

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

Rocky Mountain Village Estates • March, 2019

## Meet the Blakeslees

The Blakeslees — Kate and Joel — settled into Rocky Mountain Village a little over a year ago — about Christmastime in 2017. But Joel's relationship with Evergreen dates back 55 years when his father accepted the assignment to become pastor at the Church of the Transfiguration in 1964, relocating the family from New Orleans.

Joel attended junior high and high school here. "Evergreen was pretty quiet back then — just one stoplight and a two-lane highway." At that time the junior high was located in a building since torn down to make way for the Evergreen Library, and students from Conifer and beyond fed into Evergreen schools.

During the 1960s the year-round population was only about 5,000 people; the building boom started in the late '60s after Interstate 70 made the commute to Denver easier.

He recalls driving up the east ridge of Bergen Peak in an old Willy's jeep, ice skating on Evergreen Lake, and camping in what is now Elk Meadow. "There's a lot more wildlife visible these days than there used to be."

Kate came from a family of 11 children, having lived in a neighborhood in the San Diego area with seemingly "175 kids on the block" — because all the houses were large enough to hold big families. Theirs was the bishop's house in Mission Hills.

They met in San Diego years ago when San Diego was a much smaller town too. She was a surfer who loved the idea of living in the mountains but admits she does miss the ocean.



Joel had studied massage for a year in Santa Fe and worked for several chiropractors, which opened up the world of alternative medicine. The couple met while Joel was attending a training facility in LA, spending six years learning traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture. He characterizes the difference by saying that Chinese medicine views the person, the community and society in terms of seasons and placement on the planet. Health and systems will be different because of a person's physical location, how people evolve, and how they live day to day.

Now Joel works at the Indian Hot Springs in Idaho Springs doing massage.

Kate started a career as a professional singer in LA, tapping into her brother's ties in the music industry. Later she was a feng shui consultant before becoming a personal assistant for a producer in the movie industry.

Joel is quite the outdoors enthusiast, skiing and cycling. "I grew up with my best buddies skiing, needing to keep up, imitating what they were doing." Now he skis 50 days/year — mostly Winter Park and Copper Mountain and occasionally the Tetons — and cycles thousands of miles each summer keeping in shape for ski season to roll around again. Living in Bergen House gives him easy access to endless riding opportunities from the front door. "It's quiet and safe," he says of the trails nearby.

Health reasons keep Kate from being the sporty outdoors person she used to be; but both enjoy living here at Rocky Mountain Village where they appreciate the location, the nice people, and the quietness of the place they call home.

*Profile by Linda Kirkpatrick.*

Your attitude steers the wheel  
that determines the course of your life.

## Memo from the Manager

It seems like many of you have carbon monoxide monitors with batteries that are expiring right now. If you are hearing an annoying chirping in your unit, that is probably the culprit. Most of you have these detectors plugged into an outlet in your living rooms. You will either need to replace the batteries or the unit itself. They have a life span of 7-10 years. If you need help locating the chirp, please let me, Jacque or Brac know.

The heat and smoke detectors in your units, usually located in a hallway on the ceiling, will NEVER chirp. So, when you go looking for the noisemaker, please do not tamper with those devices. They are hardwired into the alarm system and will cause an alarm if you remove them.

There will be a regular Board meeting on Thursday, March 28, at 5:30 in the Bergen House.

-- Kathy

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## 2019 RMVE Budget Committee Call for members

The Budget Committee is looking for new members. Participation is open to all RMVE owners and we're getting ready to start the 2019 year. You may be wondering what the committee does and what sort of commitment is required before signing up, so please keep reading....

Budget Committee priority items for 2019:

- Quarterly review of financials
- Finalize the Budget and Reserve Guidance document
- Operating and Reserve Budget planning for 2020
- Participate in Owner Information Meeting on the annual Budget

Qualifications:

- Ability to attend quarterly (sometimes more) meetings in person at RMVE or via video conference call using Skype
- Desire to understand the financial reports and budgeting process in greater detail
- Desire to be of service to your RMVE community

If interested, contact Carolyn Kindt, Treasurer by email at [ck4rmve@gmail.com](mailto:ck4rmve@gmail.com) or by phoning 303-670-2033 by March 4th.

## Reminders from René and Kari:

Monday, March 4th: COMCAST Xfinity will be our guest speaker(s) at both buildings' HOA morning coffee hours. Come with your questions and concerns. See lobby bulletin boards for more information.

Wednesday, March 13th, 3pm: MARCH BIRTHDAY PARTY celebration at Genesee Mountaineer Room. All Genesee & Bergen residents are invited — and you don't even have to have a March birthday to enjoy some socializing, cake and ice cream!

MOVIE NIGHTS: Genesee has added another movie-night opportunity (Mondays) twice a month. Genesee AND Bergen residents are invited to come enjoy! See posters on lobby bulletin boards for more information on movie times, dates and venues.

HELP-WANTED! Genesee Social Committee would really appreciate more helpers. If you'd like to help out, have some fun, socialize, and get better acquainted with some wonderful folks at Genesee, please let Darlene Higdon know of your availability! You can reach out to her at: 620-960-5331

SOUP-TASTING EVENT: Saturday, March 30th, 4-7 pm in the Mountaineer Room at Genesee. Five delicious varieties of soups will be available for tasting along with homemade breads — all created by our own residents! Sign up sheets for 'reservations' will be placed in both lobbies. Please bring your own mug (no bowls, please), utensils and drinks. The event is FREE. All Genesee AND Bergen residents are invited to this SOUP-ER SOUP TASTING 'delicious' evening! Check your lobby bulletin boards for more information on this SOUP-ER event!