

Heather 'n You

January 2025
Vol. 38, No. 11

Heather Gardens
Community Magazine

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-Anne Frank





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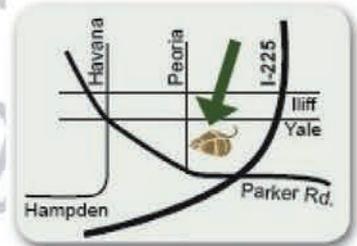
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Our Staff



Heather 'n' Yon™ is published monthly for the residents of HG

Publisher

Bluefish Publishing

Editor

Susan Harman

bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com

303.521.8846

Photographer

Janis Farrell

jcfarrell225@gmail.com

Distribution

Matt Dunne

mdunne259@aol.com

Writers

Mary Hafka

mhafka@comcast.net

Gloria Leshner

gjlesher@gmail.com

Patricia McLaughlin

mpa1026@qwestoffice.net

Laura Reed

lreed@berkeley.edu

Classified Advertising

Brian Harman

720.373.0226

bfpublishinginfo@gmail.com

Advertising Sales

Susan Harman

303.521.8846

bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com

Trademark Owner:

HG Association

2888 S. Heather Gardens Way

Aurora, CO 80014

303.755.0652

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It's 2025, But 2024 Management Agreement Still Sparks Heated Discussion

The HGA Board headed into 2025 with new board members, new officers, and with the old management agreement still sparking heated discussion.

A major point of contention throughout 2024, the management agreement between Heather Gardens Association (HGA), the entity which manages the HOA and residential building maintenance and Heather Gardens Metro District (HGMD), the governing district with fiduciary and management responsibility for the golf course, clubhouse, and restaurant, expired Dec. 31, 2024.

At issue in the HGA Board meeting, Dec. 17, was the motion introduced by Sue McBeth, 2024 board secretary and 2025 president, to present to the HGMD board the idea for their review of extending the 2024 management contract between HGA and HGMD for a period of 120 days, January 1 through April 30, 2025.

McBeth, B224, explained that the rationale for the 120 day extension is that in late 2024, HGMD and HGA boards welcomed new members and that it is hoped that “both boards can get together and figure out what kind of arrangement they may want,” she added.

Several of the residents in attendance and on Zoom strongly objected to the length of the extension.

A 30-day extension was favored by some attendees, such as resident Candice Compton. She stated concern that the 120 days will turn into another 120 days, and that “you’ve already had a year—30 days should be enough.”

HGMD Board Member Forrest McClure, CP2, noted on Zoom that he already had created the draft of a new agreement which has been sent to HGA board members. Eloise Laubach, B209, acting HGMD president, added she had a motion recommending the 120 day extension all ready to present at the Dec. 19 HGMD Board meeting. HGA Board Member John Recob stated that it is up to HGMD to decide whether or not to extend the agreement.

The HGA Board passed the motion for the 120 day extension and sent it on to the HGMD Board for that board’s decision.

Another new member: The HGA Board meeting began with interviews of four candidates who self-nominated to fill the open board seat created when Bill Gold left the HGA Board to run for and

win election to the HGMD Board. Candidates were Bill Archambault, B209; Phil Hughes, B224; Ronnie Jensen, B209; and Lee Nicholson, CP3.

Archambault, who was appointed to fill the remainder of the 2024 seat vacated recently by Ray Nash, was voted by the board to serve Bill Gold’s term for 2025.

An orientation meeting for newly elected 2025 board members was held earlier in December with information on policies and procedures, code of conduct and supplemental materials on best practices of HOAs in Colorado. New board members are Bradford Archer, B224; Linda Hileman, CP1; Mike Pula, B243; and John Harvey, B219.

Board terms that were up at the end of 2024 were David Kennedy, recently elected to the HGMD Board; Linda Hileman and Mike Pula, both re-elected for another HGA term, and Ray Nash who left the board this fall.

Committee assignments: Board officers for 2025 are Sue McBeth, President; Larry Davila, Vice President & Chair, Personnel Policy Committee; Linda Hileman, Secretary & Chair, Community Engagement & Communications Committee; and Mike Pula, Treasurer & Chair, Budget & Finance Committee.

