

RANCH AT A GLANCE

APRIL 2022



This is the 8th edition of our community newsletter. The team thanks you for the positive feedback. I am grateful to everyone who has offered to contribute every month or occasionally. Please feel free to email me with any suggestions.

nancyandrossbarrett@gmail.com

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Garbage and Recycling
Social Media Access
Buy and Sell

BIRDERS CORNER - Sandy Almberg



Canada Jay



Steller Jay



Blue Jay

The “3 Jays” at Square Butte Ranch!

Blue Jays are one of the smartest birds you'll see visiting your feeder. They are members of the bird family Corvidae, which includes other jay species such as Steller's Jays, Canada Jay along with Ravens and Crows. Scientific research has uncovered fascinating details about the human-like intelligence traits Corvidae's possess.

CANADA JAY - The deceptively cute Canada Jay is one of the most fearless birds in North America, living in northern forests year-round and rearing chicks in the dark of winter. Better known as Whisky Jacks, or Grey Jays, these highly curious birds are always on the lookout for food. Canada Jays eat just about anything, from berries to small animals. They may even land on your hand to grab a raisin or peanut. During summer they hoard food in trees to sustain themselves through bleak winters.

STELLER'S JAY – A darker cousin to the Bluejay, the Steller's Jay can easily be identified by his black hood and dark blue feathers. Although slightly larger than Bluejay, Steller's Jays do not have any light grey or white feathering. According to mythology, sighting a Steller's Jay is “the message of hope in disrepair and the will to live. The Jay is willing to teach you fearlessness, adaptability and survival but you must be willing to follow his lead”. Steller's Jays are common in higher altitude forested regions from Alaska to northern Nicaragua.

BOBCATS AND COUGARS - Sylvia Lambert and Nancy Barrett

FROM SYVIA LAMBERT: Bobcats

I have seen one run in the condo pasture years ago and I also heard reports from other people at the same time that they had seen one as well. I see no reason why they wouldn't frequent that area. I had one on my fence in Calgary about 3-4 weeks ago. They are known to live in Oakridge and other communities.

BOBCATS are distinguishable by their black tufted ears, dark markings, and of course their short "bobbed" tails. These felines can be found in southern Alberta, and range over a variety of different habitats such as riparian woodlands, coniferous forests, broadleaf forests, swamps, and even suburban areas.

FROM NANCY BARRETT: Cougars have been spotted at our ranch

Cougars are considered large cats, with bodies 5 to 6 feet in length including their long tails. These cats average about 135 pounds and can weigh up to 180 pounds. Bobcats are mid-sized cats measuring just 2 to 3.5 feet long and weighing up to 40 pounds.



I'M A CALGARIAN

YOU'RE NOT AS TASTY AS YOU THINK!

CALGARY
CAPTURED

Bobcats hunt small animals such as mice, insects, and birds.

BOBCAT

PLEASE GIVE ME SPACE. Just like your house cat, bobcats will likely ignore your presence. But, they are wild animals! Observe and appreciate bobcats from a distance.

I'M NOT A FAN OF DOGS. Dogs can stress or harm bobcats. Cats (and very small dogs) on the other hand, may look like a bobcat meal. Keep dogs on leash and cats indoors.

ENJOY YOUR CITY PARKS! Please stay on trails and respect park closures. Living in a big city can leave you itching for more space. Stepping off trails and entering parks after hours even further reduces space available for animals.

SUPPORT CITY EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN NATURE. To continue to see a thriving urban biodiversity, including bobcats, we need to ensure animals can move around the city – this means we need to protect existing green spaces, create new ones, and invest in development that is more animal-friendly.

CALGARY CAPTURED is a multi-year wildlife monitoring and citizen science based program that utilizes trail cameras located throughout our urban parks.

