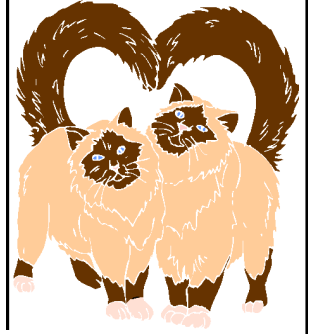


Happy  
Valentine's  
Day



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[www.MidwayRanches.com](http://www.MidwayRanches.com)



Your board members: President – Jack Arrington, Vice President – Arlen Mathies, Secretary – Margaret Tiegen, Members at Large – Kathleen Darnell and Al Aldecocea – Contact the board at [mrpoa@midwayranches.com](mailto:mrpoa@midwayranches.com)

### Upcoming Elections

Our annual member meeting has been scheduled for May 21, 2010 at 6:30 PM. The Board will advise you of the location as soon as it is reserved. We are looking to hold the meeting at Prairie Heights Elementary School Gymnasium. Arrangements to hold the meeting at the school are under negotiation.

This year, there is one position open for elections. Jack Arrington's term will expire in May and he will be running for a second term. The Board would like interested landowners to submit their resumes beginning now. The Board will accept resumes until end of day, April 16, 2010. This will allow the Board to mail all resumes to the landowners, together with a ballot in the May, 2010 newsletter.

Any landowner in good standing is eligible to run for the Board. A member in good standing must be current with dues, not in any violation of the covenants, etc. Resumes can be emailed directly to [mrpoa@midwayranches.com](mailto:mrpoa@midwayranches.com) or can be mailed to MRPOA Board at 2454 Waynoka Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80915. The Board is looking forward to your submittal.

### Fire District News

The Pueblo County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) approved the Service Plan on January 19, 2010. Jack Arrington, Arlen Mathies, and Al Aldecocea attended the session. All went well, there were no objections from the community, or any government departments and the Service Plan was approved.

The next step is to petition the Circuit Court. The petition will request several items from the Court, they are as follows:

- 1) The creation of the Fire District.
- 2) The creation of the taxing authority.
- 3) Request to "De-Tabor" the Fire District.
- 4) Order the County Clerk to add the requests on the November elections.

The Midway Ranches Fire District committee is very happy with the progress that has been made and are looking forward to the next steps.

### Past Due MRPOA Bills

Beginning next month, any past due bills owed to Midway Ranches Property Owners Association (billed through Wigwam Mutual Water Co.) will be turned over to a collection agency. Overdue accounts that are not paid in full within 30 days, could affect your credit rating and could result in liens and foreclosure proceedings on your property.

### Covenant Violation Reporting

Covenant violations for review by the board of directors can be submitted by any association member by sending an email to [MRPOABoard@MidwayRanches.com](mailto:MRPOABoard@MidwayRanches.com) or alternatively, you can complete the "Send Request" form on our website [www.MidwayRanches.com](http://www.MidwayRanches.com) Building permits, health code violations, etc can also be verified by utilizing the links under the Government section of the Local Contacts page on the website as well.

### Trash Containment

Each homeowner has the responsibility to keep their trash contained. Trash must be kept in County approved containers and under no circumstances allowed to be carried by the wind around or outside of your property line.

*The Pueblo County Health Ordinance is very specific on this matter and can result in fines and ultimately the condemnation of property. MRPOA also has the right to pay for clean up and bill the landowner for services rendered.*

Please insure your trash is contained at all times and properly disposed of. Waste Management is the only company currently servicing Midway Ranches. They can be reached at (719) 545-9232. Monthly service costs start at around \$30.00 per month and includes the lease of the container.





## In February We Remind You To Love Your Animals

Take the proper care of your animals while respecting your neighbors & their property. This will insure your animal's health & safety as well as the safety of others. Allowing animals to run or bark is a nuisance & will have penalties that follow county law.

