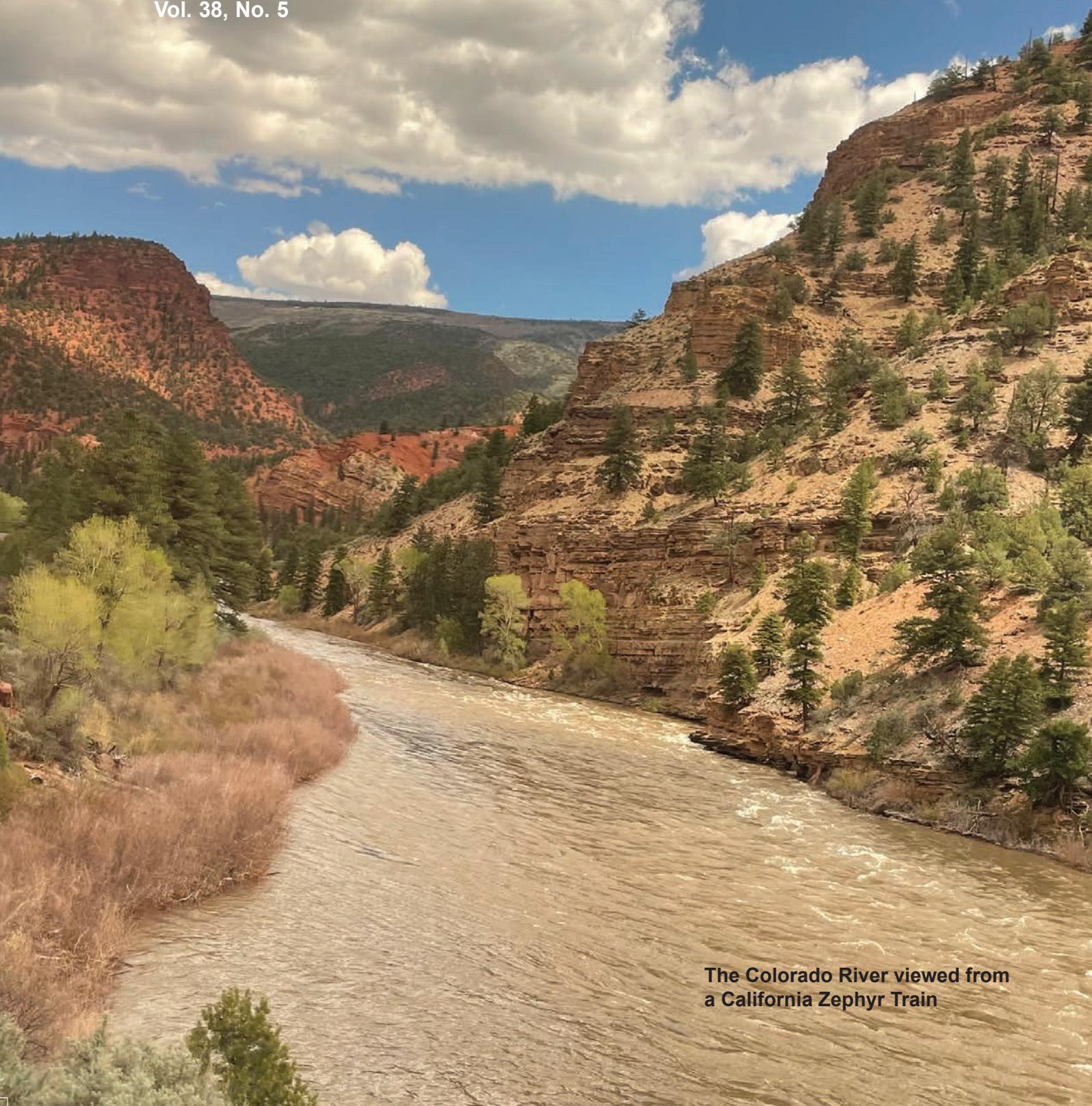


Heather 'n Von

July 2024

Vol. 38, No. 5

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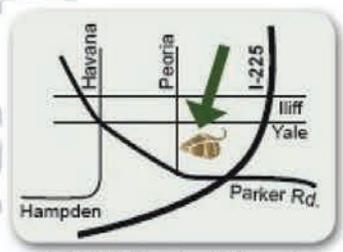
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TO HG RESIDENTS: It is the intent of the Editors to provide information of interest to its readers, to afford persons with varying and differing views opportunity to air responsible opinions on matters of community interest and to promote community and enjoyable life pursuits. The Publishers do not necessarily endorse the companies, products or services advertised in *Heather 'n Yon*. Printed by Publication Printers corp., 2001 S. Platte River Dr., Denver

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No Agreement Reached on Dispute Resolution

The boards of the Heather Gardens Metropolitan District (HGMD) and the Heather Gardens Association (HGA) convened a joint meeting on June 13, 2024, to discuss HGMD's dispute resolution proposal. No legal representation for either entity was present at the meeting.

After a tense start, the two boards agreed to review the proposal item by item, allowing HGA directors to ask questions and gain a better understanding of HGMD's goals. HGA President Larry Davila, reading from a prepared statement, said HGA would not agree to the proposal today.

"Once the HGA Board of Directors agrees in concept, we will not make a motion until it's reviewed by our attorney," Davila said.

The proposal, which can be found on HGMD's website, outlines a process for the two boards to separate when the management agreement ends. It includes seven items: separation of employees, space allocation, recreation fee, rental agreement, Piler addresses, organization chart, and stepped transition.

HGMD will no longer contract any services from HGA. Instead, HGMD proposes to hire staff directly and will commit to first extending offers to staff currently serving the District, assuming they meet the District's requirements.

HGMD proposes to occupy the first floor and the basement of the clubhouse. HGA staff currently occupying those spaces, including security and custodial staff, would have to relocate. HGMD intends to hire its own security & custodians for its facilities, including the clubhouse, restaurant, golf course, RV lot, and garden plot.

Funding for services previously provided by HGA, except those already in the HGMD budget, will come from the rent collected from HGA for the use of the district-owned parking lot and maintenance building. Per the proposal, "HGMD will agree to lease that property ... to HGA for the amount of the services HGMD is replacing that HGA will no longer provide and a percentage for capital reserves."

HGMD also proposes that HGA pay the District a recreation fee from the dues it collects from the residents. HGMD will commit to keeping the recreation fee for 2025 at or below the 2024 fee.

HGA Board members asked for clarification on many items, but an in-depth discussion on the details has yet to happen. Instead, HGMD Director Robin O'Meara noted matters that need to be revisited.

"We did not get into every nut and bolt in this proposal. We didn't want to wade through the weeds.

We have these general concepts in our proposal. Obviously, there is much more detail," O'Meara said.

After reviewing the complete proposal, HGMD asked HGA to make two initial concessions as a sign of good faith toward future negotiations. The requests were that (1) HGA direct management to take direction from the District Board regarding District business and (2) HGMD be allowed to occupy the office of the clubhouse manager immediately. After a short discussion, the HGA members agreed to respond to those requests following their Board meeting on June 18, 2024.

Restaurant Gets New Name, New Design Plan

All five directors attended the Heather Gardens Metropolitan District (HGMD) Board meeting on June 20, 2024. Director Baldwin attended on Zoom, and the others were present in the Board Room.

The Board unanimously approved changing the restaurant's name to The Rendezvous Bar and Grill. The banquet room will be renamed The Gardens at the Rendezvous Bar and Grill.

In a separate motion, the Board approved an architectural services contract with Malikai Architectural Design for a design test fit for the restaurant. The new design plan will create more seating, establish a clear pathway to the entrance, and meet accessibility requirements.

"We're excited about ... initially getting new entrances ... to attract the golfers," Director Taylor said. "We'll kind of get people flowing where we want them to, right into the restaurant."

The Board tabled a motion to resurface the auditorium floor after several directors questioned whether this was the most cost-effective solution. The current floor has been resurfaced five times in the last twelve years.

Director Taylor questioned how long the floor would last after being resurfaced for a sixth time. He recalled that a previous estimate indicated it would be less than a year, though the current estimate for resurfacing states the floor shouldn't have to be replaced for another three years.

"We discussed not wasting money to have it refinished. I'm concerned that that estimate for how long it's going to last went from less than a year to three years," Taylor said.

continued p. 6

HGMD continued...

Director Laubach's secondary motion to table the matter in order to investigate the costs of different types of flooring compared to the cost of resurfacing the floor passed with a majority. Director Baldwin opposed the motion. Director O'Meara will take the issue back to the Clubhouse Committee for further discussion and direction.

A motion to purchase a new rough cut mower for the golf course passed with a majority, but not without creating controversy. Golf Committee member Linda Savage said the committee would forego the mower in favor of purchasing a variable-speed pump for the golf course irrigation system. Director Baldwin agreed that the need for the pump is greater than the need for the mower.

Director Taylor disagreed, explaining that HGA has a water conservation committee looking into irrigation solutions for a lower cost. He also explained that replacing the pump house is at least eighteen months in the future, so the matter is not urgent. The mower, however, is already in the budget for this year, he said.

During public comment, several residents addressed issues related to HGMD's dispute resolution proposal, which HGMD and HGA discussed in a June 13, 2024 meeting.

In response to a question from resident Candice Compton, Director Taylor said HGA responded to HGMD about the good faith concessions HGMD requested at the end of that meeting.

"They were willing to take direction from the District according to District business pursuant to their interpretation of the management agreement, which is why we're in the situation we're in. So I didn't see that as moving forward," Taylor said.

HGA Secretary Sue McBeth spoke about HGMD's proposal to duplicate staff and charge HGA rent for offices and part of the maintenance building. McBeth noted that the proposed rent is half a million dollars, which she suggested could increase 2025 HOA fees.

"I am asking other residents to join me in requesting that the Metro District stop pursuing this very expensive plan," McBeth said.

Resident Katy Dimos addressed a rumor that HGMD would ask security to relocate their offices to Vaughan Way.

"That delays response time, and I feel utterly powerless," Dimos said.

Dimos' comment prompted Taylor to address HGA Secretary McBeth.

"They make stuff up," he said. "Sue, maybe you could ask your staff to stop ... making these things up and spreading rumors."

Taylor clarified that security could move to offices upstairs in the clubhouse or across the street.

Other actions taken by the board in June:

... tabled a motion to engage a commercial real estate appraiser to determine the fair market value of the second-floor clubhouse office space, maintenance facility, parking spaces to the west side of the clubhouse, and the grass area in the southwest corner of S. Heather Gardens Way and Abilene. Director Effler has put out a request for proposals with a deadline of June 30, 2024.

... approved the purchase of mobile microphones and speaker as a temporary solution to the sound problems in the auditorium

... adopted a procedure memorandum for electioneering activities

... heard a presentation from High Country Low Voltage for an upgraded AV system at the June 6 meeting and received a second, written proposal from Spectrum AV at the June 20 meeting

... directed management to unlock the pool gate during restaurant hours so the restaurant can serve food and drink in the pool area

HGA Board Nominations, Committee Openings, Buildings Update—and More

Nominations for the 2025 Heather Gardens Association Board and other opportunities to make a positive impact on the community were among topics on the agenda at the June 18, 2024, HGA Board meeting.

All board members were present, including David Baxter, Larry Davila, Bill Gold, Linda Hileman, Sue McBeth, Ray Nash and John Recob, with David Kennedy and Mike Pula joining by Zoom. David Baxter, Nominations Committee, noted that there are three openings for the 2025 Board of Directors. Anyone interested is encouraged to pick up an application at the Management Office. Applications must be returned to the Management Office by August 12.

Only one application had been received at the time of the June 18 meeting.

continued p. 7

HGA continued...