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

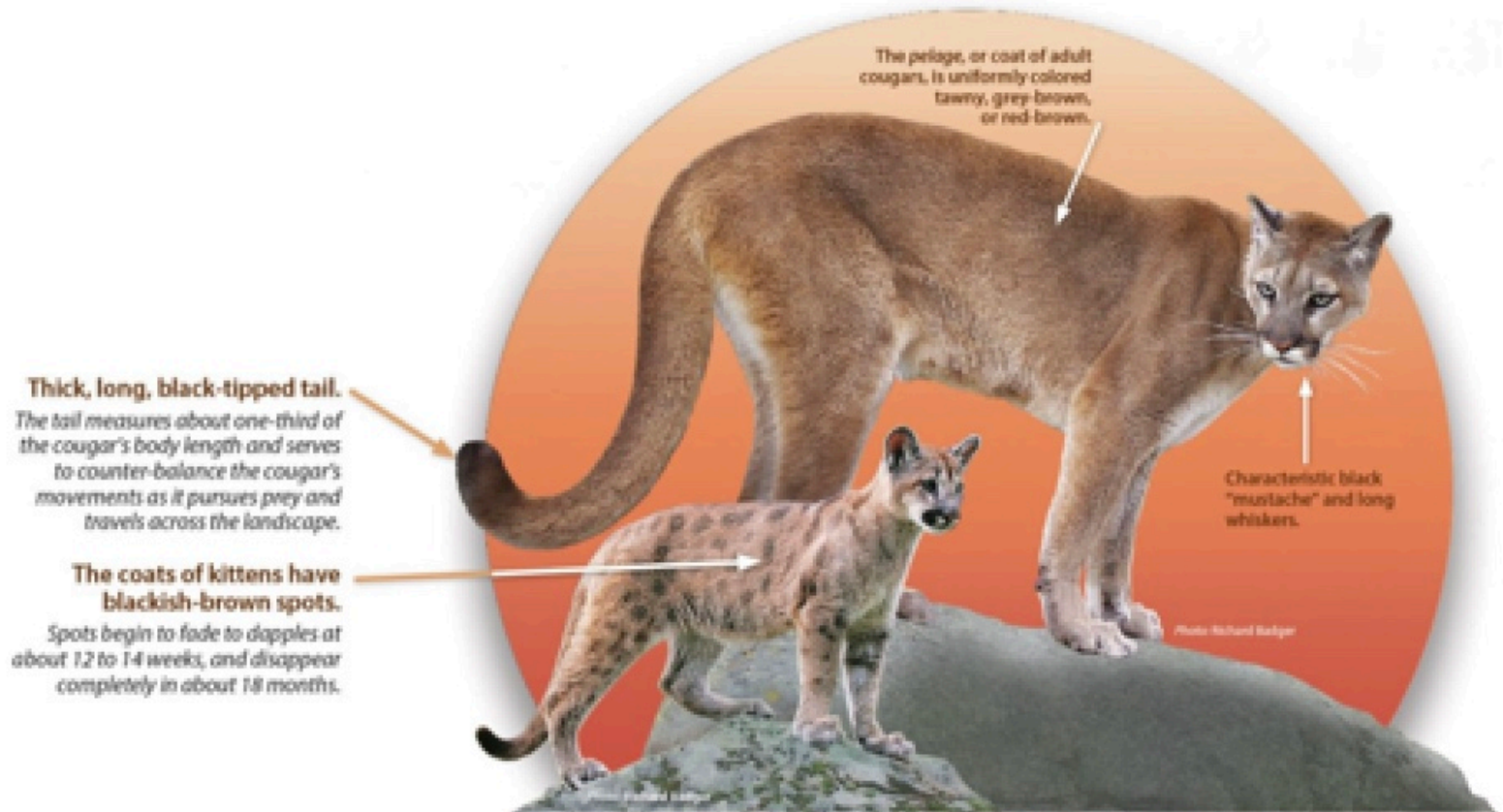
Mistakis Institute
City of Calgary
Alberta Environment and Parks
Weaselhead/Glenmore Park Preservation Society
Friends of Fish Creek
Provincial Park Society
Alberta Ecotrust
The Calgary Foundation
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

CALGARY
CAPTURED

Citizens engaged in urban wildlife monitoring

To learn more and participate visit www.rockies.ca/imacalgarian

Cougar Identification



Appearance

The cougar is the second largest member of the cat family in the western hemisphere (the jaguar is the largest) and the largest of the North American wild cats. On average, adult male cougars stand about 30 inches at the shoulders, are about 7 to 8 feet long from nose to the tip of their tail (the tail is about 1/3 of that length), and weigh about 120 to 160 pounds. Large males can reach up to 180 pounds but that is very uncommon. Adult female cougars are usually about 25% smaller than male cougars (about 85 to 110 pounds).

