for a while have been blinded with greed for gold. These characters are putting out negative things instead of what they are seeking. The second book, *Schism*, is currently in the works. Traditional publishing was not working quickly enough. Amazon and Amazon Affiliates offer authors an alternative! The process involved selecting and hiring a line editor. Laura has learned many things in the process of self publishing and has had wonderful





*"If you build a castle on lies...you had better make damn sure that there is enough grout in between the stones to smother any truths than may try to sneak in through the back door."*

Subversion (173-174)

support from her editor as well as the book's cover designer.

"I was very excited to be able to hire the same editor who worked with Stephen King on his first novel. I

was not sure that he would accept my offer but I was

thrilled when he did!", Ander says. His suggestions helped with the seemingly overwhelming tasks involved in copywriting, page layouts and style. "These are things that most readers don't think about when they pick up a book. There are also a ton of things you can pay for as an author through Amazon and other sites like it. You even have to decide whether or not to buy your own

ISBN number. If you do not want to pay for one they will assign one but if your book becomes popular, it might be a problem later." An ISBN number is the bar code used to catalog books and other materials. Amazon takes a percentage of the purchase price for any format that an author sells a book under. Paperbacks are published 'On Demand' meaning that whenever a book is sold, it is printed and then sent to the buyer. One area of disappointment for the author is the fact that Amazon does not offer self published books in hard cover. She also had to learn how to format her project which was a bit



more complicated than she envisioned it might be. She conducted her own market research on pricing and has signed up for a few advertising sites including GoodReads. **Subversion** is currently available for purchase on Amazon in paperback and on Kindle. The audiobook version is pending, but the paperback is available for check out through the Pikes Peak Library District.

Step Into A New World  
A World of Mystique ... of Intrigue ... of Magic  
Enter the world of RAGNERID-TARON

**Meet The Author!**  
-Book Signing and Giveaway-

"Subversion" is the first of six books in a series called  
**The Alchemist Saga**  
This young adult fiction is a mix of fantasy and paranormal  
romance, with roots in the science of alchemy.

**Date:** November 11, 2017  
**Time:** 1-2:30pm  
**Place:** Cheyenne Mountain Library, Event Room

Join us for a book presentation, short reading, book signing, and  
enter to win a **FREE**  
**Signed First Edition**  
(With additional gifts!)

Unable to Come to the Event -  
Repost our FB, Website, or Instagram for a  
**CHANCE TO WIN!!!**  
[www.thealchemistsaga.com](http://www.thealchemistsaga.com)

Watch for the winner to be announced and posted after event date!  
Or Purchase Now on **AMAZON.com**

Visit <http://thealchemistsaga.com/>  
for more!

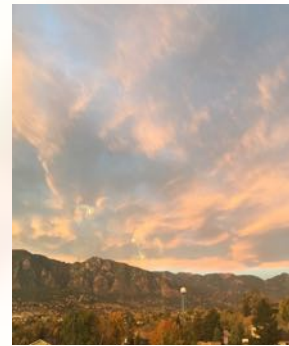


## **Hidden Discounts by Melinda Pesicka**

**Seniors and military are all over Colorado Springs. Here are a few, the secret is to always ask, as these discounts can add up. Below are all for active duty and Military retirees. Remember that these are sometimes subject to change.**