"If you are one of the many people who care deeply for our community and want to do all you can to improve it, this is your chance to get off the bench and into the game," stated information from the Nominations Committee.

Candidates are urged to take part in the Meet the Candidate gatherings where they can get together with residents. Meetings are upcoming in August and September.

Board President Larry Davila noted, "We have openings for various committees. We want to encourage people to apply. We need new blood and new input, and I'm sure the heads of committees will appreciate having a full slate of members."

"There are 25 committees when you count HGMD and HGA, insurance, capital programs and others," added John Recob. "They are wide ranging and offer opportunities to serve in your area of passion, skills and experience." Baxter added that residents have great ideas and recommendations, even in areas new to them.

General Manager Lary Herkal provided an update on various areas, including the progress on repairs in Building 223.

During the storm in May, when the roof of Building 223 was being replaced, a major leak occurred, impacting six units. Herkal reported that the contractor is finishing up the drywall in Units 606 and 506, with drywall work in progress on Units 406, 306, and 206. Replacing flooring is proceeding. On the Building Paint Project, Herkal noted that Building 201 has been completed, with Buildings 202 and 203 ongoing. Others to be repainted are Buildings 211, 223, 224, 231 and 241 on the schedule, with the last one slated for completion on October 16.

Ray Nash noted that the Budget and Finance Committee recently had a special meeting with the auditors. "They (the auditors) were fairly complimentary, and it was a clean audit," he stated. Additionally, there are several projects that need study before they go forward for the 2025 budget. Those include a Community-wide Security Plan, Boiler and Air Handling Unit Replacements, Electrical House Panels (electrical breakers), water proofing in the Atrium Buildings and projects with the City of Aurora for saving water.

Linda Hileman noted that members are needed for the Community Engagement and Communications Committee (CECC) and for the Project Insight Committee (PIC). The mission of PIC is to form and engage the community on current CECC projects and upcoming capital reserves projects.

Bill Gold of the Security/Emergency Preparedness (SEC) Committee noted that the committee's Updated Sign Project has been turned over to GM Lary Herkal for implementation. A request is under review for painting the addresses of the multi-story buildings where they can be seen on the Golf Course view so that if someone reports suspicious activity, Security can be given a specific address.

Gold added the concern and review by the SEC Committee and Security for a weekend party held at the Clubhouse, where an estimated 300 people showed up, well over the 186 person limit for the Sandberg Auditorium.

Betty Bergeron, head of the Area Representative Organization (ARO), noted that the ARO Appreciation is scheduled for August 22, 5-7 p.m. A big project she would like to complete with her ARO leaders before December is the revision of the ARO Bylaws and Handbook.

In New Business, Mike Pula, Maintenance Committee, made a motion to approve the Building 243 roof make-up unit replacement. The make-up is the air handling unit for the common corridors and hallways. It is an unbudgeted item, as it inadvertently didn't make it into the 2024 budget. It was noted that the cost, \$68,425, will be covered within the 2024 Contingency Budget. It was unanimously approved.

Additionally, the Conservation Water Procedure Memorandum Ad Hoc Committee is proceeding, with the objective of water conservation at Heather Gardens.

Other business included discussion regarding adoption of the Revised HGA Bylaws. Minor revisions are underway, with approval expected when edits are complete.

Legal review for the Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement is underway. Additionally, the Board is seeking input from the community. The Board adjourned into Executive Session.

Next meeting of the HGA Board is July 16, 2024.

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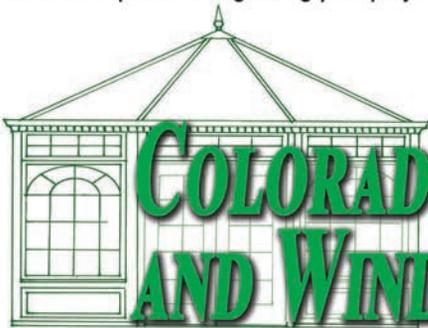


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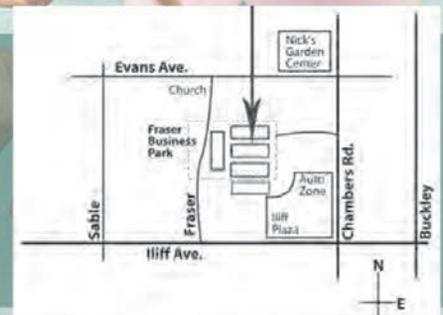
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HGMD Board President Reports

Daniel Taylor

Local celebrity Jake Jabs was dancing away the evening at The Rendezvous Bar & Grill's Friday night dance on June 14th. The dances are well attended. The patio seating area is open, and food and drinks are now served around the outdoor pool.

The Wednesday night summer concert series begins on June 19th on the patio. Saturday nights will have dinner music. We are looking for servers and table bussers, so if you have grandchildren 16 or older, you want to keep out of trouble for the summer, send them by.

HGA declined binding arbitration because their attorney said they could not do so without an attorney, by statute. Instead, HGA offered to negotiate an early termination of the management agreement (MA), with a target date of September 1st, but withdrew the offer because the negotiation had a foregone conclusion of an early termination of the MA. HGA said they would negotiate through attorneys in the lawsuit.

Upon the assurance that HGA wanted to negotiate a separation of the entities, HGMD agreed to meet on June 13th. HGA President Larry Davila began the negotiation with a prepared statement that HGA did not want to terminate the MA and would not reach any agreements that day or without legal review, so no negotiation.

HGMD prepared a settlement proposal which is in the board packet for June 13th. HGA presented no proposals. HGA listened to the proposal and asked a few questions. Nothing was negotiated or agreed to.

HGMD asked HGA to consider two requests to show good faith in negotiating a settlement. First, direct HGA staff to take direction from HGMD regarding HGMD business, and second, allow HGMD to use the Asst. Clubhouse Manager's office for its two employees. HGMD requested a response after the June 18th HGA Board meeting.

HGA agreed its GM would take direction from HGMD per HGA's interpretation of the MA. In negotiations, HGA has refused to state any policies or oversight that it must comply with under HGA's interpretation

of the MA, which is why we are involved in a lawsuit. However, HGMD will make the effort.

HGA agreed to share the Clubhouse Manager's office with two desks, with the Asst. Manager and our two employees. To my count that makes three, but at least HGA is no longer concerned about confidential documents as it stated in its motion for a temporary restraining order which was denied by the court.

In response to the HGA GM's full-page article in last month's HnY, it's gratifying that he now agrees that HGA should provide all of the services listed. Regarding the services provided, these are some of the issues we've had:

Accounting. CFO Jerry Counts left in Sept. 2023. December's year-end financial reports were received on 3/19/24. Monthly financial reports for January through March 2024, were received on May 20th. April and May have yet to be received. HGA was four months behind paying HGMD vendors, until HGMD ordered its own checks. Then, the bills were paid. HGA staff had no idea reporting was required to preserve our access to lottery funds. HGMD Treasurer Rita Effler discovered the oversight and took care of it. Staff have made incorrect assertions of IRS requirements.

Management. HGA has managed HGMD at a loss of over \$1 million per year. HGA and Staff are unfamiliar with special district law and refuse to comply when informed. Wages and benefits were over budget for 2023 despite having no clubhouse manager for half the year and terminating the golf course superintendent and asst. superintendent in March 2023, to save money. HGMD did not approve combining the clubhouse manager and custodial manager positions. Subsequently, clubhouse revenue plummeted, and events were cancelled without HGMD permission. Contracts were improperly prepared, and after HGMD complained, HGA staff just didn't ask, and signed contracts for \$50,000 over their spending authority.

We approve the GM's appreciation of the hard work and years of service contributed by Director Craig Baldwin. He as well as the other HGMD directors want to bring back dances and add more classes for residents. We need to control spending on wages and benefits. We need HGMD expenses to be paid out of the HGMD operating account, so we can reconcile the bank accounts, ensure bills are paid, and provide the transparency required by law.



HGA Board President Reports

Larry Dávila

June 17 already! I checked my calendar, and it tells me today is the due date for my column as president of The Association. We aim to be relevant but one minor calendar inconvenience is having to write columns before both the HGA and the HGMD have had their regular monthly meetings. So, please keep this factor in mind as you read the regular monthly columns.

One item that continues to be at the forefront of life in Heather Gardens is the discord regarding our Management Agreement. It was officially signed by both presidents (Kay Sawyer for the Association, and Craig Baldwin for the District) on August 3, 2018. It had worked fairly well until 2023 when the District thought the Association wasn't living up to its commitments and finally decided to have it expire at the end of December 31, 2024. Further dissatisfaction led the District to sue the Association and seek an early dissolution of the Agreement.

As I have written in previous columns, I believe all elected directors want to do what is best for Heather Gardens. I just want to remind you that I have not attributed sinister or ulterior motives to any member of the District Board as I believe they are trying to achieve positive results for all residents. Respecting their perspectives doesn't mean I agree with them. We seem to have two different visions, incompatible with each other. Nevertheless, since last fall both boards attempted to settle their differences by having two representatives of each Board meet regularly, which was not successful and was followed by mediation, which failed. There was an effort to have binding arbitration without lawyers present. Our legal

department pointed out that the District would have an advantage since its president is a lawyer.

Where does all that leave us? Late in May, we received an email that made sense to me. I asked the writer if I could quote her and she permitted me to do so. She wrote:

Solving issues ... does not mean someone wins and someone loses. It does not mean someone is right and someone is wrong! It does not mean someone is weak and someone is strong. It means all parties are going to work professionally, as adults, to resolve the issues with give and take on both sides.

Dictating to others, using forceful language, imposing one's own agenda, lawyers/lawsuits and bullying are simply not necessary or needed in this situation. The community is being damaged negatively by the current situation which has created tension, anxiety, sadness, and divisiveness in the community.

If any HGA or HGMD board member (or members) are not able to leave their ego and their personal agenda out and work with mediation, compromise, compassion, collaboration, and communication then I suggest they do what is right and step down.

Her thinking resonates with me and that's why I quote her. I may be wrong, but I think the great majority of our community wants this bickering to end. The Management Agreement doesn't need to come to an end. It could be amended or replaced with an updated one, but that will not happen if we continue to denigrate each other and attribute evil intention to each proposal. For the good of the community, I say "Let's dialogue."

Do you have questions or concerns about the future of Heather Gardens?
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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Hello
Heather Gardens!

This past May, my mom, sister and I journeyed from Denver to Grand Junction via California Zephyr train (see cover photo). In all the years I've lived in Colorado, I had never taken the train from Union Station to travel through the mountains. If you haven't done it, I highly recommend -- it also stops in Granby and Glenwood Springs along the way.

The experience (although a long 8+ hours) was a treat. We not only got to relax and avoid the stop-and-go traffic that I-70 often provides, we saw things from a different (and breathtaking!) viewpoint.

Whether you're traveling an unfamiliar route, trying a new cuisine or chatting with a stranger, being open to new experiences and perspectives enriches our lives. It can also foster empathy, understanding and personal growth.

So, here's to trying to new things and taking the scenic route.

Happy July!

-Susan Harman
Editor, *Heather 'n Yon Magazine*

THE RENDEZVOUS BAR AND GRILL



After receiving input from over 350 residents, input from the restaurant committee, and our restaurant manager, Cormac Ronan, the Heather Gardens Metropolitan District Board is proud to announce the new name of the restaurant, ***The Rendezvous Bar and Grill***.

This name was suggested was a compromise of keeping the name the same, Rendezvous, while at the same time meeting the goal of re-branding

the restaurant to attract customers who live outside of Heather Gardens to eat, drink and enjoy entertainment now available to all.