Additional assignments for 2025 are Bill Archambault, Chair, Civic Affairs Committee; Bradford Archer, Chair, Long Range Planning Committee; David Baxter, Chair, Security & Emergency Preparedness Committee; John Harvey, Chair, Architectural Control Committee; and John Recob, Chair, Maintenance Committee.

\$86,000 budgeted for audit: In new business, a motion was introduced to engage the firm of RubinBrown for HGA’s regular yearly audit at a budgeted amount of up to \$86,000. Some residents objected, based on cost and the fact that RubinBrown has repeatedly been chosen as the auditor. Motion passed.

More electrical outlets: In additional new business, the issue of electrical outlets in the multi-story buildings was up for discussion once again. Additional requests are being received for more outlets in the common areas of multi-story buildings, specifically in the floor lobbies, following the prohibition of extension cords. Several buildings have obtained quotes for the installation of outlets. It was noted that no code violations have been reported regarding the existing outlets. A motion was made and passed for the HGA Board to instruct the Maintenance Department to create a plan for adding outlets in lobbies.

The next HGA Board meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1 pm, in the Clubhouse Board Room. Residents are encouraged to attend in person or by Zoom. For a complete package of agenda items, board reports and motions for each month, visit www.heathergardens.org Click on HGA/HGMD Meetings in the dark green bar in the upper right of the page.

Heather Garden Metropolitan District Board Meets for the First Time Following Recall

The Heather Gardens Metropolitan District Board convened December 19, 2024, for the first time since the recall of Daniel Taylor and Robin O'Meara and the election of new directors, Bill Gold and David Kennedy. For their first order of business, the board elected new officers: Gold to President, Kennedy to Treasurer, and Forrest McClure to Secretary. Eloise Laubach will return to her position as Vice President.

Directors also volunteered for committee assignments. Gold will chair the Restaurant Committee, and Steve Stratton will chair the Clubhouse Committee. Laubach and McClure will remain the Foundation Committee and RV Committee chairs, respectively. Kennedy will chair the Audit Finance Committee and the Capital Program Committee and will also co-chair the

Long Range Planning Committee, a joint committee with the Heather Gardens Association. Beulah Gold will continue to chair the Golf Committee.

The board then passed two motions, the first to extend the management agreement with the Heather Gardens Association up to 120 days and the second to reaffirm the contract with legal counsel Jennifer Ivey on an as-needed basis.

Four items were removed from the agenda on the advice of legal counsel and will be discussed in executive session. Those items included the retention of new auditors, a review of the forensic audit in progress, a review of the contract with CRS, and consideration to terminate the lawsuit against the Heather Gardens Association. The executive session will be held on January 9, 2025. Ivey and Peter Forbes, attorney for the lawsuit, will be in attendance.

Moody's to Review Heather Gardens Metropolitan District for Possible Rating Downgrade

The Heather Gardens Metropolitan District Board convened a special meeting December 2, 2024, the final meeting before two of its directors, Daniel Taylor and Robin O'Meara, were successfully recalled. Bill Gold and David Kennedy were elected to replace the recalled directors. They took the oath of office at a ceremony December 12, 2024.

In his President's Report, Daniel Taylor revealed that Heather Gardens Metropolitan District is under review by Moody's ratings for a possible downgrade. Moody's is a credit rating agency that assesses an organization's financial stability and creditworthiness. The District currently holds an A3 rating, indicating low credit risk.

According to a press release by Moody's, the review was triggered by the district's delay in submitting audited financial information and the likelihood that an audit would not be completed by December 31, 2024.

The press release reads, in part: "The review will assess the district's financial position, including levying practices, the county potentially withholding tax collections and receipt of 2023 audited results."

Taylor explained that the district had hired a new auditor to conform to best practices of having a different auditor than the Heather Gardens Association. He said the audit had been delayed because the new auditor quit abruptly without explanation, and the association did not provide information promptly. A forensic audit is now in progress, per Taylor.

Taylor said he negotiated with Moody's to delay the review for 60 to 90 days based on several factors, including a low debt burden and healthy reserves. Moody's also cited positive changes such as the fact that funds previously co-mingled with the association had been separated, that the association no longer had access to the district's funds, and that a trustee was handling the debt service.

Later in the meeting, the Board approved payment to auditor Eide Bailey for services performed on the forensic audit. Director Eloise Laubach opposed the motion, stating she did not believe a forensic audit was necessary.