### **Restaurants**

3 Margaritas- 15%  
Al Sushi – 10%  
Applebee's- 10%  
Bara Sushi – 10%  
Bona Dea Tea House – 10%  
Boston Market  
Briarhurst Manor Estate – 20% off a la carte dining  
Burger King (select locations) – 10%  
California Pizza Kitchen – 20%  
Carl's Jr – 10%  
Champp's – 10%  
Cheddar's – 10%, Mondays only  
CiCi's Pizza – 10%  
Culver's – 10%  
Del Taco – 10%  
Dion's Pizza – free drinks  
Dunkin Donuts – 20%  
Egg and I (Powers Location Only) – 10% off  
Egg and I (Academy Location Only) – 10% off  
El Super Taco – 10%  
El Taco Rey – 10%  
Famous Dave's – 15%, Mondays only  
Fazoli's – 10%  
Firehouse Subs – 10%, Mondays only  
Flatirons – 20% Tuesdays only  
Frankie's Bar and Grill – 20% off, Thursdays only (also includes police, fire and Ems)  
Frankie's Too – 20% off, Wednesdays only (also includes police, fire and EMs)  
Freddie's Steakburgers – 10%, Mondays  
Fuji Mountain – 10%  
Garbanzo Mediterranean Grill – 10%  
Golden Corral- 10%  
Good Times – 10%  
Honey Baked Ham – 10%  
HuHot Mongolian Grill – 10% off  
IHOP – 10%  
Jack in the Box- 10%



Jamba Juice – 10%  
 Jersey Mike's Subs – 10%  
 Jose Muldoon's – 20%, Monday's Only  
 Keva Juice – 10%  
 La Casita Mexican Grill – 10% Active Military Discount (must show active military ID)  
 Little Caesar's – 10%, Mondays only  
 Macaroni Grill – 10%  
 Mason Jar – 10%  
 Mimi's Cafe – 10%  
 Nawlin's – 15% on Mondays, 10% other days  
 Old Chicago – 10%, excluding beverages  
 On The Border – 10%  
 Panda Express – 10%  
 Papa Murphy's – 20%  
 Pikes Peak Coffee & Tea House – 10%  
 Pizza Time – 25% discount on Mondays  
 Pizzeria Rustica – 10%  
 Qdoba – free drink with purchase  
 Rita's Italian Ice – 20% on Mondays, 10% every day  
 Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory – 10% off, Citadel Mall location only  
 Ruby Tuesdays – 10%  
 Rudy's Country Store and BBQ – 10%  
 Rumbi Island Grill – free drink with purchase  
 Salsa Latina – 10%  
 Salt-Grass Steakhouse – 10%  
 Scooter's Coffee – 10%  
 Smoothie King- 10%  
 Sonic – 10%  
 Subway (participating locations only) – 10%  
 Summer Sweet Frozen Yogurt – 10%, Mondays only  
 Sunbird Restaurant – 15% on dinner, also a special rate on Sunday brunch  
 TAPateria – 10%  
 Texas Roadhouse – 10% (Powers location does not offer)  
 TGI Friday's – 15%  
 Tropical Smoothie – 10%  
 Wendy's – free small drink or coffee  
 Wild Wings N Things – 10%  
 Yogurt In Love – 20%, Mondays only  
 YoYogurt – 25% Mondays only



## Auto Parts and Repair

Advanced Auto – 10%  
 Auto Zone – 10%  
 Automotive Repair Specialists – 10%  
 Big O Tires – 5%  
 Brakes Plus – 10%  
 Checker Auto Parts – 10%

Front Range Honda – 10% on service  
 Freedom Honda – 10% on service  
 Grease Monkey – 10%  
 Pikes Peak Harley Davidson – 10% off clothing and parts  
 Napa Auto Parts – 10%

Novus Auto Glass – \$10 off windshield repairs and auto glass replacements  
Peak to Peak Transmission – \$200 off any automatic transmission repair, \$50 off any clutch replacement. Free computer diagnostics.

Sears Auto – 10%

Springs Auto and Truck Service Center – 5%

Tire World – 5%

Woodman Nissan Dealership – 10% on service bills

## Thrift & Consignment Stores

Arc Thrift Stores – 50%, Monday's only  
Arc also gives 50% to seniors on Tuesday (55 and up)

Goodwill -15%, Tuesdays only Military

Goodwill gives 15% off on Wednesdays for seniors 55 and up.

Salvation Army – 25%, Tuesdays only

## Grocery Stores

Albertson's – 10% on select military holidays and the first Saturday of the month.

Walgreens – 15% on Tuesdays only. Must checkout at cosmetics or photo counter.



