

## Valerie Thisted

North Fork Estates

I am a Colorado native who grew up in a similar, nearby mountain community, so I've seen the impact of unchecked change and growth on the place I once loved and grew-up in. My husband and I have owned in Keystone for 15 years and lived here for five. Keystone is home, and we have three kids who attend elementary and high school in the Summit School District. My most recent professional background and master's degree is in social work, which is a service based and community focused profession. As a social worker, I have experience in schools, nonprofit, and hospital psychiatric care. While in nonprofit, I led the administration of national standards for Advocates for Children, which entailed assessing and implementing our agency's best practices, policies, and procedures. I also served on the *Colorado Alliance for Drug Endangered Children's Ongoing Services Subcommittee*, which was a multidisciplinary committee charged with developing best practices, protocols and policy recommendations. Locally, I have perspective as a second homeowner, short-term rental owner, and full time resident-owner. My investment in this community led me to serve on the board of the Keystone Owners Association, and on the boards two different homeowners associations. Currently, I serve my neighborhood as the association president.

I am very passionate, bordering on desperate, about the need to become an official town. I have been supporting the effort and working behind the scenes in every way possible because I firmly believe that everything we know and love is on the line. I am not a public person by nature. I have zero special interests or agendas. I *am* weary of broken bureaucracies and over spending. My vision is to see our special community preserved and to be able to pass that legacy on to my kids. I am running for the Charter Commission because I see the need for local, well-intended, qualified people to step up *and* roll up their sleeves, so we aren't at the mercy of those who do have special interests or agendas. This is a once in a life time opportunity, and we need to get it right!