In other news, the board approved the purchase of five tables for the Mountain View Room. The tables currently in the Mountain View Room will be moved to Rendezvous Bar & Grill because they match and are no longer available to purchase. The board also approved the purchase of 16 tables and chairs for the banquet room to replace the current tables that are too large. The new tables are easier to reconfigure and more conducive to conversation.

Other actions the board took included approval to purchase a 72-inch monitor for the Aspen Room, as well as six patio tables, umbrellas, and 28 chairs for the restaurant patio.

Holiday Lights



AT HG

Photos by Janis Farrell



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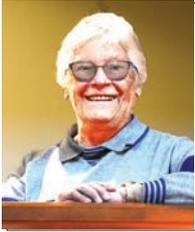
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HGA Board President Reports

Sue McBeth

I wish each and every resident a Happy New Year! As this is my inaugural letter as elected president of the Heather Gardens Association (HGA) Board of Directors, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Sue McBeth and I have lived in Building 224 for three years and this is my second year as a board member. Previously I have served as the president of a smaller condominium association board in Cincinnati.

Much has happened in the past month and year. Many contentious meetings and situations have occurred in our community. As we begin a new year, I aim to put the discontent behind us. After both the HGA Board election and the HGMD Recall election there are many new members on both boards. Moving forward I want to help create an atmosphere of hope where both of the boards that govern our community can work together to achieve a calmness that comes from cooperation and compromise. Both boards need to concentrate on working for what is best for you, the residents of Heather Gardens.

The New Year is traditionally a time for making resolutions, and discussions at the December HGA Board meeting proposed to initiate a working relationship with the HGMD Board to achieve just that. These resolutions include:

1. Reinstate the Executive Leadership sessions (the two boards' president and vice president meet together with the association general manager to coordinate projects and functions for smooth operations);
2. Ensure both boards are represented on the Joint Committees of Budget and Finance, Capital Reserves, and Long Range Planning, and
3. Extend the current Management Agreement for a specified time, 120 days, to enable a new agreement/contractual arrangement being reached between both boards that will achieve unity for the Heather Gardens Community.

Stay tuned for further developments.

As we close this year and begin a new one, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Larry Dávila for his unwavering leadership of the 2024 HGA Board. His perseverance and positive approach to dealing with the issues of the last year helped the Board stay focused on trying to do what was best for the residents of Heather Gardens. Thank you, Larry, for a job well done!

In closing I want to say that it is my pleasure and my honor to serve this community as the president of the Heather Gardens Association Board of Directors. I look forward to meeting many of you, hearing your feedback and insights, and working with you to make 2025 the best year to date for Heather Gardens.

Holiday Gatherings

B215



Photos by Janis Farrell

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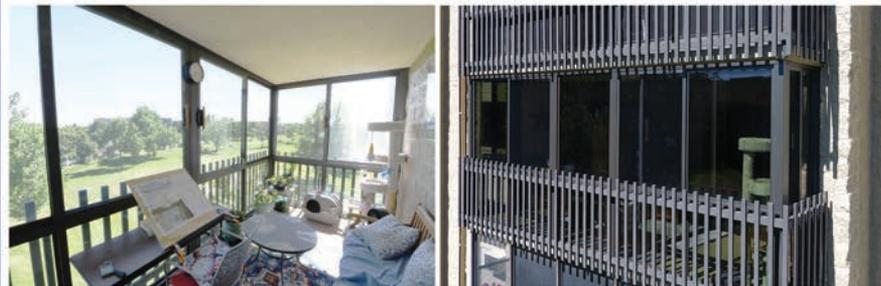
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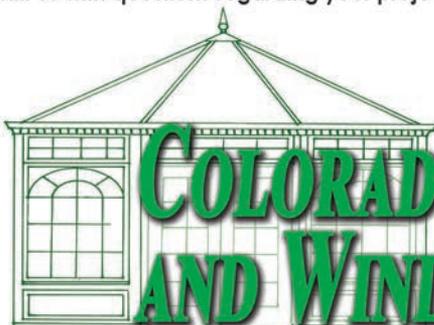
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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

*Hello
Heather Gardens!*



As I reflect on this last year, I celebrate and commend the talented *Heather 'n Yon* staff and what we have accomplished and look forward to our continued good work.