Cougars can be identified by two primary characteristics: the pelage or coat of adult cougars is uniformly colored tawny, grey-brown or red-brown, and a very thick and long black-tipped tail which measures about half of their body length. The tail serves to counter-balance the cougar's movements as they pursue prey and travel across the landscape.

Front Tracks



Hind Tracks



Cougar

Claws do not usually show in tracks

Domestic Dog

Dog tracks are highly variable but usually less than 3.5 in. (9 cm) in length and narrower than wide

Coyote

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT.....



BLACK BEAR



COYOTE



RED FOX



MOUNTAIN LION



WHITE-TAILED DEER



MOOSE



BISON



GRAY SQUIRREL



RACCOON



OPOSSUM



STRIPED SKUNK

Sent from my iPad

I DID NOT KNOW... by Alissa Kelly



I did not know a horse could bring people into your life that end up meaning the most to you.

I did not know a horse could make the hardest days of your life bearable.

I did not know a horse could teach you to put others first.

I did not know a horse could remind you time and time again that your gut is always right.

I did not know a horse could break your heart.

I did not know a horse could pick you up when you have fallen apart.

I did not know a horse could teach you to dream again, after you thought it was not possible.

I did not know a horse could make you believe in yourself.

I did not know a horse could teach responsibility, work ethic, and dedication.

I did not know a horse could make you believe in something when no one else does.

I did not know a horse could make you learn to forgive and forget.

I did not know a horse could humble you faster than you can say humble.

I did not know a horse could make you a winner.

I did not know a horse could also teach you how to lose gracefully.

I did not know a horse could instil patience in you.

I did not know a horse could make you listen better.

I did not know a horse could give you their heart.

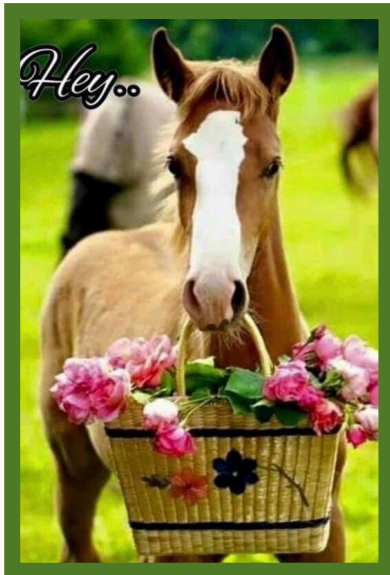
I did not know a horse could change your life.

I did not know a horse could do all these things...

but now I know. ❤️❤️

BIRD and WILDFLOWER WALKS

Many thanks to SYLVIA LAMBERT who is researching nature walks in our community through her membership in Friends of Fish Creek.



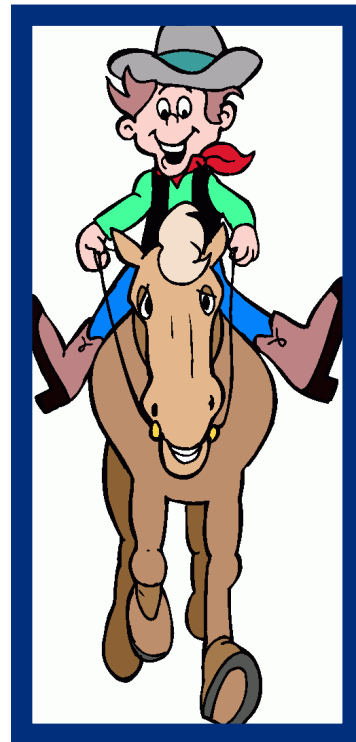
Ramblings of a Barn Manager..

Well looks to me that Mother Nature has finally started listening to our cries..
So that means it is time to start riding!!!
Who wants to come riding with me???????
No Horse No Problem...

The Ranch Club and I have done a little sourcing and have been discussing the right way to get back into having horses on the property available for rides for all owners. I have sourced some horses that we may be able to use for the summer and together with a few owners horses we may be able to have a good base for trail rides all summer! But we would love some feedback from you. Below are just a few questions, if you have more ideas or thoughts please also let us know.

- What price would you pay for an hour Trail ride?
- Do you think your household would book more than once this summer if available?
- Would you be interested in taking horses out alone on Square Butte property?
- Would you like to take lessons on a horse if available?
- Would you be interested in just taking a horse for a walk or playing with them, not necessarily riding?
- Would you be interested in us hosting a Summer Kids Horse Camp?

