



**APRIL 2025**

## **Greetings from the Chair** From Joan Gabel Myers

Happy Spring to our wonderful Vails Grove Community! Winter and snow are officially (I hope!!!) in the rearview mirror as we embark into the warm and sunny Spring months!

I'm sure we are all looking forward to longer days with warmer temperatures! The sun has been shining and the flowers are starting to bloom! Birds have been preparing their nests for their eggs, and the lake has been teeming with swans and other water fowl. Even the eagles have been out and about!

The lake is warming up and soon we will see families excitedly getting their boats ready for launch. Grandparents, parents and children will be at the playground enjoying the beautiful weather and more and more families will be walking together outside.

The Spring equinox is a time for reflection, and renewal. This special time offers us a chance to take pause and consider how we might bring more balance and harmony into our lives. We can reconnect with our neighbors and friends and prioritize rebuilding our relationships in the community.

## **SPOTLIGHT ON A VOLUNTEER** by Mary Rubini

With so much negativity in the world today, I would like to take a moment to focus on one of the many many volunteers here in Vail's Grove. Volunteerism is part of what makes Vail's Grove so special. Today I want to give a shout out to Denise Andrews. For those of you that might not know her, she is the chairperson of the welcome committee. Denise curates the beautiful welcome baskets that are given out to new shareholders when they purchase their home. These welcome baskets are not just any welcome baskets, they are bespoke and carefully tailored to the individual purchasers. A single woman moving in might get a basket filled with spa goodies, a family moving onto the lake might get a lemonade set.... It is clear that Denise puts in a tremendous amount of thought and care into these gift baskets. Since I have represented many buyers and sellers in the Grove, it is often my job to deliver the welcome baskets at the closings. The joy that these baskets give to the new homeowners is evident in their beaming smiles. What a great way to set the tone for these newcomers, they truly feel welcome and appreciated.

## Office News from Cindy



WE ARE TRYING TO GET EVERYONE'S E-MAILS SO WE CAN COMMUNICATE IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO YOU. ALSO, IF YOU WANT TO BE ON THE ROBO CALLS, LET ME KNOW.  
ENJOY SPRING AND LOOK FORWARD TO SUMMER!!!

I am so happy winter is over and the children are coming into the office to say hello and get a piece of candy when they get off the bus. I watch them through the window having a wonderful time at the Playground. THE BEST!!

The next three Vails Grove Board meetings will be April 17, May 15 and June 19 at 8:00 PM. The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

Before you rent your house in the Town of Southeast, you need to get an Occupancy Permit. Please contact the Town for more information.

The 2022/2023 audited financials are in the office or let me know if you want me to mail them to you.

PLEASE: The only things that should be in leaf bags are leaves. Limbs should be cut into 4-foot lengths and tied neatly together with rope. DO NOT PUT DIRT IN BAGS, PLEASE.

Oil tank insurance must be renewed each year and a copy of insurance needs to be sent to the office.

A BIG thank you to Mr. Bob Fischer for donating wonderful rectangle tables to the Pavilion!!!

The AWQR – Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024 is complete – it will be posted on the website and you are welcome to get a copy in the office

If you have not done so already, please submit the North End Storage form and \$100 and I will give you stickers. The office will let you all know when dock rental applications are available. If you have any applications for the Board, please submit 21 days prior to the next Board meeting. Please make sure to look at your quarterly invoice so you are reminded how much the charge is for 2025

### FROM CAROL HARTING



Ellen Mytych sent this Treasurer's report for inclusion in the January newsletter to me as editor of the newsletter but due to traveling over the holiday, I missed getting it in. It is now being included as it was originally sent

Hope everyone is enjoying the Holiday season so far. I wanted to share with you that our Board of Directors has been very conscientious when it comes to spending, and I have every confidence that this will continue through 2025. In 2024, the Board made some much needed investments in our community, such as the new roof on the pavilion and major improvements to our storm drain system. The funding for these expenses came from our capital fund, and we need to start replenishing that fund for future major improvements. As part of our 2025 budget, the Board agreed to a \$25.00 quarterly assessment, which will begin January 1 and last through December 31. Also, as with prior years, the quarterly fee is being raised by a modest amount of 2.5%, which is consistent with the Cost of Living Adjustment for 2025.



## **Pump House** From Pat McGuinness

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Discussions are under way and requests for bids will start going out towards the upgrading of the emergency generator at the pump house. While the current generator is fully operational, an upgrade will be needed at some point. For those unaware, the generator is on a self-test which happens at midday every Wednesday. If you happen to be walking your dog or just strolling at the north end during the mid-afternoon hours you may hear it running. As I live directly across from the pump house, I can affirm it has been working like clockwork on those Wednesdays that I happen to be home and can hear it. Luckily, we've had no recent incidents for which the generator would have been needed and let's hope that trend continues indefinitely. Back up measures are already in place for the rental of a generator if our current generator fails prior to replacement or if one is needed while a new installation is taking place. All I's will be dotted and T's will be crossed and everyone will be notified when this project finally gets underway.

