



JANUARY 2024

Greetings from the Chair From Julianne Salerno

As we enter the new year, I want to take this opportunity to wish all our residents, friends and neighbors a very happy and healthy 2024. It is my pleasure and honor to have been selected to once again Chair the Board of Directors. It is a position that I take very seriously and hope that the confidence that the members have in me is shared with all of you.

As I have said in many previous Vail's Voices, this Board works tirelessly to make sure that Vail's Grove is kept to the standards that we all expect. Each and every board member and committee chair handle their position with the utmost care and seriousness. Most of our committees only have things to do when a particular event is taking place, or when items come to that committee to be handled, such as the case with our Treasurer, our Ombudsmen or our Tree committee. However, there are some committees and the chairs of those who are constantly keeping busy, as is the case with our Real Estate and Buildings and Grounds Chairs and members.

As many of you already know, our longtime B&G Chair Hugh Andrews resigned his position from the Board of Directors in November. It goes without saying that Hugh worked tirelessly for the community, many times going above and beyond what was expected of any Chair of any committee. Many of you know that taking care of large properties and infrastructure of a community is not an easy task, especially an area that not only spans two counties and towns with different rules and regulations, but that also has an aging infrastructure in need of some TLC. Hugh always did his best to save the community money when dealing with repairs, etc., and he had a soft heart for many community members and always tried to do whatever he could to help them out, regardless of who they were or where they live. I would like to publicly thank Hugh for his years of dedication and commitment to Vail's Grove and the Board of Directors and hope that he is finally relaxing and taking care of himself and his family.

The position of B&G Chair has been given to Board Member Mike Early, and I would like to thank Mike for stepping in and accepting the position. Mike has a great team and, of course, we have much help from our maintenance person, Petr and our office manager, Cindy. Mike is keenly aware of many issues plaguing our community and is doing his best to prioritize the repairs, while also trying to keep costs at a minimum. Please be patient as we navigate this change in leadership.

Thank you all and let's stay Vail's Grove Strong in 2024.

Office News From Cindy



Hope you had wonderful holidays.

Reminder: If you have an oil tank, you need to submit proof of oil tank insurance to the office, by January 31st.

Robo-call is the best way to get information about anything we need you to know. Whether it is an emergency, reminder of signing up for a recreation event, water turn-offs, beach issues, parking, etc. It is very important that you send the office, by e-mail, your phone number so that you can receive the robocalls. I know we are all busy and do not want any more phone calls, but this is the best way, the



sure way, that you will know valuable information about the Grove. Not everyone is on Facebook, not everyone reads the flyers – BUT everyone can easily be given information by Robo-call. It is efficient and quick. If you are presently not registered, again, please give the office the best number to get these messages on.

Taking your dogs to the North End to run around and get exercise is wonderful; BUT, as we all know, dogs will poop anywhere. It is starting to be an issue when others take a walk in the North End and step in poop. Let your dog run...its great...but please watch them when they are and pick up their poop before you leave the North End. Complaints are increasing. And of course, keep your dogs leashed when walking through the Grove. That is MANDATORY. We even have a container that has poop bags in it – and trash cans.

Enclosed with this mailing is your January quarterly bill. PLEASE, look at the amount before you pay, as maintenance fees have been increased by 3.2%. Payment is due by January 31st. STAY WARM...

Vail's Grove Court Committee



This committee is appointed by Vail's Grove Cooperative Board of Directors to prepare and share a development plan for the North End Court Renovation. The current courts are in disrepair. In years past, the courts served as a social and recreational resource to Vail's Grove residents increasing community use of shared cooperative space. New courts would be an amenity that adds value to our community and homes.

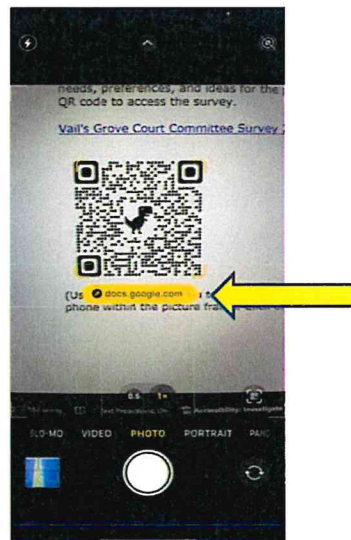
To inform this process, a survey has been created to poll Vail's Grove residents regarding their needs, preferences, and ideas for the project. Each household will be allowed one response, which will be tracked by name, street address and email responses. While a survey return rate of ~30% is acceptable, 50% is an excellent return rate, especially when informing financial decisions. The Grove has 172 homes, 52-60 responses are our goal. By now you should have received the survey in printed format. This can be returned to the office at any time before 1/31/2024 to be counted. Completing the survey using the scan code below is the most immediate response.

We urge you to exercise the opportunity for sharing your preferences, ideas and being involved in the decision by weighing in through this survey. Where the responses are not anonymous, your participation and answers will be kept within the committee and used in a general manner. Specific answers will not be matched to the individual's response. If you share an interest in helping, we will be in touch. If you have any difficulty with accessing the survey, please contact Carol Terilli, IriePT@aol.com or (917) 309-6892. The only way to know what the community prefers and needs is to know your thoughts, thank you for your help!

