

VAIL'S VOICE

Newsletter of the Vail's Grove Community
located on Peach Lake
Editor: Carol Harting: c.harting@verizon.net



OCTOBER 2025

Greetings from the Chair

By Joan Myers

Welcome to Fall! 🍂

On Sunday, September 14, the Vail's Board of Directors held its 2025 Annual Meeting. This important meeting closes out the past year's business and finalizes the election of board members whose terms have expired. We're happy to share that the following incumbents were re-elected for three-year terms: David Janecek, Pat McGuinness, Ellen Mytych, and Jason LaRocca. In addition, Todd Cammisa was newly elected to the 2025–2026 Board, also for a three-year term.

A special congratulations goes to David Janecek, who received the Chairperson's Service Award for 2025. After more than 10 years of dedicated service on the board, David has been an extraordinary volunteer. His commitment and guidance with our long-term planning document have helped us accomplish so much this year. We also want to welcome back Todd Cammisa, who wasted no time jumping in to help. Todd has already started revitalizing the north end ball field, aiming to create a space for young families to enjoy. He also rolled up his sleeves to replace the door at the garages near the Pavilion.

Speaking of the Pavilion and surrounding grounds, you'll notice ongoing cleanup and repairs in the coming months. To support this effort, we ask that all kayaks, canoes, rowboats, and other personal items currently stored at the Pavilion, co-op right-of-ways, or fire roads be moved to your own property no later than October 31, 2025. Some of these items have been sitting untouched for years, and clearing them away will help keep our community looking its best.

We've also added new tables and umbrellas to the playground. Thanks to Liz Getter's generosity towards the basketball court, a new bench and a sports box for equipment will soon be available for all to enjoy. William Gouin also deserves a huge thank-you for donating the painting of the basketball courts—and for sharing his delicious peaches and apples with our community!

The tennis courts are nearly finished! Fencing and painting should be wrapped up in the coming weeks. We're also exploring a key card system to help keep our new courts secure while remaining accessible.

Looking ahead, there will be opportunities to support PLEC, which works hard to combat the growing weed issue in our lake. Healthy lake water doesn't just benefit waterfront homes—it helps protect the property value of every home in Vail's Grove. We encourage everyone to give what they can, in whatever way feels comfortable.

And finally, as autumn days grow shorter and evenings darker, please remember to drive slowly through our neighborhood. Children are often out on scooters, bikes, and on foot, and we want everyone to stay safe.

Wishing you a wonderful fall season, Joan

Peach Lake Restoration Initiative

Our lake has always been at the heart of our community — a place for boating, fishing, swimming, and making memories with family and friends. In recent years, however, we've seen growing challenges: invasive weeds, declining water quality, and erosion that threaten both the health of the lake and the enjoyment we all share. To ensure that our lake remains clean, safe, and vibrant for generations to come, we are launching a restoration initiative. This project will directly address these concerns and protect one of our community's most valuable resources.

Restoring our lake is not just an environmental project — it's an investment in our quality of life, property values, and the legacy we leave for future residents. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps bring us closer to our goal. Together, we can safeguard the beauty and health of the lake we all cherish. Please consider making a donation today to support this vital project and keep our community strong, connected, and thriving.

HELP US SAVE PEACH LAKE!

Milfoil is Invading our Lake

⊗ Impairs Recreation ⊗ Impacts Fish Habitat ⊗ Outcompetes Native Plants!

May 2026 Treatment will provide full-lake multi-year control!

Proposed 2026 treatment area is entire littoral zone of Peach Lake & Peach Lake Brook.

No Water Use Restrictions: No restrictions on swimming, fishing, or drinking water use following application!

Treatment cost \$90,000

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Venmo name is @PLEC2025

GoFundMe link: <https://gofund.me/677a65fa>

Donations to PLEC are tax deductible and will go directly toward treatment.

All mail in donations can be sent to: PLEC c/o Charlie Voelkl, 23 Bonnieview St, North Salem, NY 10560

Holiday Pop-Up with Hour Lake - October 2025

Hi Vail's Grove friends and neighbors - It's Sandy, I am so excited to be back again this Fall to continue supporting the Vail's Grove Tennis/Pickleball Fundraising Project. Hope you all had a wonderful summer. Your support has meant so much to the Vail's Grove community let's keep the momentum going! SEE DATES BELOW.

Get a head start on your holiday shopping or upcoming birthdays with EXCLUSIVE Peach Lake Merch - perfect for you, your family and anyone who loves your lake. From cozy apparel to unique gifts, there's something for everyone on your list.

