

Is winter already here?

By Jon Hatch

Welcome to the fourth edition of "On the Corner," a community newsletter designed to share some history of the people and events that shaped this great neighborhood.

Digging out from these recent snowstorms has been a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and catch up with others. I've witnessed folks shoveling or snow-blowing their neighbors sidewalks and walkways. Sledding below Four Pines has also drawn a number of families together on these many "snow days."

Thank you SNOW.

In response to Sylvia's previous article about the Oak tree on lower Bluebell Avenue a family, touched by that tree, contacted Silvia and shared their knowledge of the tree and it's history. Check out the great story across this page.

See the "notes" on the opposite page and catch events and issues that may impact you.

A reminder to please feel free to contact me if there are events you want neighbors to know about. And if you have a special story to tell about the neighborhood or a resident please contact me and I will share it with readers in the next "On the Corner".

Thanks!

Have a great day! *Jon Hatch*

I intend to distribute the newsletter on a quarterly basis. If you would not like to receive this mailing please let me know and I will respect your wishes and remove you from the mailing list.

Bears on a Branch!



As seen in the Daily Camera newspaper on September 21st, 2006.

A mother bear and two cubs are photographed in a tree behind neighbor Hal Altshuler's home.

2006 Home Sales Stats / Diff. Previous Year

\$287/sqft average.....	Up 8%
Average Price, \$798,475.....	Down 9%
Median Price, \$700,000.....	Down 9.3%
Avg. Days on Mrkt, 106.....	2% Longer
Purchase Price to List, 96%.....	UP 1%
26 homes Sold.....	Down 21%
Failed to Sell, 7 homes.....	Down 46%
Lowest Priced Home, \$459,500	
Highest Priced home, \$1,883,000	

Information from Multiple Listing Service, deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

More on Darwin Andrews and the old oak tree

By Silvia Pettem

After the last issue of "On the Corner" that featured an article on Rockmont Nursery, several property owners in the Lower Bluebell neighborhood reminisced about the old oak tree that stood for many years in the middle of Bluebell Avenue. The tree blew down in a windstorm in 1999.

Eight decades earlier, when Darwin Andrews built his house at 2250 Bluebell in 1919, he also made it the home of his business, the Rockmont Nursery. At the time, Bluebell was a country lane that ended at the nursery. The Altschulers have lived in the since-remodeled home for the past 41 years. The trees on their property are so thick that, in September, a mother bear and her two cubs settled in and took refuge for a day.

But, somehow, the oak tree grew up in the middle of the road. Whether the long dirt lane to the nursery curved around it, or whether the tree just took root and grew, no one knows. Before it was sawn up and carted away, no one had even estimated its accurate age and height. If Andrews planted the tree the year he built his house, the oak would have been 80 years old. Except for native cottonwoods and willows that grow along streams and irrigation ditches, the Bluebell neighborhood before Andrews' time was open and treeless.

John and Sally Holloway bought their property at 2222 Bluebell in the late 1950s. "Bluebell was still a dirt road," said John in a recent interview, "and Darwin's son Phillip Andrews was still raising sheep and horses." John, who was mayor of Boulder in 1962 and 1963, prevailed upon the city council to allow the tree to remain.

He even gave the Boulder a right-of-way into his property so the tree could be protected with an island. The island, with some replacement trees, is still there. *please see Oak next page...*



In 1965, Cindy Holloway posed by the oak tree in front of her parent's home at 2222 Bluebell Avenue. In 1998, a city forester noticed that it had become infested with carpenter ants. The tree blew down in a windstorm the following year.

Photo courtesy John and Sally Holloway.

