



Coming soon! In the next few weeks, we hope to start work on the playground renovations. The first playground piece has arrived. If you saw the large boxes in front of the garage at the pavilion, that's it. We're expecting another two pieces will arrive in the next few weeks. Also, there's some work to be done to prepare the space for the new equipment, so expect to see some activity at the playground.

This project could not happen without all our community members – Thank You! An especially big thank you to the nearly 60 families that have generously contributed to this project. While we're making great progress towards our goal, plenty of work remains and to get there we need **MORE DONATIONS!**

Please consider donating to help make our playground space amazing for all the Vail's family kids, grandkids and future generations. A donation in any amount helps reach our goal. There are opportunities to donate individual pieces (e.g., playground equipment, benches, etc.) named in memory of a family or loved ones. Please reach out to the Committee members (Sarah Broderick, Jamie Laurino, Caitlin Lee, and Theresa Steffen) or Cindy in the office to discuss your options.

Sarah Broderick

Greetings from the Chair

From Juliann Salerno

Chairperson's Service Award 2021

When you think of service, what comes to mind? Is it the way in which you carry yourself, is it what you do for your community? Is it overcoming adversity and giving all you have to others in your community? Webster's Dictionary defines Service as: "The action of helping or doing work for someone, an act of assistance, perform a service or services for someone, be ready to assist someone whenever possible." These recipients embody the definition of Service. It gives me great pleasure to present this award to 3 people this year.

Our first recipient is a person who without ever being asked, ALWAYS is ready to help out with, flyers, Facebook Posts, baking cookies, taking pictures of our wonderful community and having the idea to create a beautiful calendar with the benefit going to the education of 4 girls who had suddenly lost their dad. Cathy Morris can always be seen with a smile on her face and her trusty phone in hand creating memories for us all to enjoy. No matter how busy Cathy is, she has always managed to make time to create beautiful flyers so that no one here in Vail's Grove misses out on an event. I cannot tell you how

many times, at the last minute I have called or texted Cathy because we needed a flyer and within minutes, she has it, and it is posted on our Facebook page for all to see. Cathy is also a member of the Lend-A-Hand committee that exists to assist and provide service to residents of the Grove who may need it. Cathy is one of the administrators of our FB page; and she not only posts Vail's news and events, but vital information of events and other things that are happening in our communities.

It is with great pleasure that I award the Chairpersons Service Award to Cathy Morris.

Our next recipient totally immerses himself in his job. If it were not for this guy, many of the beautiful things that happen at Vail's Grove, I believe, would take much longer than it does. Not only is he in charge of one of the more involved committees; but he is passionate, and has a very strong opinion when it comes to fairness and transparency regarding rules and regulations of Vail's Grove. Hugh Andrews throws himself into his position of Chair of Buildings and Grounds harder than anyone else on this board. He is consistently performing services for the residents here with the help of Jay and many others. He made sure that our beach was going to be the gem that we all see that it is. He was immediately on top of the removal of many dead trees in the Grove so that the accident that happened on Labor Day 2020, never repeated itself. He is forever thinking of ideas to make Vail's Grove better than it already is. It will be with his expertise and willingness to go above and beyond that the new Playground will be as beautiful as the Beach. He always makes himself available for meeting with residents, whether to measure their property or explain why or why not they can do something. His service to the board goes above and beyond. He is a pleasure to work with, and his fiery passion, which may at times seem like anger, ALWAYS comes with the best interest of this community and its residents in mind.

It is my pleasure to award the Chairperson's service award to Hugh Andrews.

I believe I have saved the best for last. There are many challenges that we all face in life. How we choose to deal with those challenges, many times determine who we are and how we lead our lives. This resident has been here all his life. He can always be seen walking around the streets, and he always has a kind word and a smile for every resident he comes in contact with. He never served in the military, or the police or the fire service, but he is the biggest supporter of all those members. He takes great pride in being the Master of Ceremonies on the 4th of July; and he, I believe, takes even more pride in his Santa Suit at the Holiday Party or even better, riding around last year in his brand new Vail's Grove Sled spreading joy to all the children and adults who live in this community. When the pandemic was at its peak; and we were all shut in, James made sure that he was always walking behind his Aunt Helen and her Honda Fit Music Kayak/Car encouraging all of us to celebrate and feel better about life as it had become. James is no stranger to adversity or challenges; but his gift of service to everyone in this community goes beyond words. His actions are what speak volumes of his life. There are few people who can make lemonade from lemons; but James does that every day. His willingness to answer the bell when asked for help is what makes him the man he is today. I am forever grateful that I know James Collins and can call him my friend. I could not be more proud of him, and I'm sure I speak for all Board Members who are also proud of him and what he means to the residents of Vail's Grove.