I also wanted to take a moment to extend my gratitude to the advertisers who provide service to our residents and support this publication. *Heather 'n Yon* could not be possible without a community of businesses and people working together.

I really enjoy meeting residents when I visit campus and want to thank each and every one of you for your kindness, support and feedback. I ran into a lot of friendly faces while helping with the December delivery.

Wishing all of you a happy and healthy new year and look forward to seeing you in 2025!

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



Holiday houses made with my daughter. When in doubt, add more glitter!

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What is a Metro District?

Special Districts, metro districts, and the statutory responsibilities of these quasi-governmental entities.

The Heather Gardens Metro District is important to us as a community because the district is responsible for the quality of our amenities; the clubhouse, restaurant, golf course, the garden area, and E. Linvale Pl.

In a meeting held for Heather Gardens residents in October, Ann Terry, CEO of the Special District Association (SDA), and Sue Blair, President of SDA and CEO of Community Resource Services, LLC (CRS) explained that the HG Metro District is a Special District of Colorado and is a local government authorized by Title 32, Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.), having only those powers and authorities granted by statute.

Under Title 32, board members of the HG Metro District have specific responsibilities and guidelines to conduct business on behalf of the public.

- All meetings are public and must be announced to the public 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- All authority for governing the district lies in the Board of Directors
- Once formed, a special district exists, holds assets, and performs each of its functions in trust for the benefit of the residential property owner within the district.
- Individual directors have no power or authority acting individually outside their votes as board members.
- All power of the board is a joint and collective power which exists only when the board is acting together as one body.
- Each director owes a fiduciary duty to the district and the residents and property holders of the district.

Operations and finances

- Rec fees are Metro District monies and must be tracked separately from HGA monies. The law provides that the board is responsible for revenues and finances.
- There are local government accounting standards for operations, department services, and capital funds.
- The District board has the responsibility to ensure that it is reimbursing a service provider for actual accurate expenses.
- Metro districts must submit a budget to the state.
- Metro District budgets can and often are passed without public input.
- It is common that Metro Districts own revenue-bearing entities (i.e., Rendezvous Bar & Grill)

-Marilyn Macdonald, B241

Honoring Veterans

On November 26, Heather Gardens held a service honoring veterans who passed away during the Covid-19 pandemic and for families not able to attend funerals due to restrictions.



Photos by Janis Farrell



Major Charles Wright presenting a Coffin flag to Josh Bryant



Coordinator Tony Brenning (formerly B213)

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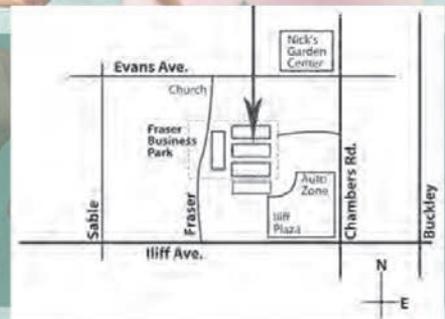
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High School Freshmen Interview (a different class of) Seniors

What does a high school freshman have in common with a senior? In this case, a unique morning of interviews.

Last fall, 18 senior citizens from Heather Gardens and Harvard Square trekked to the Innovation Center at Cherry Creek High School (CCHS), where they were interviewed by teacher Robert Jackson's freshman Honors English students. The students created their own interview questions, based on guidance from an NPR reporter. Each senior—who ranged in age from 66 to over 90 years old—was



paired with two to three students. These small groups found quiet areas both inside and outside to talk.

Interviews lasted about 90 minutes.

If any of the students or their subjects worried that an hour and a half was too much time to fill, just the opposite was true: the freshmen and seniors quickly grew comfortable with one another, and realized that they could have talked for much longer.

Life lessons

As part of their honors assignment, each student group wrote a summary of their interview. By and large these summaries were well-written, detailed descriptions of their interviewee's answers. As the freshmen were born well after the turn of the century, they heard firsthand from their subjects about events they knew only from history books: the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the turbulent cultural shifts of the 1960s. The students heard from their interviewees what everyday life was like in the decades prior to personal computers and the internet and mobile phones: people typed on manual typewriters; big, boxy televisions used metal antennas to coax signals from broadcast towers; telephone landlines were the only lines around. These days it's the rare high schooler who doesn't have a smartphone, and social media plays a huge role in how teens (and their parents) communicate. So many of the students, genuinely curious, asked a variant of this question: how did their senior subject, well, survive in a world without that technology?