The banquet room is now ***The Gardens at The Rendezvous Bar and Grill***. Marketing The Gardens as a venue for any special occasion will support our bottom line, increasing revenue to offset the subsidy of the restaurant.

Subscriptions: To accommodate owners, who wish to receive *Heather 'n Yon* while away, the publisher has a subscription policy. Provide a forwarding address, plus a check for \$3 (**payable to Bluefish Publishing**) for each issue desired. Annual subscription is \$36. You may drop off your check with address information and what month the subscription should start at the HG Management Office. Alternatively, mail to Bluefish Publishing, LLC 19809 E. Columbia Ave., Aurora, CO 80013. Past issues (2023) are available on www.heathergardens.org/Resource Center.



I would like to highlight the efforts of our Golf and Landscape team led by Matt Martella. Their conservation efforts have been both effective and creative.

The landscaping team installed a small test section of Tahoma 31 sod. This sod is a cold weather bermudagrass that uses 50%-75% less water than traditional cold weather turf (bluegrass) and only grows to a maximum height of 4 inches. The maximum grow height will reduce the frequency of mowing. We will not see any discernable change in water usage from this small section, but we can see what it looks like, how it feels, how it stands up to foot and animal traffic, and how it tolerates maintenance operations (mowing, aeration, etc.).

If all goes well, we plan to move forward with larger test sections (SHGW islands). Larger sections will allow us to put the water savings claim to the test. Tahoma 31 sod does cost more but if it passes our tests, we will be able to do a cost-benefit analysis and determine if there are cost savings.

We have had immediate cost savings from the modification to the irrigation program. The programming of the irrigation system is now adjusted daily for sun, shade, cloudiness, heat, rainfall and other factors resulting in a reduction of water usage and expense. We have begun watering the turf on an as needed basis, not on a set program. We have also adjusted run times on specific zones based on the needs of that zone. Our goal is to reduce expenses by using less water and complying with water usage requirements by City of Aurora. As large as Heather Gardens is, irrigation is a significant cost. In the last 4 years, we have exceeded our variance of water usage only one time, due to a main line brake.

We are excited about the atrium building landscaping projects. These projects will allow us the opportunity to bring more water-wise landscaping to the property, showing the community that water-wise landscapes are no

longer drab and boring.

Our Landscaping crew works extremely hard to meet the high standards expected day in and day out. The pruning crew has the overwhelming task of pruning shrubs and trimming trees to installation of new shrubs, trees and taking care of broken branches and fallen trees.

The mowing crew has 54 acres of turf to mow, trim, edge and blow each week. The mow crew is also responsible for installation of rock and mulch beds, and any other odd jobs that pop up, filling potholes, resetting bollards, removing goose droppings, and sadly removing dead animals, etc.

We have crew members trained in the proper use of chemical herbicides to control weeds in rock/mulch beds and turf. There are irrigation crew members who test areas of the irrigation each day to verify and ensure proper function, repair broken sprinkler heads and malfunctioning valves, etc. The irrigation crew also report any areas of concern to Golf and Landscape Maintenance Asst. Manager, Harold Borquez, who who makes the necessary sprinkler time adjustments and oversees the golf crew, who work efficiently at providing a high-quality product that visitors to the course can enjoy.

We have drastically cut back on the amount of irrigation used on the golf course and widened fairways resulting in better playability, faster greens, and a faster speed of play.

This has a direct correlation to an increase in tee times which can be sold during the day, bringing more revenue to the property. The golf crew has been able to accomplish these tasks while managing an outdated irrigation system, which is wrought with complications like breaks in the irrigation lines, obsolete irrigation pumps, and completing two bunker renovations.

I have heard so many compliments about the appearance of Heather Gardens. This team has our appreciation and respect for maintaining such exceptionally high standards for everyone who lives at Heather Gardens.

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After 57 Years, Friends from Vietnam Reunite

In the photograph four pretty young women stand outside and pose for the camera. The women wear Army fatigues. Two wear brimmed caps, one wears a helmet, and one has nothing on her head. The woman on the far left sports sunglasses. A bright sun illuminates the women, a contrast to the darker shape of the transport vehicle behind them, and the young man, also in fatigues and cap, watching from an open doorway. If it weren't for the photograph's long-faded colors and soft focus, it could have been taken recently. But it was snapped in 1966. The four young women are Army nurses on their way to provide assistance at a medical outpost in An Khe, Vietnam, not far from a combat zone.



From left: Peggy Hale, Amy Johnston, Nancy Paulson, Mary Snow.

Peggy McCoy—then Peggy Hale—is the Army nurse wearing sunglasses. Next to her are fellow nurses Amy Johnston, Nancy Paulson, and Mary Snow. After their service in Vietnam, Peggy and Nancy lost touch. Two years ago they found one another, and spoke on the phone, but only recently—the week before Memorial Day—did Nancy travel from Nevada to Colorado to see Peggy in person at her Heather Gardens home.

They spoke about their service in Vietnam and their lives since then. They laughed as they recounted funny episodes, but grew somber as they remembered stories more tragic.

Answering the call to serve

Peggy Hale had months of nursing experience when her orders came in the mail. She reported to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio for basic training in early 1965. After completing the nursing program at St. Olaf College in Minnesota, Nancy Paulson reported to “Fort Sam” in July.

“We learned to salute, march, walk, you know,” Peggy recalls.

“We were just terrible,” Nancy adds. “We couldn't march right, we couldn't salute right . . .”

“We were nurses!” Peggy exclaims, and both laugh.

In March 1966, the two joined other medical personnel who left Travis Air Force Base in California to fly to Saigon. The final destination for Peggy and Nancy was the 67th Evacuation Hospital in Quy Nhon, a moderately-sized, picturesque city on the coast.

Nursing quarters were established in an old, converted hotel. The small rooms had bunk beds and the women—usually three to a room—shared a shower, toilet and sink. They took a bus to the hospital, and worked shifts depending on need.

The hospital, located near the end of a runway, was not fancy – but it was functional. “A very nice pre-stressed concrete,” recalls Nancy, although Peggy remembers it as “rather bleak.” Peggy

primarily worked with those who had come down with serious illnesses like malaria; Nancy cared for patients in the Recovery Room and ICU. The hospital's proximity to the runway—and helicopter landing pads—meant that some days the sounds of arriving wounded was constant. “Those helicopters coming and going, coming and going, coming and going all the time, that's that thing that stuck with me, that noise,” Nancy recalls.

Some memories don't fade

Both women tell of particular episodes that left impressions on them. Peggy remembers her stints caring for patients at MEDCAPs (temporary field clinics) the Army set up at the leprosarium in Quy Hoa, a nearby village. Another vivid memory is the night when the nurses were suddenly awoken from their bunks, told to don helmets and shelter under their beds. Guards thought the compound was under attack. It wasn't: “There was a guard downstairs. A cat turned over a trash can or something and he panics, and starts shooting,” Peggy chuckles.

Nancy recalls multiple episodes that still affect her: the Vietnamese baby that died after her

see page 19

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family was hit on the street by a military truck; the soldier suffering from burns who was destined for a trip back home but who didn't recover; the time when she was left exposed and alone on a berm between rice paddies as the Med Evac helicopter went off to retrieve a wounded soldier.

But the two remember lighter times as well: Nancy's hilarious attempts to fire an M-16 rifle; the time some brash pilots took them on an impromptu (and unofficial) trip to Taiwan; dancing in combat boots at the officer's club; the deep camaraderie they enjoyed with fellow nurses and the larger medical team. "We had people that stuck together as a team," Nancy recalls. "Otherwise I don't think any of us would have really made it."



Peggy McCoy and Nancy Paulson reunite after 57 years.

The war at home

Peggy and Nancy ended their Vietnam service at different times. By the end of her tour Peggy had grown bitter with the government's support for the war, and in part blamed President Lyndon Johnson for the escalation of the conflict. After she came back to the States she found work at the VA hospital in Denver. Nancy left Vietnam because her dad in Wisconsin had died, and she rushed back to attend the funeral. She didn't go back to Vietnam. Instead, she continued her service at Letterman Army Hospital in San Francisco and later the Army Reserves.

Peggy and Nancy returned to an America that, to them, had changed. The American public was starting to doubt the honesty of its government when it came to the Vietnam war. Across the country, students protested the war on college campuses—with no understanding of the sacrifices made by the young men and women serving there. Increasingly, Peggy and Nancy shared the feeling of many returning servicemen: that they didn't fit in. But neither ever lost their love for their country. They didn't understand then—and they don't understand now—how a person born into the personal freedoms granted by the United States, freedoms that men and women have fought to protect, can then disparage our country and burn our flag.

Nancy sums up the irony: "You have these people doing all this protesting, and you know people died and gave their lives so that we [can protest]. And we wouldn't change that. But it still hurts to have them do it . . . they don't understand what these kids went through. They have no idea."

Over the years Peggy and Nancy continued friendships with other veterans. But they lost touch with one another, and both went on with their lives.

At long last, a reunion

Every now and again Nancy Paulson had tried to learn where her friend Peggy Hale might be. But Peggy's last name had changed, service records were spotty, and the Internet had yet to be invented. Also, in the years after her Army service, Peggy often chose to distance herself from memories of her Vietnam experience.

But then, in the last two years, Peggy saw a poster advertising a Denver-area performance by the St. Olaf College choir. The poster included contact information for the school. Peggy recalled that Nancy had attended St. Olaf, so some time later Peggy reached out to the school's alumni office. "I told the fella, 'I'll give you my information, because I know you can't give me hers,'" Peggy said.

The alumni office was quick to pass on Peggy's contact information. Nancy phoned her long-lost friend later that day. "We were both screaming and crying," Peggy recalls.

And now they've reunited in person. It's clear from the warmth and rapport they have for one another that they'll never be out of touch again.

-Bill Kaluza, B232

IN MEMORIAM



Sam Cooper, CP1
Tom Fallows, CP6
Diane Halvorson, B208
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Left to Right: Rudy Morris with Honoree, Command Master Sergeant Sam Pitzen. He is a WWII veteran with the U.S. Marines guarding the Panama Canal. After the war he re-enrolled in the U.S. Army serving 20 more years and rising to the rank of Command Master Sergeant (E9), the highest enlisted rank in the Army. Sam is currently 99 yrs of age and will turn 100 this coming November. He lives here at HG by himself with family in the area.

HG Chapel Pastor Bill Cheney, himself a 25 year Army Veteran Chaplin. Bill had many different world wide assignments, including Chaplain (in voluntary front-line duty) in Vietnam. Pastor Bill was our main speaker and helped lead the celebration.

Photos by Janis Farrell



Right: Quilt created by Carolyn Morris



Sip and Paint Class



Photos by Janis Farrell

Paul & Pat Mauro: Benefits of Living an Active, Learning Life at HG



Pat and Paul Mauro

When Paul and Pat Mauro, B217, moved here a year ago, they brought with them a zeal for healthy, active living and an outreach to the Heather Gardens community.

A retired tech executive, Paul has a lifelong passion for fitness and learning. Pat, a marketing and administration professional before retirement, is taking a break from exercise while focusing on physical therapy for a back injury.

Paul notes, "My career was centered around a lot of creativity. As a computer geek and engineer, I was designing computer systems for applications such as air traffic control. If I did not know something, I'd grab some books and any other resources I could find and go research it."

Still an avid reader, he reads about 20 books a year.

Paul grew up near Caribou, Maine, when his dad was based at Loring Air Force Base. Pat grew up in Hermosa Beach, California. "I grew up on the beach with sand under my feet," Pat recalls. "My first experience of living in a house with a grassy yard was when we later moved to Culver City, California, when I was 12."