It is my pleasure to award the Chairperson's service award to James Collins.



Office News

From Cindy

The 2021 Annual Meeting was held on September 19, 2021. Thank you to all who attended and thank you for the return of so many proxies. We are pleased to announce the re-election of Juliann Salerno, Thomas Duffy, and Joan Myers. We welcome to the Board, Sarah Broderick, Dawn DiDomenico, and Jill Olimpieri.

Beginning in January 2022, Finance Charges on quarterly payments will start to be assessed again. Bills go out January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Payment is due in full on the last day of the month. Finance Charges are assessed at the start of the next month. If a bill goes out at start of January; it is due, paid in full by January 31. On February 1st, Finance Charges are assessed. Charges are assessed monthly until amount due is paid. If you sent your payment late, you still are responsible for the Finance Charge that has been assessed. Thank you for your cooperation.

Enclosed with this Vails Voice is an information sheet for the 2022 Directory. The office has not published a directory since 2020. If you are in directory and there are NO changes, then no need to send anything in. If you are not in directory and would like to be, please fill out the form and have it back to office by November 10th. Due to scheduling, there will be no extensions. If you are in the directory and have changes, additions, deletions, please submit the form as well by November 10th. Also, no extensions. This directory is paid for by local business as advertisers. If you have a business and would like to advertise and support the directory, please submit a business card and check for \$35 for that size ad. If you would like the back cover, the price is \$150; inside back cover \$130; ½ page \$80; and full page \$100. If you want to receive Robo-calls, put the best number on the form where it states "Robo-call". If you want e-mails, put that address on the form where it says "e-mail".

If you would like a copy of the 2018/2019 Financials, please let me know and I will send it to you.

The office requests that prior to doing anything on your leased property, check the Rules and call the office. It's always better to ask for the correct way prior to proceeding. Same for a lot of things. This is a Cooperative; and as such, you were all vetted and approved to purchase and live here. You cannot have someone move into your home without approval. If you have any questions about anything, you should send an e-mail to the office. It is the best way to be sure you are receiving correct info.

As I am sitting here writing this, I just watched a resident drive around the speed bumps on the playground grass and back onto road. The bumps are there for a reason. The speeding here in the Grove has become out of hand. We have so many children here, and we do not want anyone to get hurt. Drive slowly. Leave your house a few minutes earlier if need be. Do not go out Ramp 2 during school bus hours. The entrance to that ramp will be closed while the children are waiting for the bus to keep contractors, etc., from turning in to the Grove. And last, but certainly not least, keep your dogs on a leash, pick up after them and DO NOT place poop bags in other resident's trash cans.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for being so dedicated to the betterment of the Grove. Thanks to anyone and everyone who volunteers for anything here at the Grove. And thank you to Ronnie Waltzer, Sue Enos, and former resident Sharon Scott for hiring me on October 10, 2006. 15 YEARS AGO!!!!!! It is my pleasure to continue to do this job with enjoyment, with kids visiting me and getting a piece of candy, with folks coming in to say hello, with watching kids grow up, get married and come back to live here with their children. Who else gets to work in such a glorious location? I am truly lucky!



The NY Blood Center is very grateful to Vails Grove for allowing them to use this wonderful Pavilion monthly. **THERE PRESENTLY IS AN EMERGENCY BLOOD SHORTAGE.** The following are the dates for the 2021 Blood Drives: **October 4, November 1 and December 6.** Please donate; if you never have, this is a great time to start. It is the gift of life and effortless. Once you start, you will not stop.



Sunshine News

From Sue Enos

Congratulations to Ken and Laura Rhuda on the birth of a girl, Quinn



Condolences

To Joan Myers on the passing of her dad, Irv Bernstein.



Vail's Grove Lend A Hand Committee

"A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions and the roots spring up and make new trees"
-Amelia Earhart

Over this past trying year, the Lend-A-Hand Committee has quietly been connecting neighbor to neighbor, as needed, to arrange rides to medical appointments, cook meals, pick up groceries or medicines for neighbors.

