

The Battlement Mesa Service Association

“Battlement Mesa: One of the “Best Neighborhoods”

By Keith Lammey, President, Battlement Mesa Service Association

If you’ve lived here for a long time, you may remember when Battlement Mesa, Colorado “made the front page” of *Where to Retire* magazine when Battlement Mesa was listed as a “Best Neighborhood.”

I’m not making this up. It is absolutely true. Judy Wade of Phoenix, Arizona wrote an article about our community that was published in the fall 1997 issue of *Where to Retire* magazine. It is an interesting article.

Ms. Wade introduced our community by saying, “Battlement Mesa may seem like a discordant name for such a serene place. But, situated on a Colorado mesa surrounded by mountains that are shaped like battlements, this development takes its name from the very scenery that attracts new residents.” A few paragraphs later she states, “Battlement Mesa has a true small town ambiance that is likely to prevail as it grows” then continues, “at an elevation of more than 5,000 feet, the community has mild winters and cool summers, and snow doesn’t last long on the ground.”

And some of Battlement Mesa’s 1997 residents were quoted in the article. Per Ms. Wade, Nancy Scott told her, “I feel we were divinely directed. We have no family here, and I had never been to Colorado but we knew we didn’t like heat, and we do like four seasons. So when {my husband} Jim became a casualty of career downsizing in the Wall Street banking business, we left our large colonial home and took a Colorado vacation.”

Ms. Wade states that “The state’s scenic beauty immediately appealed to the Scotts” and later in the article says, “The Scotts enjoy the mix of lifestyles and ages, including children, in their neighborhood.” Nancy Scott is quoted as saying, “We like everything about the place, but we like the people here best of all.”

As you might expect, the article mentions the Battlement Mesa Activity Center, -- “53,000-square-foot complex offers tennis, racquetball, basketball and volleyball courts, a pool, hot tub and sauna, and workout room” -- and “the 18-hole championship golf course designed by Ken Dye and Joe Finger (that) is widely considered one of Colorado’s finest.”

The article states that Hans and Elizabeth Bieber “retired from Denver, where Hans was a house painter” and explains that Hans “also enjoys the rural setting within a mile of the Colorado River. In wintertime, he says deer and elk come down from higher elevations and can be seen from the windows of his home. Bald eagles are in residence, and in summer the hummingbirds seek out blossoming flower gardens.”

Near the end of the article, Ms. Wade wrote, “With the best of nature as a backdrop, there seems little not to like about Battlement Mesa.”

In a previous column, I explained that I still believe our slogan, “Battlement Mesa, The Colorado Dream” and stated that “together we can make the dream come true” so it shouldn’t surprise you that I believe that Battlement Mesa still is a “Best Neighborhood.” Ms. Wade and the people that she quoted in her article said nice things about our community. And fourteen years later, they are still true. Battlement Mesa still has wonderful vistas, frequent visits from bobcats, coyotes, deer, elk, and even bear, a blend of lifestyles and age groups, including children, and a housing choice to suit most people’s needs.

In addition to the Activity Center and Golf Course, we now have a beautiful new middle school and a nearly new high school that serve our community. And we have a new pizza and cones restaurant. The “19th Hole” restaurant is open and within a few weeks we’ll have our very own True Value Hardware Store.

Tell your friends: Battlement Mesa is a Best Neighborhood!

(Originally published in the Grand Valley Echo)