After graduating from the University of Denver, Paul moved to California. He and Pat met while both were working at Hughes Aircraft, the original Howard Hughes company, at the Fullerton, California location. They have four children, seven grandchildren and two grands.

Always ready to grow and learn new things, Paul adds, "When the kids were grown, we decided to run away from home." After decades of living on the West Coast, Paul and Pat decided to become East Coasters.

They settled in Northern Virginia near DC. "The company where I worked had been interested in starting a satellite office in the East. I went back there to manage it," Paul explains. Pat went to work in the firm's marketing headquarters office.

After 10 years, they left the corporate world, moving to Southern Virginia to run their own business. It was a mail and ship company which they built into a popular one-stop for shipping, moving and storage.

"We added U-Haul trucks, shipping antiques and palletized units, then moving services, and after that, we added a self-service storage facility and named our enterprise The Moving Centre. At that time, we were five years from retirement, so we decided to keep the business for five years. Just as we planned, at five years and one day, we sold it," he continues.



Lifelong learner, Paul Mauro, teaching a class.

continued page 24

...Paul and Pat Munro

“With our kids and grandkids still in Southern California, we got out a map and drew two circles. What would be a great place for us to live, but would be only a day’s drive from the family and our townhouse in Steamboat Springs? That happened to be Flagstaff, Arizona, but when we learned it gets around 100 inches of snow a year, we opted for Prescott, Arizona.”

After eight years in Arizona, Paul and Pat moved to Castle Rock and then Littleton. Upon visiting Heather Gardens, Paul and Pat were eager to relocate here.

Additionally, Heather Gardens has proven an excellent environment for Paul to introduce the Lifelong Learners series of classes.

“By the residents and for the residents,” is how Paul describes the classes. “We’re all learning simply for the fun of it. No tests. No homework. And no one calls your mom.”

Lifelong Learners launched in April to rave reviews. The second set of classes began July 1, featuring five classes, all facilitated by HG residents. Hot topics are on the schedule, including compassionate communications, nutrition essentials, and immunity and vaccines.

Paul’s class for the summer session is a captivating seven-part series on the US Supreme Court, its history and process.

It is a non-biased, a-political series with fascinating information about the highest court in the land. Interesting tidbits that most people might not know are included. For example, who knows that the youngest justice was only 32 years old or that one of the judges was impeached in 1805? Or then there is the fact that Justice Sandra Day O’Connor was not only the first woman justice but that she and Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who swore her in, had dated in college.

“About 20 cases will be examined as we look at how Supreme Court rulings have impacted our lives and how the Court has made dramatic turnarounds on their positions on some issues,” he explains. “In the 1930s, for example, the first gun laws were directed at the burgeoning crime of the Roaring ‘20s. In recent rulings, the emphasis on guns has shifted to individual rights.”

Upcoming planning for Lifelong Learners includes continual expansion of the number and variety of

class offerings. “We are looking at offering some classes in the evening as we evaluate availability of rooms and times. Our continued success depends on the willingness of HG residents to step up and share their unique backgrounds, passions, and hobbies. We are actively looking for class facilitators.”

Paul emphasizes a big thank you is due to the planning committee, which began its work in August, 2023, for helping to bring Lifelong Learners to fruition. They are Mike Boyd, Karen Buchanan, Jayne Kleinman, Cathy Martino, Jill Taylor and Sandy McCurdy.

At HG, Paul has continued his lifelong passion for exercise, including biking, tennis and working out. “There is so much to do here at Heather Gardens, I may even take up golf.”

Neither Paul nor Pat likes to cook, so they enjoy their ready-to-prepare Hello Fresh deliveries and nearby restaurants. “There are so many good restaurants in Aurora,” Pat notes. One of their favorites is Chinese at an eatery with the unusual name, Dating Yummy. Others are Bonfish Grill, Casa Vallarta and Star of India.

They also enjoy traveling, with one of their favorite cruises being Tokyo to Singapore. “It was almost three weeks and included Taiwan, Okinawa, Hong Kong and Vietnam. There were so many nationalities on the boat, including Chinese, Japanese, British, Australian and American. We really enjoyed it.”

Currently, with Pat undergoing physical therapy, they also enjoy a relaxed evening at home expanding their minds with the challenges of jigsaw puzzles over a glass of wine.

“We’re very happy at Heather Gardens,” Paul notes. It’s a beautiful campus and so convenient for me to bike over to Cherry Creek Reservoir.”

Pat emphasizes, “Another benefit of living here is meeting our wonderful neighbors. This is just a great place to live.”

-Patricia McLaughlin, B215

AURORA EVENTS

4th of July Spectacular



Thursday, July 4
6pm

Fireworks Show begins at 9:30pm

Aurora Municipal Center Great Lawn

15151 East Alameda Parkway, Aurora, CO, USA
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AuroraGov.org/Events

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Denver Art Museum

Tuesday, July 9

720-865-5000, 10am-9pm

www.denverartmuseum.org

100 W 14th Ave Pkwy

Longmont Museum

Saturday, July 13

303-651-8374, 9am-5pm

www.longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-e-m/museum

400 Quail Rd 80501

Four Mile Historic Park

Friday, July 26

720-865-0800, 10 am-4 pm

www.fourmilepark.org

715 S. Forest St. Denver

Plains Conservation Center

Saturday, July 13

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<https://www.botanicgardens.org/other-locations/plains-conservation-center>

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HGMD FOUNDATION

As Chair of the Foundation Committee, I am often asked if the Foundation can plant a certain type of tree. The Foundation does not select the type of tree nor the type of landscaping. We work with management to purchase trees that are appropriate for our community. The Foundation helps fund projects that benefit or enhance the community. For example; we can not fund a project for a residential building or for a club or an individual.

When making a donation to the Foundation it is possible to indicate if it to be used for trees or where ever there is a need.

We work with management to select projects that make the best use of donated funds.

Thank you, HG residents, for your generous support to the Foundation.

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FITNESS TO DRIVE



Left: Jake Jabs spotted on the Rendezvous patio
Above: Dancing at Rendezvous

JULY CALENDAR

Mon 1	Men's Bridge (every Monday) Book Club Spanish Club Texas Hold'em (first Monday) Mah Jongg (every Monday) Games Galore! (every Monday)	Skyview Room Mountain View Room Aspen Room Aspen Room Blue Spruce Room Arts & Crafts Room	10am-2pm 10:30am & 1pm 11am-12pm 12:30-5pm 1-4pm 4-6pm
Tue 2	Hand (Knee) and Foot (every Tuesday) Mah Jongg (every Tuesday) Ping Pong (every Tuesday) Mountain Man Nut and Fruit Billiard Club (every Tuesday)	Mountain View Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Clubhouse Lobby Billiards Room	12:30-4pm 1-4pm 2pm 2:15-3:15pm 6:30pm
Wed 3	Afternoon Cribbage (every Wed) Men's Poker (every Wed) Woodshop Club Duplicate Bridge/ACBL Rummikub (every Wed) Square Dance (1st and 3rd Wed)	Sunburst Cafe Skyview Room Mountain View Room Blue Spruce Room Lodgepole Lounge Sandberg Auditorium	12:30-3pm 12:30-5pm 1pm 1pm 1-3pm 7-9pm
Thu 4	Tai Chi (every Thursday) TOPS (every Thursday) Fun Gals Golf (every Thursday) Optimist Club (1st and 3rd Thursday) Time4Tap (every Thursday) Social Bridge (every Thursday) Bunko (1st and 3rd Thursday) Writers Club (every Thursday) Ping Pong (every Thursday) Kiwanis Club of Aurora Men's Billiards (every Thursday)	Tennis Courts Blue Spruce Room Golf Course Rendezvous Bar & Grill Sandberg Auditorium Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Skyview Game Room Skyview Room Billiards Room	8-11am 8:30-9:30am 9am 9am 11am-12pm 1-3:30pm 1-3:30 1-4pm 2pm 6pm 7-9pm
Fri 5	Fruit Shak (every Friday) Men with Purpose (1st and 3rd Fri) Texas Hold'em	Clubhouse Parking Lot Skyview Room Mountain View Room	9am-3pm 10-11am 12:30-5pm
Sat 6	Mexican Train Dominoes (every Saturday) Ping Pong (every Saturday) Voice for Residents Club Karaoke Club	Arts & Crafts Room Game Room Sandberg Auditorium Aspen/Blue Spruce Room	12-3pm 2pm 3-4:30pm 3-5pm
Sun 7	Social Bridge (every Sunday)	Skyview Room	1-3:30pm
Mon 8	Texas Hold'em (2nd and 4th Monday)	Mountain View Room	12:30-5pm



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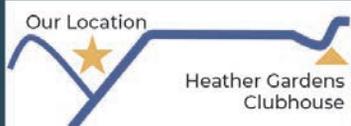
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Wed 10	Aviation Club Active Minds: Paris, Biography of a City B201 and B202	Aspen Room Sandberg Auditorium TBA	7pm 2-3pm 4:30pm
Thu 11	The Green Team Sip and Paint with Kaitlyn	Blue Spruce Room Arts & Crafts Room	12pm 2pm
Fri 12	Birding and Nature Club HG Indivisible	Lodgepole Lounge Skyview Room	11:30am 11:30-1pm
Sat 13	The Breakfast Club HG Dance: Yesterday's Bacon	Rendezvous Bar & Grill Rendezvous Bar & Grill	8:30am 6-9pm
Sun 14	Frolics: Murder Mystery Dessert Bar	Aspen/Blue Spruce Room	2-4pm
Mon 15	Photo Club	Aspen Room	3-5pm
Tue 16	Caregivers Support Group	Aspen Room	2-4pm
Wed 17	Xfinity/Comcast Bill Review	Library	9am-12pm
Thu 18	Social Justice Discussion Kathleen Arnold: The Space Age Kiwanis Club of Aurora	Blue Spruce Room Sandberg Auditorium Skyview Room	10am-12pm 1-2pm 6pm
Fri 19	Bingo	Library	1-3pm
Sat 20	Wine and Cheese Social Club	Aspen/Blue Spruce Room	3-5pm
Mon 22	Low Vision Support Group	Aspen Room	1:30pm
Tue 23	HG Republican Club HG Democrats Sevillians Dinner	Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium Rendezvous Bar & Grill	1:30-3pm 4-5:30pm 4:30-6pm
Thu 25	Rivertrail Foods	Clubhouse Lobby	9-11am
Fri 26	Movie: <i>The Boys in the Boat</i>	Sandberg Auditorium	3pm
Sat 27	National Federation for the Blind	Mountain View Room	10:30-12:30pm

Advertised Activities and Seminars

Sun, July 7 HG Chapel Services, HG Chapel, 11am (see ad p. 4)

Mon, July 1 Bayer Ear Clinic (every Monday by appt.), Arts & Crafts Room, 9am-12pm (see ad p. 55)

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Boards and Committees Monthly Meetings

SEC (BR/Zoom) – 4 pm Mon, July 1
 CECC (BR/Zoom) – 11 am Tue, July 2
 Maintenance (Zoom) – 1 pm Wed, July 3
 Clubs & Activities (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Fri, July 2
 Clubhouse (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, July 2
 RV Lot (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, July 8
 Foundation (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Wed, July 10
 Personnel Policy (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Fri, July 12
 Capital Program (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Fri, July 12
 Budget & Finance (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Mon, July 15
 Joint Long Range Plan (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, July 10
 Open Forum (BR/Zoom) - 3pm Wed, July 17
HGA Board (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, July 16
 ACC (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, July 18
HGMD Board (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Thu, July 18
 Nominating (BR/Zoom) – 3pm Mon, July 22
 Golf (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, July 23
 Resident Orientation (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, July 24
 Restaurant (BR/Zoom) – 3 pm Thu, July 25

For the most current information, please check the Heather Gardens website under HGA/HGMD Committee Meetings

TOWN HALL MEETING With Angela Lawson

Ward V, Aurora City Council

Saturday, July 20 • 10-11:30am
Aspen/Blue Spruce

Visit AuroraGov.org/TownMeetings to find links for joining virtual meetings and to confirm meeting dates and location

Heather 'n Yon Deadline: 7/17

Please submit to:
bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com



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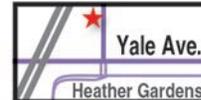
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Letters

Heather and Yon,

I am writing to express my gratitude to both the Heather Gardens Association board and the Heather Gardens Metropolitan District board after attending a joint meeting to go over the HDMD proposal for arbitration to move away from joint management of HGA and HGMD properties.