Committee members, **Joan Myers (Board Liaison), Paul DeFelice, Jason LaRocca, Robert Lee, Carol Terilli**

Please click the link below or scan the QR code to access the survey.

<https://forms.gle/d9qVbYs7ujs9eZ38A>



Sunshine News



Congratulations to Amanda Cammisa and Jayson Noriega on the birth of their second daughter, Harper on October 16th. Congrats as well to grandparents Todd and Jayne Cammisa.



Sincerest *Condolences* to Marie Iarossi on the passing of her mom; to Judy Smith on the passing of her brother, Ray Consley, Jr.; to Joanna DiMauro and family on the passing of her mother, Vails Grove resident Mary Lou Martelli; to Ellen Mytych on the passing of her brother, Edmund B. Conley, Jr. and to the family of Donna Keith.

Welcome
New Members

From Membership Committee – Hugh Andrews, Juliann Salerno & Jill Olimpieri

to Daria Fox (& family) at 10 Locust Road

Pump House From Pat McGuinness

Thanks as always to VRI for their monitoring of the Pump House and daily chlorine checks of our water supply. Thanks to their efforts, we have had no issues with our drinking water. We have passed all of the monthly testing as well as the annual water test for this past year of 2023. We look forward to the same performance of our system and working with the entire staff at VRI.

Boat Ramp/North End Storage From Pat McGuinness

Winter storage is now in full swing. All vessels have been checked for proper tagging and contact info. All those who needed to be contacted to remedy both storing criteria have been informed. Also, those who still have non-usable vessels or trailers are once again asked to remove these pieces from the North End as the space can be used for what will surely be, much needed, additional space for the upcoming year. Please notify the office if you are unable to fulfill this request prior to the end of the upcoming boating season. Thanks again to all for your continued patience and cooperation. See you in April!

Buildings and Grounds from Michael Early

Recently we have experienced multiple ground water leaks throughout the Grove. We will continue to investigate these issues as they could undermine roads and cause hazards during the winter. Polye Lane and 91-93 Vail's Lake Shore are two areas that freeze during the winter months. We ask that you are especially careful in these areas when temperatures are below freezing.

VRI investigated the grinder pump alarm at the Pavilion. Potentially, we may need electrical breakers to avoid recurrence. Several potholes in the community have been repaired by Salem Landscaping. What started as a single leak on Hickory Lane turned out to be at least two or more. Butler Excavating needed to cut through rock to create proper trench. New drains have been installed. Future work will continue up the path to Maple Lane where there are rotted drainpipes.

I thank everyone for their patience and assistance over the past few weeks. Just to name a few: Cindy Battreall, Petr Trlica, Juliann Salerno, Ellen Mytych, David Janecek, Brian Fitzgerald, and the Foley family. My apologies to those who I may have missed.

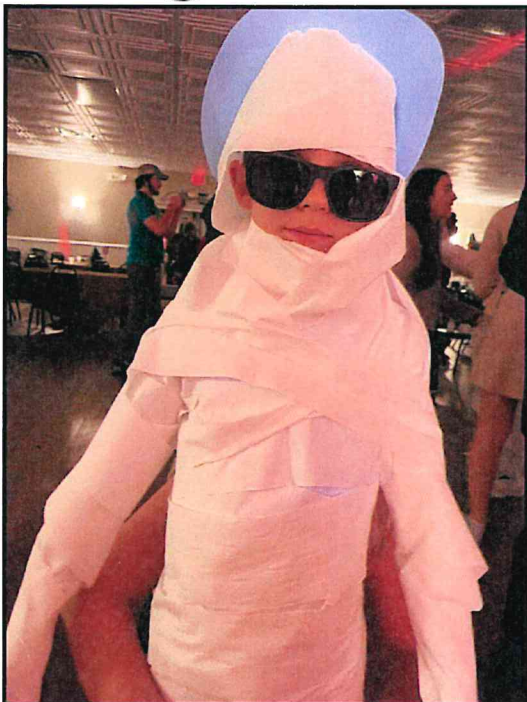
Recreation Report By Peter Vincent

Recreation had a great 2023, hosting many of our favorite community events, including the Spaghetti Dinner, annual Easter egg hunt, the Fourth of July parade, water sports, tacos and tequila, movie night on the beach, cardboard regatta, Halloween and Christmas movie nights and, of course, the 2023 Vail's Holiday Party. It is always wonderful to see so many children, families and friends coming together and to create lasting memories. Many of our events could not have happened without the help and generosity of our community members, especially Helen Vail and Dan and Julie Collins, as well as many other people. Thank you to all who helped this past year!

Looking ahead to 2024, the Recreation Committee is planning to continue many of our traditional events. Stay tuned for details about upcoming events like Bingo night on January 20th, the NFL Championship Sunday Game, Super Bowl Pool, Valentine's party in February, as well as another visit from the Easter Bunny and the Easter Egg Hunt. We also are planning another Spaghetti Dinner and, of course, more movie nights and other fun events throughout the year. We hope to see you all there!

HOLIDAY

*Holiday party mummy making
contestant
(photo credit: Helen Vail)*



December 16th

*Julie Salerno and Peter Vincent pose
with Santa (photo credit: Helen Vail)*