All thoughts and ideas are in play! - shoot me an email at sbranchhand@gmail.com



Horse Owners!

It's time to Start getting your horses in shape and ready for the Summer! I am here to help, you can talk to me about putting on some rides on your horses, or even ponying them with me on a ride, or working them a little in the round pen.. I am here to Help! As encouragement to get out and be with your horses, you could download the free app - Equilab Equestrian Tracker. The Free portion of the app lets you add your horses, and then just as you leave the barn start the workout and the app with map how far you go and the time you spend walking, trotting and loping - add me as a friend and we can challenge each other. Are you just wanting to take them for a hand walk?? Use the app for that too! Hand walking can be even more beneficial for your horse, its a GREAT way to bond and both get a little exercise and a little time away from their herd which is sooo healthy for the horses to learn the world is a safe place if you are with them. I am putting together some monthly "challenges" that will involve tracking and prizes!!!

Happy April!!!!
Lori





A Cowboy's Code

Live each day with courage.

Have respect for everyone you meet.

Be confident in your dreams.

Always do what's right.

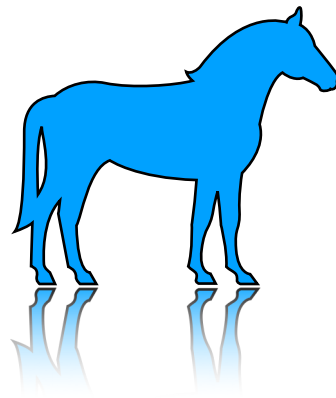
Take pride in your work.

Talk less and say more.

Know where to draw the line.

Always finish what you start.

Be tough, but always fair.



RANCH CLUB - Kym Penner

It's SPRING...

The Ranch club together with Lori have been planning some activities and the first one will be held in June in our newly surfaced arena. We will be looking for all want to be Cowboys and Cowgirls to come out on a Saturday and get ready to learn how to rope! No horse required! We will send out more information as soon as we nail down a date. We look forward to a fun afternoon of throwing the rope, eating some grub, and having a Lot of LAUGHS!



And for a little something different...
This puzzle can also be done online at
[https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/
3415281/square-butte-word-search/](https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3415281/square-butte-word-search/)

Square Butte Word Search

G	N	T	S	R	A	G	U	O	C	S	R	E	D
O	G	E	E	K	S	R	L	B	H	T	E	D	E
K	C	M	S	R	C	N	S	E	N	R	R	O	U
R	A	O	G	R	U	B	L	A	T	R	E	E	S
T	N	O	W	R	O	T	G	R	D	N	D	C	Y
Q	E	S	U	G	E	H	S	S	R	E	E	O	G
U	R	E	B	R	I	A	B	A	B	R	E	Y	S
A	A	R	E	G	C	R	B	B	P	E	S	O	D
D	N	D	O	G	S	E	L	E	R	I	A	T	R
S	R	M	R	C	R	E	E	K	G	D	L	E	I
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E	S	E	E	R	N	E	I	G	H	B	O	U	R
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DEER
 TRUCK
 CREEK
 BEARS
 TREES
 HORSE
 SHELTER
 NEIGHBOUR
 COWGIRL
 PASTURE
 POND
 COYOTES
 SALOON
 BIRDS
 DOGS
 ARENA
 COUGARS
 FENCE
 QUADS
 BARN
 MOOSE

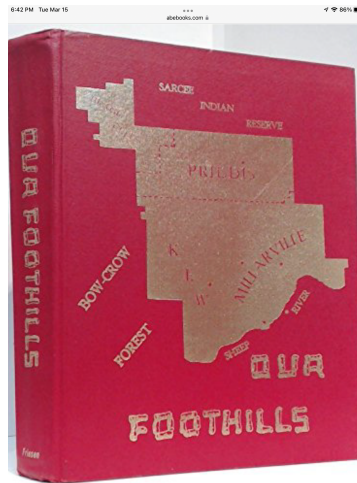
Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3415281/>

DID YOU KNOW? - Nancy Barrett

Square Butte is located on the Treaty 7 Lands of the Blackfoot Confederacy and the Metis Nation, Region 3.



From Community Book “Our Foothills” 1880s - 1940s



The old **Rancher's Hall** in Millarville was built in 1895. It consisted of a log building with a wooden stove in the middle to heat the coffee. There were outside benches, lots of dances and the kids joined in at the dances where they eventually fell asleep while the grownups danced all night.