## Entertainment & Things to Do

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo – \$2 off adult entrance

Color Me Mine – 10%

Gymboree Play and Music – 20% off per month

Michael Garman Museum and Gallery – 10% off admission and sculptures (also includes firefighters and law enforcement)

North Pole Amusement Park- \$12.95 admission

Elitch Gardens Amusement Park (Denver) – \$29.99 admission

Water World Park (Denver) – 10% Off



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**S**enior discounts are all over Colorado Springs as well. Grab some friends and save some cash!

## Restaurants

- Applebee's: 15% off with Golden Apple Card (60+)
- Arby's: 10% off (55+)
- Ben & Jerry's: 10% off (60+)
- Boston Market: 10% off (65+)
- Burger King: 10% off (60+)
- Captain D's Seafood: discount varies on location (62+)
- Chick-Fil-A: 10% off or free small drink or coffee (55+)
- Chili's: 10% off (55+)
- CiCi's Pizza: 10% off (60+)
- Culver's: 10% off (60+)
- Dunkin' Donuts: 10% off or free coffee (55+)
- Einstein's Bagels: 10% off baker's dozen of bagels (60+)
- Golden Corral: 10% off (60+)
- IHOP: 10% off (55+)
- Jack in the Box: up to 20% off (55+)
- KFC: free small drink with any meal (55+)
- Long John Silver's: various discounts at participating locations (55+)
- McDonald's: discounts on coffee everyday (55+)
- Shoney's: 10% off
- Sonic: 10% off or free beverage (60+)

- Steak 'n Shake: 10% off every Monday & Tuesday (50+)
- Subway: 10% off (60+)
- Sweet Tomatoes 10% off (62+)
- Taco Bell: 5% off; free beverages for seniors (65+)
- TCBY: 10% off (55+)



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## NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE SHOP

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Below are pictures from around this time last year- In our next edition, we hope to feature some of the many vintage photos we are so fortunate to have from years gone by! While we have a huge stash, please submit any that you would like to share with the neighborhood. I am sure long time residents and new transplants would delight in your images and stories as well.



Winners of the ChiliCookOff 2016





## Operation Bunny Rescue by Tanja Britton

**R**abbit populations undergo ten-year cycles of ups and downs, and according to local biologists, their numbers peaked two years ago. The Stratmoor Hills neighborhood had a first inkling of this in 2015, when hordes of small critters overran many yards, and sprinted from the cars' headlights left and right at dusk and dawn. For our family, a more immediate reminder was the unexpected presence of a tiny ball of gray in the window well of our downstairs bedroom which we detected after a rustling sound reached our half-awake ears through the window. To say we were surprised to find a rabbit in the hole is an understatement. Was this a dream, and would Alice follow?



We did not know if it had fallen down 4 feet from ground level, or crawled through a French drain (if it had, it did not want to leave again that way), but we were relieved to detect no obvious injuries. The velvety baby simply sat there, twitching its teeny nose, tilting its delicate ears this way and that.



How to rescue this little creature? When we slid open the window and removed the screen, the cottontail vanished into the drain, only to reappear a few minutes later. It stayed close to this escape hatch, and availed itself of it each time we tried to catch it. After what amounted to at least one hour, it finally hopped far enough away for us to cover the hole and to capture it in a blanket. We carried it outside, where it scurried underneath a juniper bush and sat nonchalantly, as if nothing had happened.



When nighttime noises emerged from the window well in May 2016, we looked at one another in disbelief. We closed the window and waited till daybreak, but otherwise repeated the same procedure as before. In the course of that summer, we had to perform this ritual twice more, and successfully released bunnies number two, three, and four. We suspected them of playing a game of dare: Who gets to keep us busy the longest?

According to scientific predictions, rabbit numbers were supposed to be trending downward, and we were hoping for an uneventful season. But 2017 did not disappoint and brought no change to their tendency to disrupt our slumber. To our knowledge, this house had not seen an animal rescue in almost thirty years, but now we are three for three. Apparently they are not interested in statistics. Visit Ms. Britton's Blog

<https://tanjabrittonwriter.wordpress.com/>