And best of all - a portion of all the profits will be donated directly to support the final touches of the Vail's Grove tennis/pickleball courts, such as water stations, shrubs, parking upgrades, card system.

shop & Pre Order your favorites OCTOBER 14th - 17th in the office with me or shop online

www.hourlake.com / @hourlake click on Pre Order "Vail's Grove" Community. ALL ORDERS WILL BE READY APPROXIMATELY AROUND WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19th. Can't wait to see you all! Cheers, Sandy

Boat Ramp/North End Storage

From Pat McGuinness

Our annual migration from lake to North End is under way. Please be respectful and careful regarding the property of others as this transition takes place. As always, you are strongly encouraged to take a walk down to the north end prior to moving trailers to avoid any issues when you are ultimately ready to store. All dues must be paid in full prior to use at the north end. Forms for north end storage are in glass enclosure at the office. Please complete fully and mail or put in box in door if it is after office hours. Cindy will mail sticker to you or stop in the office. Waterproof stickers with waterproof numbers assigned to each owner will be given out to apply to trailers, boats, jetskis, etc. Additionally, contact name and phone number must be CLEARLY visible, written either on the wraps or directly on the frame of your trailer in the event you need to be contacted for ANY reason. Failure to do so could result in improper use fine. The north end is now storing at full capacity so contact info, patience and cooperation are of the utmost importance. We want everyone that takes advantage of the north end to be able to have peace of mind knowing their property is safe. Please DO NOT move anyone else's trailer(s) without permission and prior notification with the owner. Please adhere to all the rules and regulations as written on the signs posted at the entry gates and on the tree in the yard. Names and contact information of all owners are available at the office during working hours if needed. Thank you in advance for all of your cooperation.

All boats must be removed from Vail's Grove community docks no later than October 25, 2025. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Pump House

From Pat McGuinness

The plans to replace our backup generator at the Pump House should commence in November of this year. In the meantime, our current generator is fully operational and continues to self test successfully each week. There are no issues with the operation of our pump house or our water supply thanks to the daily testing and monitoring provided by VRI. Our thanks once again to VRI for keeping our water supply safe for all the residents of Vail's Grove. Please be mindful, we are still in a drought so conserve water where and when you can.

Office News

from Cindy



I see so many driving so fast coming down Ramp 1 and speeding up Locust or Vail's Lake Shore Drive. The children use the playground and we need to be attentive to their safety. Please drive slower.

The Annual Meeting was held on September 14, 2025. The Board of Directors for 2025-2026 are: Joan Myers, Chairperson; David Janecek – Vice-Chairperson; Mary Rubini – Vice President; Ellen Mytych – Treasurer; Thomas Duffy – Secretary
Sarah Broderick, Todd Cammisa, Paul DeFelice, Jason LaRocca, Pat McGuinness, Jill Olimpieri, Julie Salerno and Peter Vincent
Thank you all for volunteering.

Enclosed in this mailing is your October 2025 invoice. Please don't send in the 2026 first quarter until you get informed of any changes.

Please e-mail the office if you have any issues, questions, etc. It is better for me to have it in writing.

The 2024 Annual Drinking Quality Report is on the website, www.vailsgrove.us, or you can pick up a copy in the office.

Treasurers report

from Ellen Mytych

Happy Fall, neighbors. Just wanted to let everyone know ahead of time of the possibility that our Quarterlies may increase in 2026 by a modest amount to reflect the increasing cost of goods and services. The recommendation will likely be 2.5%. If the Board approves a 2.5% increase, it would represent an increase of approximately \$5.30 per month. I'll post another notice in the January 2026 Vails Voice confirming how the Board voted, but wanted to mention this possibility so that you can budget accordingly. Thank you.

Sunshine News

If you know of anyone who needs a little sunshine, please contact the office.



Get well wishes to Anne Marie Keiley and Mike Salerno

Condolences

to the family of Don Burrows



Welcome to new babies: Harlow to Justin and Romy Werner and Lucy Margaret born to Thomas and Christine Vail; and congrats to Grandma Moira Tolan on the birth of Grace to Leenie and Peter Carey, Mae to Helen and Garrett Murman and Corinne to Moira and Colman Duffy; and congrats to Grandma Cindy Battreal on the birth of her first grandchild, Palmer

Monroe.



to Helen Tolan and Kristjan Koestner
Rosa Thoma and Jonathan Flink

Spotlight on Volunteers: Fran and Kerry Tolan

Celebrating the Heart of Vail's Grove Summer Traditions by Mary Rubini

Each summer, the Vail's Grove community gathers at the pavilion, where laughter, games, and sweet concession treats create unforgettable memories for kids and adults alike. This cherished tradition owes much to the dedicated volunteers who make it possible, and as the Summer officially comes to an end, I would like to shine a spotlight on Fran and Kerry Tolan.