Christ Church was built in the 1900s on donated land and the furniture came from Europe. Before there was a church, the homesteaders would have church service in someone's home. The original church served all faiths as the centre of a large community in an area with few churches. The congregation huddled around a wood burning heater at the back of the church for a brief 20 minute service on bitterly cold days. Fortunately there was a wind proof shelter for parishioners' horses. The "Calf Program" in the early 1950s was created to help the parish budget. Up to 36 calves with the Church brand went to willing ranchers to prepare for shipment with proceeds going to the church.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

MISS SQUARE BUTTE *APRIL*



SUSIE



Susie entered the world in 2008 as the foal of a “PMU” mare. She was purchased along with her mother at a sale by a young woman named Jessica, who wanted very much to train a young horse. Jessica named her “Baby Susie” and calls her that to this day when she comes to visit her. By Jessica’s account, Susie’s mother was feral and mean, which is not unexpected considering she was bred over and over and kept in a stall for 6 months of each 11 month pregnancy, barely able to move about. When Jessica went back to university, Susie came to live with us on our Bragg Creek acreage in 2012. In exchange for using Jessica’s tack, we agreed to feed and take care of Susie. Louis eventually became the proud owner of Susie with the provision that Jess could visit and ride her anytime she wanted.

Susie has proven how clever she is on many occasions and has always been a master breakout artist. She watches gates closely and has been observed going over to “check” and “test” all

gates to ensure they have been properly secured after use. It was not an unheard of event to come home from work to Susie and Dante munching on the front lawn, or over visiting the neighbors. Susie has only staged one breakout since moving to Square Butte and that was to follow Lori C. to the barn on farrier day, however residents should keep an eye out for the beautiful paint mare with the blue eye as you never know when she will find an opportunity to go for a stroll.

Lori Young



OPERATIONS - Grant Kelba

The saloon is being rebuilt and the insurance company has brought in the appropriate contractors to ensure it will be better than new when it's all said and done. There is no timeline on when it will be finished as the supply of materials is erratic and although much is on site, other materials have not yet arrived and are holding up the process. The wall that separated from the building is now repaired and reattached. Once it's sealed at the top the tarps will come off and the inside work will continue.

The first priority this spring is to get our fencing fixed as much of it was crushed during the windstorm. The due diligence around who will do it is still being resolved and a decision will be made shortly once further discussions with the selected contractors occur. We will be starting to fix perimeter fences in the coming weeks so we can once again use all our pastures for the horses.

We have built a list of repairing and cleaning various areas and venues and entitled it "Ranch Beautification". So hopefully you will be seeing the changes magically appear before your eyes. Included is repairing the roof on the recycling shed that blew off on December 1st. The materials have been ordered and we simply need to sit and wait for our order to be fulfilled on that project. Other items in our bucket list include signs that need to be rehung, trails that need to be cleaned up, gardens will be weeded, and roadways will be graveled. Just to name a few of what's ahead for us.

Also happening this spring will be the next phase of townhome painting. True to form, deciding on which building is next came down to a scientific and strategic decision. (heads or tails) The official coin toss was held on Friday, March 11th with representatives of the two remaining townhome blocks present, with Yvonne Gaudet acting as the official coin tosser. The whole thing was videotaped by Lori Young and uploaded onto the resident Facebook page in order to prove its validity. The winners are units 53-56 with that project scheduled to start in May, providing the weather will permit it.

Once again, thank you for using water wisely. NO additional water has been trucked in since early January.

Grant Kelba
[403 681 7831](tel:4036817831)

Please welcome the KIRSTINE family (formerly Taryn and Clayton's home on SE side of Horsehoe Bend)



- The first time we ever heard of the existence of Square Butte was during our search for a rural property at the end of 2021. The instant we stepped into 32 Horseshoe Bend we knew it was the one. We chose it for the natural beauty and peacefulness of the area and all of the associated outdoor activities.
- We plan to be part time residents for the time being but hope to transition to full time as our kids grow up and move out.
- As for activities I think we'll try a bit of everything. We don't have any horses (yet) but we've gone trail riding a few times and loved it. We just did a short tour with Anchor D last weekend and we'd all like to improve our riding skills some more. We also enjoy hiking and skiing (downhill and x-country) and are probably going to invest in an ATV or two to get out on the trails.
- We currently live in Calgary. Jessica and I are both engineers in the oil and gas business. Our kids are Beckett (17), Ayla (15) and Riley (12).