We are always looking for new members and ways to improve our services. If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers, come to a brainstorming meeting on Monday, October 25th at my house, 87 Vails Lake Shore Drive, for wine and cheese. Call Helen Vail 845-661-4082.



Boat Ramp/North End Storage

From Patrick McGuinness

North End Storage/Boat Ramp



Greetings neighbors! What do you know, neither the boat ramp nor the North End have washed away from all this rain!! Both are still there, intact and ready to be used for the migration to the winter storage home for all our watercrafts and such. Perhaps like me, you were a little disappointed in Mother Nature this summer, as far as the amounts of rain we've had pretty much since Memorial Day weekend. But, alas, once again as in summers past, docks and vessels will need to find their way to the tarps that protect them during the winter months. Keys, patience, coordination and communication among all that partake in this seasonal lake removal routine is always the recipe of the day. For those of you that are new at this, there are several key holders throughout Vails (list available in the office) that can provide you with a key for both areas. Keys must be returned within the same day as they are used, please. Also, please be sure to lock any gates used immediately after use. Keyholders may ask you to sign out your key if you are going to need a key for more than a few hours. As someone else might request that same key on the same day, the sign out not only helps keep track of the keys, but allows us to inform you as to who has it. Hopefully, you can use the gates at the same time. As always, I anticipate no problems with this process; but if there are any issues, feel free to contact myself (Pat McGuinness), Jay or the office.

Thank you in advance to Jay for the assistance he provides during this time as well as Hugh Andrews for his building and grounds support and to all of you for making this transition from lake to land hassle free for each other.

Pump House

Greetings again neighbors! Thankfully, there is not much to share with you in regard to the pump house that was not already shared with you in the last Vails Voice. The facility has been running hassle free as the daily testing of chlorine levels and mechanical workings will prove. Any issues in water interruption have not been as a result of a failure of any kind in the pump house. We continue to monitor the Pump House, as previously mentioned, on a daily basis (yes, on weekends, too for those of you new to this operating building in Vails) to ensure our water quality meets the highest standards required. As always, many thanks to Jay and VRI for their continued assistance in meeting all requirements associated with the pump house.

Recreation Committee

Vail's Grove 2nd Annual Cardboard Regatta

A record TEN teams competed in the 2nd annual Vail's Grove Cardboard Regatta, held Monday, September 6, at the Frank Cassidy Memorial Beach. All boats – made only of cardboard and duct tape - were built on site with markers, crayons, colored tape, etc., allowed for decoration. Teams were given two hours to construct their boats, which were then raced from the dock to the north rope using double paddles, single paddles, noodles and cardboard paddles to propel the vessels. An enthusiastic crowd of supporters filled the beach and cheered the sailors on to the finish. Prizes included a certificate and large box of Swedish Fish.

Winners (names as submitted)

- ❖ **Best Team**
#1 We Need a Bigger Boat / Amelia Vail (15), Sarah, Nina Carlson
- ❖ **Best Sportsmanship**
#2 The Aud / Johanna Vail (13), Audrey, Rich Vail
- ❖ **Best Decoration**
#3 Grumpy Scupps / Jill Paxton, Rod, Keith, Keaton
- ❖ **Titanic (most spectacular sink)**
#4 The Flying Dutchman / Connor Lesczczynski (16), Patrick Lesczczynski (12), Brendan Lesczczynski (10), Sheamus Lesczczynski (8)
- ❖ **First to Finish and Best Name**
#5 SS Poopy Heads / Simon Rubini, John Collins – virtually (18), Matteo Rubini – virtually (19)
- ❖ **Best Theme**
#7 Irish Rover / Jack Acocella (9), Kayleigh Acocella (12)
- ❖ **First to Sink and Most Interesting Design**
#8 The Lost Hope / Angel Sierra, Roberto Sierra (11), Maya Sierra (12)
- ❖ **Longest Afloat**
- ❖ **People's Choice**
- ❖ **Holder of the Vail's Grove Cardboard Regatta Statue**
#10 Candy Manor / Steve LaRocca, Jason LaRocca, Sam LaRocca (6), Ali LaRocca (5)

CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA



Starting line at dock



Judges: Caitlin, Linda, Peter, Helen



Candy Manor - longest afloat



*Simon Rubin finishes first in
Poopy Heads*