In recent months, I have become more knowledgeable about what each of these hard-working boards do and the time and resources they give to make this community so desirable and enjoyable. What I did not know was the history and the delegation of services between them through a past Management Agreement, which I have read, and see how some of the issues arose due to vague language and misinterpretation of the delegation of management and decision making, which the current HGMD board members are working to resolve right away. I have to say it is concerning that a small and toxically rude group of people (the Recall committee), have chosen to behave in unexpected ways. The result: chaos, confusion, and disharmony between board members and this community. All board members chose to serve and were elected by MAJORITY vote. We entrusted them to do the right thing: save costs while maintaining two properties, to be fully transparent about proposals and decisions regarding both properties, and to work TOGETHER. To date, there is still so much confusion on what the issues are relating to a Recall of HGMD board members. Assumptions, rumors and opinions have clouded this controversy.

I am encouraged as of Thursday, June 13, 2024 after attending a joint session of both boards. HGMD presented their reasoning, clarified misconceptions, and

offered great ideas to lower costs to both boards. HGA members asked great questions and made their points as well! I encourage this effort to productively work together.

Sincerely,
Wendy Hollister Building 211

Heather'n Yon,

On 5/15/24 I tried to find out the rules for using apartment building garage electrical outlets for personal use, such as charging motorized bicycles. That resulted in an unfortunate experience with the front office. Today, 6/14/24, I still don't have the answer. Here is the summary of my experience.

I called the receptionist to be connected to Resident Service Coordinator. I could not contact receptionist by phone. Got her voicemail each time.

The next day, 5/16/24, I decided to go to management office in person. The receptionist told me she will be right with me. The receptionist was a young girl alone in a locked room, unsupervised. I had to talk to her through a metal disk. She was talking on the phone. After waiting what appeared to be a long time, I lost my temper and told her, in raised voice, that I needed service right now. Someone in the hallway asked me what I wanted and got the Resident Service Coordinator for me.

I told her what I wanted to know and apologized for losing my temper. Two working days later she sent me four large files telling me that the answer to my question is in those files.

I thought that reply to my question was absurd and forwarded it to Administration Manager. In the forwarded message I also described my experience with the receptionist. Eventually she emailed me the rule prohibiting charging electric vehicles off garage outlets. That was not an answer to my question. Her email also contained a confidentiality

notice. I see no reason for the notice, other than hiding her level of performance. I replied rejecting the confidentiality notice and asking for correct answer to my question. She did not reply. General manger also did not reply to my complaint email.

Front office management is broken and needs to be fixed. I have a thorough record of this experience in the form of emails.

-Zack Spirytus, B232

Heather'n Yon,

My neighbor asked me if I wanted to go see the Frolics play. It's not something I would usually do, but I said yes. I'm so glad I did. There is quite a few talented people here at HG! The singing was marvelous! The dancing put a smile on my face. And the skit made me laugh!
-Colleen Patton, CP3

Heather 'n Yon welcomes letters concerned with community issues. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity.

Please submit letters to:
bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com
Subject line: Letter for HnY

Letters are due at 12pm (noon)
by deadline (see p. 30)

Word Limit: 300

Thank you!

Insight in our Capital Reserves

Last year and again this year you have likely seen much activity on the roofs of several of the 6-story buildings. All the noise and inconvenience are basically good things, because the buildings are getting brand new roofs! This is just one example of Capital Expenditures, which are paid out of our Heather Gardens Association’s Capital Reserve Fund. In a series of “Insight articles” you will receive insight about the status of our Capital Reserve Funds and be updated about the progress of current Capital Expenditures projects and on the planning process of the projects in 2025. The goal is to “show your money at work.”

*Note: For this article John Recob’s report “Heather Gardens’ Capital Reserve Funds,” from August 23, 2023, and updated September 21, 2023 was used.

Did you know that on average 23% of your monthly HGA dues are allocated to the HGA Capital Reserve Fund?

What is a Capital Reserve Fund?

The Heather Gardens Capital Reserve Fund is essentially our savings account which is used for major capital expenses. The Heather Gardens Homeowners Association (HGA) and Heather Gardens Metropolitan District (HGMD) are responsible for protecting the value of our individual property (Multi-story units, Country Places and Townhouses) and our amenities (Clubhouse, Restaurant, Pools etc.). To protect this value, HGA

<i>Breakdown by category of Average Monthly HOA Dues 2024</i>	
Capital Reserves Fund	23 %
Recreational Fee	10 %
Water & Sewer	5 %
Insurance	13 %
Maintenance	37 %
Gas and Electric	12 %
Total	100 %

and HGMD must maintain, repair, replace and improve their real estate. The associated costs are paid out of the Operational Budget and the Capital Reserve Funds of HGA and HGMD. All regular day-to-day costs to keep Heather Gardens a great place to live are paid for out of the Operational Budget. Good examples are landscaping, snowplowing and repairs in and around all the buildings like replacing a spring or bearings of the parking garage door, as well as all salaries of our management and crews. But the Operational Budget is not sufficient to pay for all big expensive projects like replacing roofs, renovating elevators, road and driveway resurfacing, exterior painting and repairing or replacing the plumbing and sewer infrastructures. Just like when you own a house, we must save money in advance for these kinds of big projects. And that’s why both HGA and HGMD have Capital Reserve Funds.



Roof replacement of building 224

How to stay informed and how to engage to protect the value of your property?

An important resource is the monthly HGA report on the status of our reserve funds, current capital reserve projects, and spending. This report is prepared by our professional staff and is included in the monthly Budget and Finance Committee meeting agenda and report package (posted in the Resource Center on the HGA Website in the “Budget and Finance Committee folder”). Another way to stay informed is to attend the monthly Joint Capital Programs Subcommittee meetings which are announced via Pitera beginning of the month in the “Upcoming HGA/HGMD Board and Committee meeting” and also in the “HGA Wednesday’s Communications”.

-CECC/Project Insight

Bible Study (Interdenominational) on every Wednesday, 9–10 am, Aspen Room (women); Blue Spruce Room (men).

Join a lovely group of caring women dedicated to the study of the word of God. We welcome everyone. No sign-up. Just show up. Call Joyce Smith, 918-586-2954.

Join the men as they study the Bible in person with Pastor Bill Cheyne or online on Wednesday morning, 9 am. Saturday morning is only online at 9 am, <https://meet.google.com/vpk-rgxi-fja>.

Six Stone Jars Catholic Bible Study. Meets every Tuesday 9:30 – 11:30 am in the Mountain View Room. We welcome everyone — Catholic and non-Catholic. Just show up. Call Dr. Eric Cline, 720-839-4289, or email clinecellars57@gmail.com

HG Women's Bible Study meets the fourth Thursday at 10-11:30 am, in the Mt. View room in person and also on Zoom. All other Thursday's are via Zoom only. Contact Carolyn Morris, 303-885-7807, or motoringmorris@gmail.com for more information. I can arrange help with Zoom if you need it.

Catholic Mass St Michael's Catholic Mass is held weekly at 1 pm Saturday, Sandberg Auditorium.

Chapel (Interdenominational Church Service) 11 am Sunday, Sandberg Auditorium. Pastor Bill Cheyne. We will continue the service on ZOOM for those who are unable to attend in person. Email Carolyn Morris for the link, motoringmorris@gmail.com.

- **Sunday Bible Study:** 10 am, Mountain View Room. Leader: Pastor Bill Cheyne.
- **Coffee Time:** 3rd Sunday, prior to Chapel Service

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Aviation Club

We meet the second Wednesday of each month, 7 pm, Aspen Room. This club is for anyone interested in aircraft and aviation. See you July 10. – Rudy Morris

Birding and Nature Club

The club meets at 11:30 am, on the second Friday of each month, Lodgepole Lounge.

Book Club

The HG Women's Book Club meets on the first Monday of each month in the Mountainview Room, to discuss the chosen book of the month. There are two sessions: at 10:30 am and 1 pm. Call Janet Arce, 720-774-3368, for the 10:30 am group; or Joanne Urias, 251-518-5781, for the 1 pm group.

B201 and B202

B201 and B202 meet at 4:30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, please call Nancy Grossman, 714-470-5660.

The Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club (TBC) for Singles 50 Plus meets at 8:30 am on the second Saturday in Rendezvous Restaurant for breakfast. Call 303-794-3332 to make your reservation. Cost is \$20. TBC has grown in the past 20 years — it has three other chapters along the Front Range. We have ongoing activities, such as bowling, the Birthday Bash, eating at a new restaurant, and Happy Hour.

Each month, there are also different activities planned, such as museums, sports events, plays, concerts, and day trips, to name a few. Come see! – Suzanne Harmes

CP1

Our happy hours are on the first Wednesday, time and

location TBA. – Susan Osman, susanosman21@gmail.com.

CP2

We meet on the first Tuesday in August, October, December, April, and June. In June and December, we meet in the Rendezvous Restaurant. In April and October, we will meet in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms. The months that we are not meeting in Rendezvous Restaurant will be potluck and BYOB. Please mark your calendars! – Jake Flint

CP4

We have our monthly get together on the first Thursday of the month. Please look for an email from your AR to let you know when and where the get-together will be held. – David Crum

Caregivers Support Group

The group meets on the third Tuesday of the month, 2–4 pm, Aspen Room. All caregivers are welcome. For information, call Nancy Fuhr, 303-337-4890.

HG Democrats

The Heather Gardens Democratic Club meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 4-5:30 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. The purpose of the Democratic Club is to support the Constitution, the rule of law and good government. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you are a Democrat or live in HG. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 23. We will discuss the primary-election results, and the issues and candidates that will be on the November ballot. I hope to hear from several candidates. Please join us after the meeting in the Rendezvous for social time and good political discussion – Marty Karnopp, Chair.

Frolics Club

Become a member of the Frolics Club for \$10, and join us for our Murder Mystery Dessert Bar on Sunday, July 14, 2-4 pm, Aspen/Blue Spruce Room. Attention all playwrights – we are accepting script submissions for our 2025 Annual Spring Production, submission deadline: Wednesday, July 31. If you're interested in finding out more about becoming a member, or attending the Murder Mystery Dessert Bar, please contact Arlene Krell at 720-284-9774.

Garden Club

Our next regular meeting will be Monday, July 29. Call or text Nancy to be added to the Garden email notification list, 720-932-6990. – Nancy Linsenbigler

The Green Team

If you care about the environment, The Green Team meets the second Thursday, noon, Blue Spruce Room. All are welcome. Call Wendy Pfaffhausen, 303-587-9797, with questions. Are you down-sizing? Have you recently moved into HG, and discovered there just isn't any room for that couch or coffee table? Maybe you purchased a new dining table, and don't know what to do with the old one? Here is your answer: contact Gone for Good, if you have a lot of stuff that you simply don't know what to do with. Maybe it isn't trash, so you don't want to throw it away, but you don't have time to donate it, or the right equipment to haul it off. Gone For Good is an eco-friendly junk-hauling company, meaning they don't just take your items to the landfill. Some things go to their thrift store or their online auction; some are donated or recycled. Only items that cannot be reused or recycled are taken to the landfill. Simply go online, and fill out the form. They are located

here in Aurora. In 2016, Gone For Good received the Super Service Award from Angie's List, making them the junk-removal choice over 95% of competitors.