### **Control of Your Dogs**

#### Dogs Running Loose

Pueblo County Resolution No. 92-396, Providing for the Control and Licensing of Dogs in the Unincorporated Area of Pueblo County, states it is "illegal to permit any dog to run at large in the unincorporated areas of Pueblo County unless the dog is accompanied by and under the immediate control and restraint of the owner." Uncontrolled dogs can present a serious risk to livestock and wildlife. Dog owners are responsible for their dog's actions, and may be held liable and fined for damages their dogs cause to livestock, wildlife and other property owner's rights.

Please insure you maintain control of your pets at all times and not allow them to run free.

#### Dogs Consistent Barking

It is important to pay attention to your dog's barking habits. The Pueblo county laws will apply even when your dog is home alone.

County Law: 6.04.040E. It is unlawful for the owner or any person having custody of a dog to keep or permit upon any premises, lot or parcel of land in the unincorporated areas of Pueblo County which by any sound disturbs the peace & comfort of any neighborhood, or in any manner present a nuisance or menace to the public. For the purposes of this section, it shall be presumed that barking, whining, howling, baying or crying of any dog continuously for a period of time in excess of 5 minutes or intermittently for a period of time in excess of 1 hour, which is plainly audible from neighboring properties, constitutes a nuisance.

Incessant barking can be very disturbing to the peace & quiet of a neighborhood. In addition, it violates City & County ordinances to harbor such a disturbance. If your neighbor's noisy pet is habitually disturbing you, please call pueblo Animal Services at 544-3005 extension 4, to learn about possible courses of action.

### **Livestock Running Loose**

Colorado law stipulates that if a livestock owner loses control of their animals and the animals cause damage, the grieved party can take control of your livestock until the damage is repaid. Until the damage is satisfied, the person holding your livestock can charge you reasonable daily fee for the care of your livestock.

If the damage and fees are not paid within a reasonable time, the Brand Inspector will take possession of the livestock and sell them at auction. Proceeds from the sale would first be used to pay for fees/damages and any remaining amounts will be given to the owner.

Please insure you have adequate fencing, in good repair, to keep your livestock within your property. The MRPOA Covenants require all property owners to keep their animals "fenced & under control at all times".

### **School District News**

School's open again after the Holiday Vacation. Please remember to look out for our students as you drive during school hours. The speed limit within the school zone is 20 MPH. There have been several times when the El Paso County Sheriff has placed enforcement around the school. The fines are quite steep for speeding in a school zone, \$20.00 for each mile over the speed limit. Going 30 MPH will get you a \$200.00 fine plus Court costs. To add insult to injury, you will also be assessed three points on your driving record. Your insurance company will have a field day.

Please take a look at the new school sign as you enter the parking lot. Keep an eye out for late breaking school news, they will be posted on the sign.

### **January 20<sup>th</sup> Hanover Board of Education Meeting**

The recent Hanover Board meeting just scratched the surface of all of the talk going around. The meeting was opened & various items were addressed. Among them was the 21<sup>st</sup> century grant update by Christine Fischer. This grant will provide better after school help for students among other things. The asbestos risk at Hanover elementary was discussed & the school has been cleared at this time by building inspectors. When asked if the letter going around to parents about the schools is accurate the board said that it would be addressed at the open meetings that are set for a later date.

If you are concerned about our schools, please plan to attend some of the future open community meetings to have your questions answered.

Check the Midway Ranches website events calendar for updated meeting dates & times concerning our schools. There are currently meetings scheduled on February 3rd & 6th with many more to come. Meeting dates will be posted on the calendar as they are scheduled.

The budget for Hanover will be posted on the Hanover School's website at <http://hanover.ppbooces.org/> at this website you may also email questions in advance so that answers will be prepared before the open meetings.

Do you want to rate our school or see how our school ranks? Check out these websites:

<http://www.greatschools.org/> to rate our schools & see what others have to say.

<http://reportcard.cde.state.co.us/reportcard/CommandHandler.jsp> to see all of the school's accountability reports. These reports give tons of information.