



Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Happy New Year! Wait, is this really January? Where's the snow you ask? You'll note our header in this newsletter does not reflect what we normally think of as winter. Well, we have in fact had very little snow this winter and very little rain here in Colorado Springs since last September. But the pictures are representative of some of the glory we witness this time of year: gorgeous sunrises and striking sunsets.

Since we have had little precipitation in the past several months, it's more important than ever to take care of your landscape now in preparation for Spring. Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) suggests you water one to two times per month from November to April. Watering should be done during the warmest part of the day when the air temperature is above 40 degrees and when the ground is not frozen. CSU suggests your primary focus should be on newly planted lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers. Your secondary focus should be on established lawns and landscape plants in sunny, windy, or exposed areas. They also state you don't need to water your cacti, succulents, and xeric plants. For more information on watering tips, visit csu.org.

In December, we held TOSHA board elections and the results are in. See page two for the 2018 board members. We had several candidates step up, but we can still use more help to fill all board member and Architectural Control Committee (ACC) roles. Additionally, volunteers are always needed. Ellen Price, former president, and I are stepping down from the TOSHA board. It's been a great pleasure for both of us to serve on the board these past four years. Please consider donating a little time to our homeowners association – it is a very worthwhile experience.

Your TOSHA vice president, *Liz*

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

We are pleased to welcome a few additional new residents who moved to Top of Skyway in 2017. Take some time, stop by and introduce yourself. Let's make them feel welcome – the connection starts here.

Greg and Erica Miller, 3385 Orion Drive

David and June Salter, 3265 Orion Drive

James and Trish Topmiller, 3140 Orion Drive

TOP OF SKYWAY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
January 2018 Newsletter

"SKYLIGHTS"

We are pleased to share some of the key events and activities. As always, details for future events will be sent to you in additional communications as the dates draw nearer:

Board Elections. In December 2017 we hosted electronic-based elections for the TOSHA board and ACC.

Prince Dunn is the new TOSHA president. Prince has been a Top of Skyway resident since 2009 and has served on other homeowner association boards.

We are still looking for someone to step into the vice president role.

Janet Adessa will continue as treasurer.

Danielle Mastalir is the new secretary and website coordinator. Danielle has been a resident for one year. She will work closely with Annie McCarthy over the next few months to transition the website duties.

Merrilee DeWaal is looking for a person to replace her as the Architectural Control Committee chairperson. She also needs a couple more people to sit on the committee. Current members include Jonas Frey and Steve Carlson.

Annual Meeting. As in years past, we will hold our annual meeting sometime this Spring. It will most likely be held at the Gold Hill Police Substation from 7-9 PM. Stay tuned for more information.

TOSHA MEMBERSHIP

Membership for 2018 is up for renewal. Good news: It will remain at the low price of \$75. Please complete a membership form and do one of the following:

- 1) Give it to Janet Adessa
- 2) Mail it to the TOSHA post office box (address is on the membership form)
- 3) Submit payment via PayPal, link is on the membership form

TOSHA membership is important and serves you well as a resident. Here are some of the benefits:

1. It's only \$75
2. It's easy... you can apply on-line and pay with PayPal
3. Get Free Admission to our neighborhood picnic
4. Receive a Top of Skyway Neighborhood Directory
5. Gain access to the resident database and private pages of the TOS website, www.topofskyway.net
6. Get free and unlimited advertising on the TOSHA website
7. Access Top of Skyway filings and covenants electronically
8. Have a voice in promoting the safety and well-being of all Top of Skyway residents. **Only TOSHA members have voting rights on TOSHA-related matters!**
9. Enjoy the opportunity to sit on TOSHA's Board and governing Architectural Control Committee
10. Participate in shaping our community and promoting neighborhood connectedness – Priceless!

