

# Shadow Creek Conversations

February 2020

## Featuring...

“Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.” It’s chiseled in stone over the entrance to the main NYC Post Office, and dates back to the time of Herodotus (500BC) as the Persians operated a system of mounted postal couriers who served with great fidelity.

We all know the motto of the U.S. Postal Service from our childhoods; it’s ingrained in us all as the essence of reliability and good service. Our own mailman, Uriel Solonio, is exemplary of that motto as he delivers our mail on time, without fail and perfect in every regard.



Meet the man who serves us so well! Uriel Solonio has been with the USPS since 2005. He makes some 500 deliveries a day, walks some seven miles daily as he does, and starts and finishes his days with paperwork to keep things running smoothly. When the PO is short on staff he may be asked to work another route, get mail from Denver, or especially in winter when the weather’s bad, spend time covering for others. It can get busy! But the best part of his job is staying active and working in a nice neighborhood such as ours.

“People in this neighborhood are very nice,” he says. It took him seven years to

# Shadow Creek Conversations

February 2020

become a regular carrier and to garner a choice route. New postal workers are often given longer or more erratic shifts, and achieving a route such as ours is the reward for many, many hours of good work. "You're on your own," he says, "and it's a learning curve," He's been on our route for four years now, the product of seniority.

But the most important thing for Uriel is spending time with his family. Born in California, he is a first generation Mexican American. Both his parents were born in Mexico and now live in Denver. He is married to Theresa, with two boys, Ivan and Brandon, ages 14 and 7, and they live in Thornton. He's particularly proud that his elder son Ivan is a good guitarist.

Uriel says that while he always finds his neighborhood route interesting and the residents very interesting, it's easy to get distracted with the details of good postal delivery, so he concentrates on the job as best he can. He's a bit shy too (he would be shy that I'm telling you that), but he says if he ever makes a mistake to please tell him - he's the face of the Postal System and he takes his job very seriously. "I do my best - and anything I can help with, I'm happy to help."

Don't we wish we had more like him? Let's be sure we never lose him!

## Newsy Items...

The #315 lobby is scheduled for a transformation! Sharon McClew is developing a design with a bench, artwork and lighting that will be similar to #337's to update the entry. Sharon can share more information about the project and timeline. Signage on both buildings is being reviewed.

A longer-term project will center on exterior painting as well as replacement of interior carpeting and paint. This work is scheduled over the next few years so initial work will focus on color options and design.

The elevator for #315 is being manufactured. More info will be forthcoming when we have a timeline for installation.

The Board instituted a wildfire prevention effort this past fall. The first inspection involved exterior spaces such as decks, siding, plants, trees, etc. The Board and the Landscaping Committee took action to remove debris, plants and a few trees and limbs that had become problematic. Within the next few months a fire marshal will inspect indoor spaces, and residents are encouraged to clear stairwells, flammable materials from the garage, and clean their garage storage.

A neighborhood request: Please don't throw food, bread crusts or birdseed onto the lawns surrounding our buildings. It attracts critters!

# Shadow Creek Conversations

February 2020

Masonry work is being scheduled to provide some minor tuck-point repairs due to cement degradation between the bricks. This will happen when it's warmer and should not impact residents.

The #315 pathway lighting has been repaired, and the conduit will be buried in spring by the landscapers. One of the lights was compromised and will be replaced with a taller light similar to those at #337. The lights attached to the fence have also been replaced. These will remain in place until the taller light by the porch is installed.

Mulch will be installed between the walkway and the front fence by the #315 entryway in the spring. Now that the spruce has been removed from the front the options for that area have opened up. We'll also be removing junipers from close to the building because they've been deemed a fire hazard.

Last, the Annual Homeowner's Meeting is scheduled for 4pm on Friday March 13 in the Boulder Creek Room at the Main Library. There will be an opening or two on the Board and those interested should contact John Martin, current president of the Board, or any other member including Joe Zamudio, Gary Waggoner, Greg Pavlich and Kathy Wegner. Remember this is the time to sign up for ongoing committees including Project Review, Landscape, Maintenance, Pool, Social/Welcome, and Recycle & Composting.

## Welcoming....

Please welcome new residents to our Shadow Creek community. John and Cheryl Neal will close on the Bruffs' #337-101 on March 30. Theresa and Tom Preston-Wener have bought 337-#201 (vacated by the Waggoners who moved to 337-#301), and Cathy and Mike Shivers who moved into #315-303 (vacated by Gerard and Carolyn Carroll).

As we are moving from Shadow Creek to another apartment in Boulder I will no longer write Conversations. It will be taken over by Artamis Parsi in #315-102. The success of the newsletter depends on all of you contributing the ideas, stories, news items that make our community interesting. Please send your ideas to Artamis! Thank you all, it's been fun for this old newspaper reporter.

— Sherry Bruff

**HAPPY LEAP YEAR!**