## **Boat Ramp/North End Storage** From Pat McGuinness

As the days towards our boat launches are quickly approaching, please keep the following in mind. There are new signs with rules and regulations that have been posted on the gate at the North End as well as one of the trees that come up on your right side as you come to the boat storage lot. Please adhere to all rules and regulations. It is strongly advised that you make your way to the North End well in advance of your planned day of removal. Obviously, you will then be able to access if any arrangements need to be made with others that may be unintentionally obstructing access to your vessel(s). It would also be a good time to re-write your contact information on your wrapping or duct tape if for some reason you need to be contacted. If you need to contact someone and their name is not immediately apparent, information is associated with the assigned tag numbers at the office. Names and contact information of key holders are printed on the signs at the North End as well as on the Vails Grove website. There may be a name change here and there that would need to be updated since the signs were put up. This contact information will be updated (if necessary) in the weeks to come. Of course, as always, COMMUNICATION, CONSIDERATION and PATIENCE are of the utmost importance amongst all who will use and access the North End during this time. Please DO NOT MOVE OR RELOCATE ANY one else's property without prior arrangements being made with your fellow owners. If an outside source is hired, they must be made aware that they cannot touch another person's property without prior arrangements. Hopefully, this will help to avoid situations like last year and years past when damage occurred where it could have been avoided. Such occurrences could result in fines and/or restricted use of the North End, not to mention actions being taken by affected owners. Obviously, we want to avoid any negative outcomes at all costs so please, adhere to the rules, plan ahead as best you can and make all necessary contacts (if needed) so that everything goes as smoothly as possible. Once again, THANK YOU ALL in advance for your cooperation and support throughout this process. Enjoy the upcoming season and see ya on the waves!

## **Buildings and Grounds** from Michael Early

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The weather is starting to improve, and nice days are surely ahead of us. Which brings lots of outdoor activities. Gentle reminder to slow down and please observe the 10 MPH speed limit while traveling through Vails Grove. Spring weather is a great opportunity for a variety of maintenance projects throughout the community-- infrastructure repairs, road work, etc. A vacuum truck will soon be cleaning out our catch basins and storm drain system to keep them flowing appropriately. Please do your best to not impede their efforts. The boat docks will be heading back in the water soon for the season. Anyone willing to lend any assistance can contact me. Michael Early Tel. 845-216-8442 [Michaelearly1@yahoo.com](mailto:Michaelearly1@yahoo.com) Upcoming events and parties attract many guests to the community. Consideration for neighbors is appreciated. Kindly ask visitors to use caution and avoid parking on the roads. Preferably park in the many community lots. Certain streets are narrow and almost one lane. Street parking can make passing difficult and block traffic. One of the wonderful aspects of our neighborhood is the safety of our roads. Please keep an eye out and use caution for the many children, joggers, pets and bicyclists. Wishing everyone a wonderful spring.



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# Membership Committee

– Jill Olimpieri and Joan Myers

## Welcome to...

Alyssa Sullivan and Kevin Spillane at 28 Vail's Lake Shore Drive  
William Gouin at 25 Orchard Road  
Elizabeth and Patrick Gallagher at 14 Locust Road  
Kristin and Fred Bosse at 111 Vail's Lake Shore Drive  
Ana Hofmann at 7 Hilltop Lane  
Christina and Thomas Vail at 79 Vail's Lake Shore Drive

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## Recreation Report

From the Recreation Committee: Sarah Broderick, Julie Salerno, Peter Vincent, Nicole Early, Meghan Cassidy

We had such a fun night at BINGO! Thanks to everyone that came out and congratulations to our winners.

The Easter Bunny is hopping through on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Bring your Kiddos down to the playground to collect eggs. Be on the lookout for some special golden eggs as well.

A calendar has been posted on Facebook for some fun throughout the year but for now mark down June 7 for the beach party, July 3 for movie night at the beach and of course our annual July 4<sup>th</sup> parade .

## Beach Report

Greetings from the Beach Committee: Paul DeFelice and Chris Dress

Spring is here and we are looking forward to a fun and safe summer at the beach. Opening Day will be May 24<sup>th</sup> and the lifeguards will be on duty for the weekends until June 21<sup>st</sup>. That following week the lifeguards will be covering 7 days a week. Hours of operation will be 10:00 am until 7:00 pm on weekdays and 11:00 am until 8:00 pm on weekends.

Anyone interested in applying for a lifeguard position can pick up an application at the office or at the Vails website [www.vailsgrove.us](http://www.vailsgrove.us). Applications need to be back to the office by April 16<sup>th</sup> with all required items. Please introduce yourselves to the lifeguards and follow the posted beach rules.

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Not everyone hates winter – ice skating, hockey and just a winter wonderland on Peach Lake

