***Carriage Square Homeowners Association***

**Newsletter**

SPRING 2015

***Officers:*  President –** Rich Sharp, 461-6068; **Vice President –** Michele Stokes, 400-2969; **Treasurer –** Donna Lakers, 301-6540; **Secretary –** Mary Ellen Komac, 220-4675; **Directors -** Ken Hoppe, 883-6628; Sharon Brady, 884-2395; Charity Sharp, 461-6068.

**Neighborhood Notes**

⮚63% of Carriage Square homeowners have submitted their 2015 dues of $25. Thank you for caring about the continuing quality of the neighborhood. These dues are utilized for necessary Association expenses such as liability insurance, business license, postage and potential legal costs. If you have not paid for 2015, there is a dues notice enclosed for your convenience.

⮚Carriage Square Homeowners Association now has a website under construction: <http://www.carsoncitynevada.us/cshoa/>

Vice President Michele Stokes is developing this site so that homeowners can download paint/roofing approval forms, CC&R’s, Board meeting dates and locations, Board meeting minutes, newsletters, and other information that would be helpful to residents. Check it out!

⮚Spring is here and thoughts are turning to home improvements. Remember to submit an approval form to any Board member for changes to exterior paint colors or roofing colors and materials before beginning the project. A form is enclosed.

⮚We are happy to welcome new homeowners *Christopher Martinovich* and *Walter and Sarah Zeron* to Carriage Square. The Board encourages all residents to get to know their neighbors and to establish mutually helpful relationships.

⮚We are lucky to have a beautiful city park in Carriage Square. It receives a lot of use, especially by young families who appreciate clean play areas. As it is a posted ‘no animals’ park, it would be helpful when residents see dogs in the park to speak to their owners about using the closest dog-park instead. Animals are welcome only two blocks away at the Monte Vista Park on Long St. City Park and Recreation Department’s phone numbers are 775-283-7340 or 887-2262.

⮚Several resident vehicles suffered damage from “BB” shots recently. If possible, park in your garage at night.

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**Saturday, August 15, 2015**

Save the date and join your neighbors to relax and socialize (not an Association meeting, just fun!). Watch for a flyer coming to you soon for more details

**Junipers: A Significant Fire Risk**

**By Rich Sharp, President**

Look around Carriage Square: almost everyone has some sort of Juniper growing in their yard (Yes, even my yard has them!). However, Junipers are a significant fire risk for your home. The dead and dry component, along with the flammable natural chemicals every Juniper tree or bush contains, make them a tinder box waiting to go up.

You may ask, “I live in a subdivision; what threat could there be from wildfire when I don’t live among trees?” Well, residents of southwest Reno probably said the same thing. Then on November 18, 2011 the Caughlin Fire was started by arcing power lines and high winds. The fire spread into the subdivisions and burned 29 homes.

I responded to that fire and witnessed numerous houses catching fire because of embers landing in ornamental Junipers and igniting these plants.

For more information consult [www.livingwithfire.info](http://www.livingwithfire.info). Also,

[www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2007/](http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2007/eb0701.pdf)

[eb0701.pdf](http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2007/eb0701.pdf) contains an article entitled “Choosing the Right Plants for Northern Nevada’s High Hazard Areas”, including a list of plants to avoid.