Reminder: for HG Puppy Poop Project (PPP), join the 290-plus Heather Gardens puppies and owners who receive free compostable bags each month, or as needed. Members of the Green Team give out compostable bags in the Lodgepole Lounge on the last Friday of each and every month, 9 am-noon. Remember: dogs are not allowed in the Clubhouse. Please call Janet Arce, B232, with your puppy information, 720-774-3368.

HG Indivisible

Friday, July 12, Skyview Room, 11:30 am-1 pm (note earlier start time). Facilitated Discussion: On Tyranny/20 Lessons from the 20th Century by Timothy Snyder. Also, task force members will report on fracking at the Aurora Reservoir, Backing Abortion in the Colorado Constitution, and Neighbor to Neighbor Voter Outreach.

Connected to over 6,000 groups nationwide, Heather Gardens Indivisible is a community of neighbors who choose to make a difference in the world, addressing the many problems we see with positive, forward-thinking actions. We address issues that concern us, such as wealth inequality, racial injustice, women's reproductive rights, environmental threats, gun safety, etc., with both education and action. Although people of any political affiliation are welcome, our approach is progressive and, in the upcoming election, we will be supporting candidates whose values echo these goals.

Whether you can regularly attend the meetings or not, you are welcome to also sign up for our newsletter of information and action items. Questions? Contact Gina Abegg, facilitator, ginaabegg2020@gmail.com.

Receive regular mailings? Contact C. C. Carson, membership, cccarson287@gmail.com.

Karaoke Club

The club meets on the first Saturday of each month, 3–5 pm, in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms. BYOB and snacks. We have a huge inventory of great songs from which to choose and sing. Sing solo or with a group. For information, call Paul Spoutz, 303-564-1877.

Kiwanis Club of Aurora

Kiwanis meets on the first Thursday, 6 pm, for a business meeting in the Skyview Room, and on the third Thursday, 6 pm, with a guest speaker. If interested in participating, contact the club at jwmkiwanis@gmail.com. – James Martin, President

Lifelong Learners

Looking forward to our summer session – we offer the following classes: Compassionate Communication (which will be offered during the day and evening), Nutrition Education for Healthy Living; Immunity, Vaccines, Viruses and COVID19; and The Supreme Court, History and Process. Look for Learners classes in the summer classes and activities publication.

Men with Purpose

A group of men, with diversified backgrounds, gather to discuss timely topics regarding healthy aging and purposeful retirement. Books and articles relating to these topics are discussed by group members. Leadership is shared. Men With Purpose meets the first and third Fridays of each month, 10–11 am, Skyview Room. For information, contact Gene Dawson, 720-535-9672.

National Federation of the Blind, Aurora Chapter

Meet other blind and low-vision people at the monthly meeting, held on the fourth Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12:30 pm,

Mountainview Room. We discuss new medical options, accessible games, transportation, and idea-sharing. Contact Dale Holden, B213, 303-905-9738.

Optimist Club

The club meets on first and third Thursday of each month for breakfast in Rendezvous Restaurant, 9 am. A continental breakfast buffet is served, \$10 per person. Optimist Clubs are dedicated to “bringing out the best in kids” through various service projects. We welcome anyone interested in finding out more. Contact Darlene Park, 303-798-5088, or Bob Schlageter, 303-751-2205, with questions.

The Heather Gardens Optimist Club is sponsoring their annual Root Beer Float Fundraiser, to support Junior Golf, on Friday, July 12, golf patio. In addition, the HG Ladies Golf Club will hold a bake sale at the same time. Come enjoy a tasty treat with your root beer float. The proceeds will be used to help send the best local 10-to-18-year-old boys and girls golfers to compete in the Florida tournament. With questions: Tom Sullivan tom.tjsully@gmail.com, 303-850-9831.

Photo Club

If you want to learn more about photography, get inspired, meet others who share your passion, make new friends, and learn how to share those great trips, try the HG Photo Club. We discuss the different ways of taking photos, and how things have changed in the photo world.

We meet on the third Monday, 3-5 pm, Aspen Room. The next meeting will be July 15. Contact Rudy Morris, 303-506-8070, rudymorris4@gmail.com.

HG Republican Club

Club News – Heather Gardens Republican Club meets on Tuesday, July 23, 1:30-3 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. Featured event: Art Club, a first-hand

account/documentary about a Ft. Collins family's experience with public-school indoctrination and the transgender social contagion. This film takes an intimate look at this important issue, incorporates expert testimony, and offers advice for protecting children. Produced by former Colorado Senator Kevin Lundberg and Erin Lee, parent; for more information, go to <https://www.artclubmovie.com>.

"We are blessed with the opportunity to stand for something, for liberty and freedom and fairness. And these are things worth fighting for, worth devoting our lives to." – Ronald Reagan

Sevillians

Mark your calendar for 4:30–6 pm, the fourth Tuesday of the month, for the Sevillian dinner at Rendezvous. This is a wonderful way to connect with fellow residents of Seville, make new acquaintances, and find out about important happenings within the Seville. Sign-up sheets will be provided in the mailroom of your building. – Patt Clark

Singers/Mixed Chorus

We are looking for an accompanist/director. The HG mixed-chorus group cannot schedule July practices at this time. Please check the bulletin board in the Clubhouse for the latest information. Interested in joining or for more details, call Tom Kappel, 720-377-5756.

Singles Club/OPOCS

Pinochle and bridge groups are meeting, and social gatherings are ongoing. For information, call Jackie Clements, 303-988-3555. – Bernice Lucero

Social Justice Discussion

Unpacking The Society In Which We Live, the Social Justice Discussion Group, invites you to participate on the third Thursday of each month, 10 am-noon, Blue Spruce Room. On Thursday, July 18, we will begin forming the

committee to work on the MLK Celebration for January 2025. Also, a speaker will be announced, when details are finalized. – Diane Pritchard, dianekpritchard@gmail.com

Spanish Club (Club en Español)

Practica y conversacion en español, 11 am–noon every Monday, Aspen Room. Miriam Colón, 303-261-2057.

SRA

The Seville Recreational Association meets the fourth Monday of every month in a different Seville building. For time and location, please contact your AR or Seville building representative. – Vickie Wolfe, president

TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets 8:30–9:30 am every Thursday, Blue Spruce Room. With a sense of teamwork, we encourage each other to eat healthy, lose the unwanted pounds and have fun along the way. TOPS Chapter 0366 in HG Clubhouse has celebrated 45 years of providing members with information and support in making healthy eating choices. TOPS is an International diet club. We have many success stories to share. Please visit us during one of our meetings to see what we are about. Guests are always welcome. Real People. Real Weight Loss. Men and women are welcome. For information, contact Lisa Jackson, 469-323-5434 or mljackson81@gmail.com.

Voice For Residents Club

Do you want more information concerning current issues that we at HG are facing? If so, the Voice for Residents Club was formed to provide a forum for residents to stay current and informed on issues facing Heather Gardens. We have presented training on how to navigate HGMD and HGA websites, overview of the

HGMD and HGA management agreement, overview of the HGMD lawsuit against HGA, and invited both HGA and HGMD to present how we could help them resolve their dispute.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, July 6, 3-4:30 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. The agenda will be announced in our July flyer. We release a flyer every month to the ARs, so they can post it, listing the meeting date, time, and the agenda for the next meeting. If you don't see it, please email me so I can provide you with a flyer. – Vickie Hoffman: vhoff920@gmail.com.

Wine & Cheese Social Club

We meet on the third Saturday of every month. Join us at 3–5 pm Saturday, July 20, Aspen/Blue Spruce Room. Bring a beverage and snack to share. Entertainment is provided. For more information, call the Clubhouse Activity Desk, 303-751-1811, ext. 5.

Woodshop Club

The Woodshop Club promotes use of the Woodshop and better care of the equipment, focuses on safety within the Woodshop, and helps develop new woodworking classes, fellowship, and training. Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, 1 pm, Mountain View Room.

Member experience varies from beginner level to experienced woodworking individuals. You are invited to join this great energetic club, and have an opportunity to share your ideas and initiatives relating to woodworking. Come learn why the members all love working with wood — from designing writing pens to wall hangings and furniture. Direct questions to President Dave Woods, heathergardenswoodshopclub@gmail.com.

Writers Club

Do you want to write your memoirs? Have you put poems or prose to paper? Have you thought of writing a book, but didn't think you could? Come meet with other writers at the HG Writers Club. Join us on Thursdays, 1-4 pm, Skyview Room. Club contact: Barbara Creswell, 651-485-3608.

On **JULY 22**
(fourth Monday),
the **Low Vision Support Group**
will meet in the
Aspen Room, 1:30 pm.
Questions?
Call Marsha Bengen,
720-535-5224



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SPORTS & RECREATION

Billiard Club

The club meets for Co-ed 8-Ball at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays. Check in before 6:10 pm to play. Men's 9-Ball is at 7 pm on Thursdays. Annual dues of \$12 are payable on January 1 of each year. All new players are welcome. Questions? Call Connie Burns, 303-693-0766, or Judy Brehmer, 303-369-6258.

8-Ball May 21

1st Sean Kelliher, Shannon Boyd
2nd Roger Goldstein, Rita Cusack
3rd Ted Herrera/Mike Franzen

May 28

1st Brian Bucenec, Kit Carstens
2nd Dee Moore, Sean Kelliher
3rd Lindy Davenport, Rita Cusack

June 4

1st Dee Moore, Roger Goldstein
2nd Lindy Davenport, Judy Hein
3rd Don Gunnarson, Sharon Weiss

June 11

1st Otis Lawson, Connie Burns
2nd Jack Doherty, Judy Brehmer
3rd Brian Bucenec, Kit Carstens

9-Ball Results May 30

1st John Manzanares
2nd Scott Crowl

June 6

1st John Manzanares
2nd Steve Hesser

June 13

1st Jack Doherty
2nd John Manzanares

Bowling League

Our next season of bowling will begin early September. All levels of bowlers are welcome. We bowl on Thursday mornings at Arapahoe Bowl, 6850 S Dayton St. Please contact Mary Jo Prichard, mjpininsurance@hotmail.com, if you would like to be added to our communication list.

Bridge/Men's Monday

This group meets every Monday, 10 am–2 pm, in the Skyview Room. Questions: Tom Melton, 303-570-6584.

Bridge/Social

Open, casual, intermediate-level bridge is played on Thursdays and Sundays, 1–3:30 pm, Skyview Room. No reservations or partner needed. Please call before you come the first time. – Joanne Turner, 719-641-3644

Bunko

Bunko meets the first and third Thursdays each month, 1–3:30 pm. We gather in the Blue Spruce Room at 12:45 pm, and start play at 1 pm. For information: Carli Williams, carliwilliams@hotmail.com, 303-518-7337.

Cribbage/Afternoon

Afternoon Cribbage meets 12:30-3 pm Wednesdays, in the Clubhouse Sunburst Café. For information: Dean Lux, 303-353-4267.

Duplicate Bridge/ACBL

We play at 1 pm Wednesdays in the Blue Spruce Room. For partnership information, or with questions, call Linda Harder, 303-369-2032, or meeek045@outlook.com. – Linda Harder, Director

Games Galore!