2018 Board Members

President: Prince Dunn
719-482-4374
business.doctor@comcast.net

Vice President: vacant

Secretary: Danielle Mastalir
719-213-3540
daniellepm@me.com

Treasurer: Janet Adessa
719-660-9967
jadessa2009@gmail.com

ACC Chairperson: vacant

YOUR INFORMATION SOURCE

As a Top of Skyway resident, you have an important resource and efficient tool in keeping our community connected and informed. It's the TOSHA website, topofskyway.net.

If you haven't done so already, please log onto the website and update your current contact information. It is very important that we have your correct email address to inform you of critical neighborhood safety alerts and pertinent events. Please know this is a password-protected system for residents of Top of Skyway only. Correct and current information here is imperative for communication and is used for internal purposes only.

First time users may request their "Log In" information under the "Sign In" menu. Once logged in as a Top of Skyway resident, you have the ability in the "My Profile" menu to add, delete or hide any information about yourself. Again, your information is secure and will not be shared with your neighbors unless you choose it to be.

We added a Lost and Found section so owners can reconnect with their possessions. High winds wreak havoc on garbage can lids, chair cushions and other outdoor items. This will be one way to get the word out if yours goes missing.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

As a resident in Top of Skyway, you are bound to a set of covenants based upon your filing. The ACC is a volunteer organization, funded by TOSHA. The ACC ensures we understand and abide by the covenants which in turn helps support and protect our investment – our property here in Top of Skyway.

The ACC is ready to help guide you when making home improvements. Please contact them when preparing to work on your property so work can be approved ahead of construction.

Approval is required for

- New home construction on your land or home additions
- Major landscaping remodeling or implementation
- New or remodeled decks, patios, driveways and fencing
- New roofing materials, exterior paint or materials such as decorative stonework

Common Neighborly Courtesies

It may actually snow this year. Our biggest snowfall months are March and April. As a courtesy to your fellow neighbors, please be sure to keep your sidewalks clear of snow and ice. This makes it easier and safer for pedestrians using the walk. AND, it is also a city law. You are required to clear your sidewalks within 24 hours of a snowfall or ice storm.



We recently had a day of very high winds – a common occurrence in Top of Skyway. This wreaks havoc on outdoor furniture, flower pots and any other item that is not well secured. It is especially problematic on trash day. Garbage and recycle containers are easily turned over and the contents are strewn throughout the neighborhood. Help us keep our neighborhood free of debris by securing your garbage cans and other outdoor items. After trash pickup, please return your containers to your garage. Also, please pick up any trash in front of your property line. Everyone benefits and it will help keep our storm drains clear.



DIE IN THE SKY

It's winter and time for some comfort food. Here are two healthy soups that are sure to delight.

Low Carb Cauliflower Leek Soup



Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 leeks, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 large head cauliflower, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 8 cups vegetable broth (you may want to use half chicken broth and half vegetable broth)
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste (optionally add tarragon to taste)
- 1 cup coconut milk or heavy cream (optional)

Preparation

Heat the olive oil and butter in a large pot over medium heat, and sauté the leeks, cauliflower, and garlic for about 10 minutes. Stir in the vegetable broth and bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer 45 minutes.

Remove the soup from heat. Blend the soup with an immersion blender or hand mixer. Season with salt and pepper (and tarragon). Mix in the coconut milk or heavy cream, and continue blending until smooth. Garnish with tarragon or other condiments.

Curried Carrot, Sweet Potato, and Ginger Soup



Ingredients

- 2 teaspoons canola oil
- ½ cup chopped shallots
- 3 cups cubed and peeled sweet potato (1/2" cubes)
- 1-½ cups sliced and peeled carrots (1/4" slices)
- 1 tablespoon grated ginger
- 2 teaspoons curry powder
- 3 cups fat-free, low sodium chicken broth
- ½ teaspoon salt

Preparation

Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add shallots; sauté 3 minutes or until tender. Add potato, carrots, ginger, and curry. Cook 2 minutes. Add broth and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 25 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Stir in salt. Pour half the soup in a food processor or blender; pulse until smooth. Repeat procedure with the remaining soup then combine all soup. Serve with any preferred garnish.