Fran and Kerry have generously given their time to run the Vail's Grove concession for the kids this summer. Their commitment to creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere at the pavilion is one of the highlights of the season. The concession stand is more than just a place to purchase a tasty treat—it's a hub where friendships grow, games are played, and the spirit of community shines bright.

Many in our community have fond memories of coming down to the pavilion, excited to hang out with friends and enjoy the simple pleasures of summer. The tradition of the concession stand is a time-honored part of our summers at Vail's Grove, and it's something all the kids look forward to year after year.

It is volunteers like Fran and Kerry who make our community truly special. By giving their time and energy, they ensure that this beloved tradition continues for future generations. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Tolans for their dedication and for helping create the magic of summer at Vail's Grove. Thank you, Fran and Kerry, for making a difference and for being the heart of our community!

Chairperson's Service Award

by Joan Myers



It's a privilege to be here today to celebrate our community and to award The Vail's Grove Chairperson Award. This award is given to a person who truly embodies our shared values—someone who works tirelessly, not for recognition, but because they believe in what we can achieve together.

This year, that person is a man who has been a constant presence and a source of unwavering support for a very long time. I'm talking about our friend, Dave.

When we think of someone who is always willing to lend a hand, Dave is the first person who comes to mind. His dedication to our community is second to none, and his willingness to volunteer for any task, big or small, has made a profound impact. He has a remarkable ability

to problem-solve and find a way forward, no matter the challenge. A perfect example is the amazing spreadsheet he created to help us all track our community goals. It's been a huge help and a testament to his practical and supportive nature.

Beyond his contributions, Dave is simply a loyal, kind, and supportive neighbor and friend. He makes Vails Grove a better place just by being in it.

So, on behalf of all of us, it is my honor to present the Vails Grove Chairperson Award to a man who truly deserves it. Congratulations, Dave!

Membership Committee

– Jill Olimpieri and Joan Myers

Welcome to...

Abigail MacDonald and Mark Buettler at 24 Orchard Road

Malissa Antonucci at 2 Maple Lane

Mandy Stewart at 8 Terrace Drive

BULK LEAF PICK UP

Here are the tentative dates we have scheduled for bulk leaves/branch pick up this fall. Vail's Grove will have the right to change or cancel dates depending on circumstances and weather.

Dates: all Mondays – 10/13-10/27-11/10-11/24-12/8-12/22

Leaves will be picked up from garbage pails or in piles near the road. Please do not put leaves in paper bags as they will not be picked up. Vail's Grove residents will be required to have leaves by the roadside (not on road) by 8 PM the night prior to pick up.

Rain dates will be the next day.

Cardboard Regatta

We again want to thank Carol Reif for the two-page spread and wonderful write-up that the North Salem News gave this event in the September 10th edition

The Winners

AGE GROUP	CAPTAIN	BOAT
5-10	Roman Kameron	
11-18	Keaton Paxton-Cumming	
Over 18	Rob Lee	

Best Team Spirit	Keaton Paxton-Cumming	Loch-Mess Monster
Best Structural Design	Roman Kameron	The Speeder
Best Stay Afloat	Simon and Matteo Rubini	Dred Naught
Best Oars and Paddles	Brynn Early and Mike Early	Sunset Paradise
Best Theme	Roman Jaramillo; Hank Myers	Ace of Spades
Best Costume	Nina Fox	Battle Cat
Best Boat Name	Rose Thoma	Rosey Dawn III
People's Choice	Nina Fox	Battle Cat
Titanic awarded for the most spectacular sinking	Hanna Vail	Jaws 50

Recreation Report by Peter Vincent



Hope everyone had a great summer! And what a great summer it was at Vail's Grove! Our community hosted so many wonderful events this year, and everyone enjoyed celebrating the warm days and nights together.

We had our Annual 4th of July Parade and Ceremony, and it was so great to celebrate the holiday alongside so many of our friends and neighbors. And let's not forget our sixth annual Cardboard Regatta. Special thanks to Helen Vail for organizing and congratulations to this year's winners! We also enjoyed Movie Night on the Beach, as well as our end of the season Beach Party. Thank you to everyone who helped to make all of these events a success!

Although summer may be over, the fun will continue! We have more movie nights and our Halloween Dance Party coming up in October! Stay tuned for more details.

Also, be sure to save the date for the Annual Vail's Grove Christmas Party, Saturday December 13th!