Game night is every Monday 4-6 pm, Arts & Crafts Room. Bring your own game, your own drinks, and your own snacks. Join us, Heather Gardens residents and friends, for a fun night. Play your favorite game or learn a new one. It's all for fun. For information, Karen Gold, 712-301-2284.

Golf/Fun Gals

Fun Gals Golf plays on Thursday mornings, with the first of three tee times starting at 9. To participate, call the HG Pro Shop, 303-751-2390. When the message starts, press 1; when they answer, specify you want to play "Fun Gals Golf."

Fun Gals Golf is for ladies who are interested in some casual, non-competitive golf. It is not part of the HG Ladies Golf Club, is not a league, has no dues, no handicaps, no pressure, and no judgment.

For even more fun and socializing, we can take advantage of Rendezvous' earlier opening time of 10:30 am, and enjoy a drink or a bite together after play. For more information, please text or leave a voicemail for Linda Hileman, 303-514-5379.

Golf Club/Ladies

As the Heather Gardens Ladies Golf Club heads into the heat of July, players are grateful that our shotgun starts help mitigate the challenges of playing when the temperatures hit 80+ degrees. Participation in shotguns has been high, and feedback overall has been positive. The club will continue to host shotguns every first and third Wednesday through the end of the 2024 season. The first six weeks of play saw a record number of highly skilled shots. Club member Carol Gumpert scored a hole-in-one on hole # 8 during the third week of play, and – through June 5 – there were four birdies recorded, with most being on hole #8. Chip-ins were at a record high with 29 recorded, 10 on one day. Rendezvous lunch specials following play continue to be popular with club members. Players report enjoying the opportunity to unwind after their rounds while enjoying the company of fellow players, a good meal and a libation. The menus for these luncheon specials can be found on the club's website, and the club is grateful to Cormac Ronan for providing such delicious choices.

Club Website

Don't forget to check out

the club's website, www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com, for valuable information, including weekly tee times, handicaps, and the club's membership roster. The site also includes Golf Tip Videos from Club Pro Greg Kohr, and minutes from the board of directors' meetings. Visit the site regularly to keep up to date on club news.

Events

Please add these July events to your calendar:

July 15 Battle of the Gardens @ Windsor Gardens

July 23 Battle of the Gardens @ Heather Gardens

Scorecards

A reminder to all club members: when turning in your scorecard, be sure it contains the required information, the writing is legible, and the math is correct. Scorecards not meeting these requirements risk being disqualified for that week's play. All women interested in league play are invited to join HGLGC, regardless of skill level. Learn more about the club and get a membership application at the Heather Gardens Pro Shop and our website, www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com.

The next HGLGC board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 1 pm, Board Room. All members are encouraged to attend. Minutes from all board meetings are posted on the club's website.

Member Achievement

Not all great golf occurs during Wednesday league play. Club member Ellen Allie scored a hole-in-one on hole #6 during Friday Night Fun Group Play on May 31. Congratulations Ellen! We are proud of your achievement.

Tournament Results May 15

Flight A

1st Mary Kay Rohrer
2nd Jan Belt
3rd Nancy Wilson
4th Judy Phillips

Flight B

1st Flo Madonna
2nd Anne Gillis, Cindy Koch
4th Gina Studer

Flight C

1st Carol Gumpert
2nd JoAnn Sterling
3rd Sharon Weiss
4th Mavis Richardson

Flight D

1st Sandy Costello
2nd Lisa Matthews
3rd Marilyn Cornell
4th Joan McGary
Low Gross Awards
Flight A – Deb Madril
Flight B – Judy Nelson
Flight C – Barb Gierscher
Flight D – Candia Lang

May 22

Flight A

1st Glenda Pitts
2nd Barb Tucker
3rd Nancy Bonniwell
4th Beulah Gould, Judy Phillips,
Mary Kay Rohrer

Flight B

1st Anne Gillis
2nd Judy Nelson
3rd Gina Studer, Sharon Sweeney

Flight C

1st Ann Agee
2nd Dee Moore
3rd Barb Gierscher, Bev Nelson,
Mavis Richardson

Flight D

1st Sandy Costello
2nd Ellen Allie, Maureen McBride,
Joan McGary

Low Gross Awards

Flight A – Charlane Plucheck
Flight B – Flo Madonna
Flight C – Laura Thompson
Flight D – Lisa Matthews

May 29

Flight A

1st JoAnn Fitch, Margie Francone
3rd Colleen Kreft, Joyce Laffea,
Glenda Pitts

Flight B

1st Sharon Rademacher
2nd Sharon Sweeney
3rd Karin Bentley
4th Anne Gillis, Barb McShane

Flight C

1st Carol Anne Mayne
2nd Barb Gierscher
3rd Linda Gonzalez, Mavis
Richardson

Flight D

1st Ellen Allie, Joan McGary
3rd Lisa Matthews
4th Susan Craig
Low Gross Awards
Flight A – Beulah Gould
Flight B – Linda Savage Carol
Gilbert, Pat Taylor
Flight C – Sharla Sheeks
Flight D – Pam Acosta-Watson

June 5

Flight A

1st Judy Philips
2nd Mary Kay Rohrer, Nancy Wilson
4th Jan Belt

Flight B

1st Barb McShane
2nd Carol Gilbert, Barb Gierscher
4th Anne Gillis, Carol Strickland

Flight C

1st Mavis Richardson
2nd Dee Moore
3rd Carol Gumpert, JoAnn Sterling

Flight D

1st Pam Acosta-Watson
2nd Betty Adams
3rd Kathy Liss
4th Susan Craig

Low Gross Awards

Flight A – Colleen Kreft, Charlane
Plucheck
Flight B – Karin Bentley
Flight C – Vicky Goodspeed
Flight D – Sandy Costello
– Suzi Stolte, Publicity Chair

Golf/Men's

Tournament Play, May 24

Flight E

1st John Guise
2nd Steve Galambos, Neil Miller
3rd Kenny Duncan
4th Bob Bell

Flight D

1st Bill DeSonner, David Krell
2nd Tom Merges
3rd Joe DeCristofaro

Flight C

1st Vern Thompson, Reg Craigo
2nd Wally Armistead
3rd Mark Ethridge

Flight B

1st Charles Marlow
2nd Eric Neel
3rd Mark Blagen

Flight A

1st Tom Parko
2nd Steve Hesser, John Good

3rd Jim Mathews

May 31

Flight E

1st Mark Giarratano, Bob Bell

2nd Kenny Duncan

3rd Steve Galambos

Flight D

1st Jay Hoyle

2nd Joe Robinson, Phil Haas

3rd Cliff Cresswell

Flight C

1st Vern Thompson, Jim Jensen

2nd Wally Armistead

3rd Calvin Green, David Croak

Flight B

1st Matt Dunne

2nd Bob Ledford, Butch Shoup

3rd Jess Deal, Tom Kappell

Flight A

1st Steve Hesser

2nd Bob Bengen

3rd Phil Marquis

4th Chris Hughes, Dave

Bushman, Bill Schmit

June 7

Flight E

1st James Busby, Mike Guise

2nd Rich Richardson, Mark

Giarratano

3rd Mike Corcoran

Flight D

1st Dave Walstrom

2nd Phil Haas

3rd Joe Robinson

Flight C

1st Tom Fitzgerald

2nd Phillip Corliss

3rd Reg Craigo

Flight B

1st Jon Freyer

2nd Jim Mathews, Matt Dunne

3rd Mike Benowitz

Flight A

1st Don Daily

2nd Dave Bushman

3rd Gene Barth

Men's and Ladies' Mixer

June 10

Flight A

1st Rich Richardson, Charlane

Pluchek

2nd James Busby, Jan Belt

Flight B

1st Bill DeSonnier, Mary Kay

Rohrer

2nd Wally Armistead, Vicki

Goodspeed.

Flight C

1st Tom Kappel, Jeanine Kilde

2nd Wayne Wharton, Debbie

Madril

Flight D

1st Rich Tomasic, Linda Gonzales

2nd Paul Zipps, Beverly Nelson

June 14

Flight E

1st James Busby

2nd Mike Guise, John Guise,

Steve Galambos

3rd Wayne Wharton, Kenny

Duncan

Flight D

1st Richard Tomasic

2nd Phil Haas

3rd Bill DeSonnier

4th Ben Chavez

Flight C

1st Calvin Green

2nd Steve Smith, Vern Thompson,

Fred Skirde

3rd Mark Ruhl, Vinny Rozanskas,

Jim Jensen

Flight B

1st Brian Bucenec, Jim Pardikes

2nd Larry Hill

3rd Raj Agrawal, Mike Beowitz,

Tom Kappell

Flight A

1st Steve Hesser

2nd Bill Schmit

3rd Dave Schmit

4th Chris Hughes

Golf/Pro Shop

Heather Gardens Golf Shop has the ability to put your credit card on file, to make golf-shop payments fast and easy. We recently got new credit-card processing that will make normal transactions easier, with the ability to tap, insert, swipe, or mobile pay. The downside: this means we need to re-add anyone's card that is currently on file. To do this, please come in to the golf shop, or call us at 303-751-2390, and we will get your card into the new system. Please let us know if you have any questions. Happy golfing! – Greg Kohr, PGA-certified director of golf

Hand (Knee) and Foot

Also known as Tripleplay, this is a variation of Canasta. Fun and easy to learn. We meet every Tuesday, 12:30–4 pm, Mountain View Room. Call Kevin Keator 303-699-4641, or just show up.

Mah Jongg/Monday

We meet 1–4 pm every Monday, Blue Spruce Room. If that room is not available, ask at the Activities Desk for our location. We play for a maximum of \$3, so bring your coins. All players are welcome, but you must have the latest Mah Jongg League card. If you are just curious about the game, feel free to drop by to observe. For information: Bobbie Klapp, 720-708-6738.

Mah Jongg/Tuesday

We meet 1–4 pm every Tuesday, Blue Spruce Room. All players are welcome. Please have the latest Mah Jongg League card. Social game: we do not play for money, only glory. Never played Mah Jongg? Come and observe, to see if you wish to learn. Free lessons can be arranged. Call Laurie, 720-210-8033, or Bobbie, 520-743-6849, for information.

Mexican Train Dominoes

We play noon–3 or 4 pm, every Saturday, Arts & Crafts Room. It's a game for everyone. – Bernadette (Bee) Hass, 303-923-3877.

Pickleball

The HG Pickleball Club plays daily according to our schedule found by scrolling down under the Home tab at <https://www.hgpickle.org/>. We offer a "Pickleball Lite" program for beginning and intermediate players. Times are published weekly by email, so let Ron Hileman (ronhileman@gmail.com) know if you would like to receive our updated information each week. The club provides loaner paddles and pickleballs.

We do not play when the courts are wet, or the wind gusts are over 20 MPH. We often add Ladder or Round Robin play on Saturday or Sunday. We are now separating play into four groups, based on ability and

desired pace plus intensity of play. Visit our club's website (above) for wind speed plus updated schedule information. Contact Phil Hughes, 303-503-7633, or Ron Hileman, 720-256-7477, with your questions or to schedule a free orientation or lesson.

Ping Pong

Fun and great exercise. Come join us in playing doubles, 2 pm on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday in the Game Room. You can also play by contacting the Activities Desk in the Clubhouse. If you have questions, call Bob Schlageter, 303-751-2205 – B. Schlageter

Poker/Men's & Texas Hold 'em

On Mondays, we play Texas Hold 'em (12:30–5 pm) in the Mountain View Room, except on the first Monday of the month, when we play in the Aspen Room. On Wednesdays, we play Men's Poker (12:30–5 pm) in the Skyview Room. On Fridays, we play Texas Hold 'em (12:30–5 pm) in the Mountain View Room. Our Texas Hold 'em games are open to the ladies. Our men-only poker games consist of a variety of dealers' choice games. For information please call Paul Reddy, 303-750-0442, or Larry Hill, 720-272-7765.