Left to Right: Jessica, Riley, Ayla, Sebastian, Beckett
Front: Buddy (labradoodle) and Jenny (black lab)

For all of us but ESPECIALLY NEW OWNERS MOVING IN

We have two large bins for disposing of garbage and cardboard in the exterior enclosure, next to the recycling building.

To ensure we efficiently use these bins please heed the following instructions.

Cardboard Boxes

The container with the horizontal slot is to be used for disposal of cardboard. You must “deconstruct” the boxes.

-tear apart/cut-up/rip-up-in pieces that will fit through the slot.

All boxes must be handled in this manner to reduce cubage and reduce our disposal costs.

Garbage

The larger steel container in the outside enclosure is to be used for **Plastic bagged garbage secured by a twist tie or knot.**

No cardboard boxes, empty or full of garbage are to go in this container.

Again, this will reduce curbage costs for everyone. Please ensure all garbage is contained and the lid is closed to prevent animals from getting into garbage.

Recyclables

Plastic (flattened if possible), flattened tin cans, paper/magazine/flyers and non-cardboard containers are to go into the **black plastic** containers in the “**garbage building**”.

Making these items as small as possible will reduce curbage costs.

Bottle Depot Recycling for Refund \$\$

Finally, **the large plastic barrel** just inside the door to your left in the “**garbage building**” is the place to deposit your refundable containers. Preference is for just containers in the plastic barrel, so please try to avoid putting refundables in boxes or plastic bags.

Please do not put other recyclable material in this container as they should go in the **black plastic bins**.

The proceeds from the “refundables” goes to the Square Butte Ranch Events Committee.

Thank you for helping to prepare and dispose of your refuse in the proper receptacles. This will reduce costs for this service.

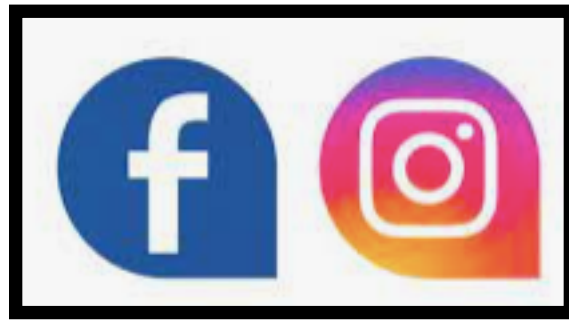
Foothills Landfill and Recycling Centre for Large items:

Foothills County has a large land fill and recycling centre. They take

Furniture, Paint, Lumber/Wood, Bar-B-Ques etc.

You will need to declare your address as Millarville in order to use the land fill. There is a fee.

Foothills County website: [MD Foothills](https://www.mdfoothills.ca)



Are you on social media? Square Butte Ranches is!

From Kym Penner

Instagram: @squarebutteranches - Pictures for everyone, as an outreach to our greater community and for Owners who want to enjoy the beauty of all things Square Butte Ranches even when they are not present on the Ranch.

Facebook: Friend us at Square Butte Ranch - We use this account to promote our greater Community, share events for Farmers markets, MD foothills announcements and more.

Facebook RESIDENTS ONLY GROUP: Square Butte Ranches Residents - A place where residents share goings on in the community, wildlife spotting, ask questions that relate to our little community, and share pictures of Community events. This group is private and restricted to only residents there is a “skill” testing question to join.

Facebook: Community Business Page: Square Butte Ranches – We share our Instagram pictures here as well and we do get some enquires on this page about rentals that are available or people enquiring about upcoming properties for sale. If you are looking to put your house up for sale or rent out your property, you are welcome to Contact Kym Penner and she will provide the most recent names and emails of those who are enquiring. Kympenner3@gmail.com If you want to advertise on the business page a Rental or property for Sale, just let Kym know and she will get the information up on the page.

Do you have pictures to share with us? Tag us in your Instagram or Facebook Pictures and you will get the credit when it gets reposted, we are always looking for submissions to our social media pages.



BUY AND SELL

The newsletter is the place to list what you need and what you don't need!

Email nancyandrossbarrett@gmail.com

Newsletter deadline 15th of each month.