Rummikub

A rummy-like tile game that is played in tables of four. Easy to learn, fun to play. Lodgepole Lounge on Wednesdays, 1-3 pm. Joanne Turner, 719 641-3644.

Square Dance

Heather Twirlers invites all square dancers to join us every first and third Wednesday, 7–9 pm, Sandeurg Auditorium. The cost is \$7. If you are an experienced dancer, a newer dancer or feel a little rusty in your dancing, it is an excellent chance to both experience the joy of dancing and improve your skills, while meeting new and old friends. You

meet other dancers, have a lot of fun, and get your exercise. Any questions, call Beverly Nelson, 303-750-6632.

Tai Chi

The tai chi club practices on the tennis courts Thursday mornings. Although tai chi was originally developed for self-defense, it has evolved into a slow form of exercise used for stress reduction and improved posture, flexibility, and balance.

Tai chi consists of deliberate, flowing movements that are grouped into forms. It has been described as "meditation in motion."

Because we meet outside, the start time is weather dependent. Interested? For information about or to sign up, contact Dean Uyeno, dean.uyeno@live.com, before attending.

Tennis Club

Our play times for May are Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Check the bulletin board at the courts for play times, or call Wendy at 303-587-9797. Please come out and give us a try. We welcome all levels of players. We offer free lessons, and training on the ball machine. Our next get-together is our first-Tuesday monthly meeting at the Rendezvous Restaurant. This will be Tuesday, July 2, 5 pm. We are friendly and welcoming. – Wayne Wharton, secretary

Time4Tap Dance Group

If you are a seasoned tap dancer, you might want to join Time4Tap Dance Group (Intermediate/Advanced), at 11 am-noon, Thursdays, Sandberg Auditorium. With questions, call or text Julie Whalen, 303-550-5985; email jwhalen97@comcast.net. Make Time4Tap!

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HG Clubhouse Events

Clubhouse Hours

Monday–Saturday 6 am–9 pm; Sunday 7 am–7 pm

Phone 303-751-1811, x5

Acting Clubhouse Manager Julie Racich

Make reservations for any event by calling the number above or stop by the Clubhouse Activities Desk

Mountain Man Nut & Fruit Co.

Tuesday, July 2, 2:15–3:15pm, Clubhouse Lobby

They will be selling Nuts, Seeds, Snacks, Candies, Dried Fruits, and Trail Mix

Active Minds: Paris, Biography of a City

Wednesday, July 10, 2-3pm, Sandberg Auditorium

FREE, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5 or stop by the Activities Desk
As the city prepares to host the Summer Olympics in 2024, Paris will once again be in the spotlight. Join Active Minds as we will trace the city's history from its Celtic origins through to it becoming a cultural and political hub of France. In the process, we'll visit with some of the city's most colorful characters and notable places, including the Eiffel Tower, which was despised by Parisians in its day but has come to symbolize one of the world's great cities.

Heather Gardens Dance: Yesterday's Bacon

Saturday, July 13, 6-9pm, Sandberg Auditorium
COST:

Hawaiian Theme

(waiting for the committee to give me details)

Sip and Paint with Kaitlyn

Thursday, July 11, 2pm, Arts & Crafts Room
COST: \$20, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5 or stop by the Activities Desk.
Come to the clubhouse to paint, sip wine or non – alcoholic beverages and socialize with your neighbors. The price includes painting equipment and wine. We are limiting the number of participants to 25. We will be attempting to hold one a month.

Xfinity/Comcast Bill Review

Wednesday, July 17, 9am- Noon, Library
Sign-up sheets are now available. There are 10, 20 minutes slots. FREE, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5 or stop by the Activities Desk.

Rivertrail Foods

Thursday, July 25, 9-11am, Clubhouse Lobby
3rd Thursday of the month

A division of Mountain man, selling Nuts, Seeds, Snacks, Candies, Dried Fruits, and Trail Mix

Kathleen Arnold: The Space Age

Thursday, July 18, 1-2pm, Sandberg Auditorium
The Space Age began with a race between the Soviet Union and America. Since then, we have made many remarkable achievements in unraveling the secrets of the universe in a very short period of time.

Bingo

Friday, July 19, 1-3pm, Library

FREE, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5 or stop by the Activities Desk.

Snacks will be provided. Register early, this event fills up fast!

Movie: The Boys in the Boat

Friday, July 26, 3 pm Sandberg Auditorium

COST: \$5 pre-register / \$6 at the door, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5 or stop by the Activities Desk.

A 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

Fruit Shak

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*Most Bath Fitter conversion installations are typically completed in 3 days at Heather Gardens. Some exceptions apply. See location and/or design consultant for full offer details. Offer good through 07/31/2024.



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SEVILLE SUNFLOWERS

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.”

Yogi Berra said “It Ain’t Over till it’s Over.”

The Sunflower team is a prime example of these two sayings.

Just when we think the Seville area is complete a new idea pops up! With the addition of four new team members and reassignment of garden areas, the creativity with these changes was quite noticeable and well received. The grounds looked spectacular this spring! A special thanks goes to Mother Nature for that great snowfall on March 14th, 2024, making the flowering shrubs, trees, and our floral display outstanding.

The pool area also saw the addition of a new focal point, three large flower containers, carefully tucked in an unused corner of the pool deck.

In order to improve safety and upgrade the lighting, the SRA unanimously approved the installation of new lamps on the lampposts and solar lighting atop the bridge posts. This noticeable lighting change was met with both smiles and praise.

While out strolling the area, take notice of the new American flag, it is only befitting the area below be in prime shape with its newly painted flagpole fence and flower garden.

Special Recognition:

- A special thank you goes to Maintenance tech, Johnathan Call, and Maintenance Coordinator, Leo Munoz, for handling all the electrical work for the transformation of the lamppost’s lamps and to Al Reasoner and Gene Daniels, 235, for their installation of the solar lighting.
- Thank you to Steve Ferency, 235, for the generous donation of the 3 large flower containers for the pool area.

- As always, acknowledgement goes to Matt Martella and his R & G crew for all the care given to the Seville area throughout the year. The beautifully managed trees, shrubbery, well-tended irrigation, and manicured lawn allow the “Sevillians” to enjoy beautiful surroundings.
- For the two tasks that require more stamina than any “Sunflower” can muster, we thank Ross Stout for managing the entrance lighting and Todd Reid for removing all the litter and weeds from the big historic entrance rock.
- Gretchen Simone, SRA Board member R & G

The Sunflower Team Recognition:

- 231 Julie Barbe, Carol Smith
- 232 Janet Arce, Diane Dean, Gitta Filter
- 233 Paula Pence, Debbie Prutch, DJ Vrooman
- 235 Diane Andrich, Barbie Bock, Patt Clark, Mary Nelson, Debbie Petersen,
- Sandy Roberts, Chris Stanley, Gail Soddy.

-Patt Clark, “The Flower Lady”, 235
 -Gretchen Simone SRA R& G, 235



Photos by Janis Farrell

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Overhead @ HG
The Sounds and
Scents of Summer

Mary Hafka

I do enjoy the outdoors in summertime, lounging around the swimming pool, and walking my pampered pooch – minus a parka and my steel-cleated boots. Sunshine raises my spirits and increases my energy.

But the truth is, my attempts at outdoorsy-ness are limited. I'm a suburbanite, born and raised. I've never been camping in my life. Every now and then, consequently, I find the demands of nature getting a little too familiar. I like my wild-animal encounters to take place at the Denver Zoo. With some thick glass between them and me.

So summer came, and I threw open my windows, to fill the house with fresh, breezy air. But one Saturday evening, my bedroom filled with a scent that had me puzzled.

I toyed with the idea that I had a gas leak, and would be carbon monoxide-d to death in my sleep. But carbon monoxide is odorless, so that didn't seem a likely scenario.

The next morning, when walking the afore-mentioned pampered pooch, I stumbled across the carcass of a skunk, lying sadly close to the side of my house. The funky smell was explained, but it seemed stronger than it had the night before. I don't know what killed the skunk, but I suspect – as he shuffled off this mortal coil – he made his murderer pay a terrible price for the crime. As the day went on, and the deader the skunk got, the worse the odor became.

It was Sunday, so I rang up our intrepid Security officer. I explained the situation, and he was most sympathetic, but noted that picking up dead animals really didn't fall into the Security department's bailiwick.

Still, he promised to try and do something. I went about my usual Sunday activities, but the smell inside my house began to filter down into the basement. I kept looking out the

window all day – with hope in my heart – but the skunk carcass hadn't moved.

By 6 pm, I'd had enough. Despite the fact that few people on earth are less qualified than I to remove and dispose of a skunk carcass (Paris Hilton, maybe), I decided to deal with the dead animal myself.

I thought of my pioneer forbearers, then grabbed a black garage bag and a plastic bin to transport the odorous bundle. I ran into my neighbor in our adjoining driveways, and told him what I was doing.

He promptly grabbed a shovel from his garage, and said he would help. Clearly, this was a man who knew something about dealing with dead skunks.

We rounded the corner of my patio home, and were met with a welcome sight. Skulking across the lane from the skunk were three HG employees. No one had advanced on the skunk's body, yet. I think they were flipping a coin to see who would make first contact.

My neighbor and I turned on our heels, and promptly retreated back into our respective homes. We recognized having had a narrow escape – and rejoiced.

(I guess once a person actually touches a skunk, the effects can take days to remove. Weeks, maybe. The more I think about it, the narrower my escape appears to be.)

If the world were a fair place, this would have been the end of the story – but whoever said the world is fair? For days afterwards, the skunk smell lingered. Eating on my lanai was unthinkable.

Just as the smell started to fade, a Roads & Grounds worker ran a lawn mower over the patch of grass where the skunk had lain. The odor resurrected.

Twenty, or so, years ago, while walking a different pampered pooch, I came across a group of skunks cavorting and tumbling in the grass, at dusk. I thought they were just about the cutest, little furry creatures I'd ever laid eyes on.

I prevented my dog from joining them in their gamboling – although he seemed disposed to do so – because I

knew the dangers of getting too close to, and startling, skunks. Having once again escaped pernicious consequences, I've always kept a warm feeling in my heart about playful, fuzzy skunkies.

Today – in 2024 – the image seems less adorable.

Even when I huddle in the relative shelter of my lanai, wild creatures continue to plague me. Recently, I heard an astonishing series of thumps and clatter, which seemed to come from the patio home attached to mine. Since I knew those neighbors were out of town, I was forced to conclude that vandals had broken into their house, and were ransacking the place.

But – honestly – I couldn't picture any self-respecting burglar making that much noise. So I didn't call the police.

I soon realized the clatter was coming from the fiberglass roof on the neighboring lanai. I considered that frisky squirrels were creating the din. Still, the loudness made this seem unlikely, unless the squirrels were practicing their Irish clog dancing.

In exasperation, I peered over my fence, to discover that the crashing and bashing was coming from six or so big, fat magpies that were flinging each other around, as if in a WWE bout.

I don't know if they were fighting or mating, but who knew that blubberous birds could create that volume of racket? To my amazement, the magpies were dressed in singlet leotards, in neon colors, and had such colorful names stitched across the backs of their dressing gowns as Feather, the Flattener; Boston Blackish; The Plumed Pugilist; and The Ultimate Magpie Mauler.

Okay, I made the last part up, but seriously. These birds were going at each other with a ferociousness I didn't know existed in the avian kingdom.

I hope my neighbors didn't have to replace their fiberglass lanai roof, after that. Who knows if property insurance will cover an event like Magpie Mayhem – An Ornithological Smackdown.

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