Many of the students asked about the jobs and careers of their interviewees. Although the senior subjects spoke of many different careers – an Army welder, a teacher, a travel agent, a writer, an aerospace engineer were among the careers

mentioned – nearly all of the seniors had similar advice to the students: “find work you actually enjoy doing. If you love your job, you'll be much happier in life.”

Another lesson the students learned: life will always present challenges to overcome. Many of the senior interviewees spoke of hardships endured, and how their perseverance got them through. In more than one interview summary, the students noted that these tales of “conquering adversity” inspired them, even if the “real world” that awaits them after high school is still some years away.

Seniors impressed with freshmen

If students came away with valuable life lessons, the seniors came away impressed with these young high schoolers. Below are the reactions from some of the seniors interviewed.

Aleta Antoinette (B204). It was such a joy to meet with Phoenix, Emerson, and Blake and discover their passion for writing. I recalled in my freshman year that I embraced my passion for poetry and creative writing and took classes in both. I held on to those writings and five decades later published those poems. I was especially impressed with how thoughtful and creative their



questions were. The day of the interview I enjoyed sitting on the grass cross legged like I often did in my high school years. However, getting up from the grass was more awkward than back in my day. I could see all the possibilities that lie ahead for these three gifted students. The last question they asked me was if I had any advice for them. I suggested that they pursue their passion and the money will follow. I also shared that life can be challenging and to treat themselves with care and compassion like they would their best friend.

Ruth Baxter (B236). I thoroughly enjoyed it. The students were impressive. They were respectful, intelligent, and polite. As a former English teacher, I would have loved to have taught them. One of their questions was “What was the most trouble you got into?” Another was “What are your memories of 9/11?” This question was pertinent, as I lived in Wilmington, Delaware at the time, and my spouse worked in a Philadelphia skyscraper. I was honored to provide snippets of my life.





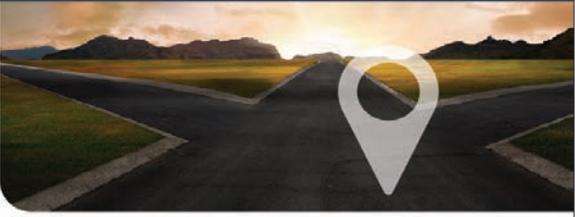
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Barbara Creswell (CP4). The three students who met with me asked such insightful questions. I could see the curiosity and sincerity in their demeanors. It was as if I was a wise grandmother, and they were asking my advice about life. I left the session feeling hopeful – encouraged by the strength of character that the students exhibited, their insight and their brilliance. I learned much from them.

Jon Erion (B212). The students asked me what I thought of cell phones and I responded that they were both a blessing and a curse. They allow anyone to be in touch with anyone else at any time, but they can also be abused via social media. They wanted to know more about how we communicated and kept in touch before cell phones were available. As an example, I mentioned that I was a licensed ham radio owner during my early college days in the 1960s. This brought chuckles and the question “what is a ham radio?” We had a lively discussion about ham radio and how ham operators frequently helped communicate during emergencies such as tornadoes and hurricanes. The curiosity and openness of these students really impressed me.



Donald Henninger (B236). I was interviewed by a team of two young gentlemen and a young lady. The young men took the lead and asked some very probing questions. I was told the last one or two very personal questions could be bypassed; I answered even these, with the idea, they were trying to gain information to help learn issues to avoid and increase their chance for a successful high school career. I brought the young lady into the conversation by talking with her directly. Her interest in 80s rock bands, as discerned from her logo t-shirt, generated a good bit of animation from her (my 50-ish daughter has long standing interests in the same groups).



Jane Henninger (B236). I was very impressed with the range of questions my two students asked. Both girls actively participated in the interview and added

additional questions based on my responses. I enjoyed the experience and would be interested in seeing the girls’ final products.



Bill Kaluza (B232). The students who interviewed me, Ryder, Jayden, and Leo, were smart, attentive, and polite. They asked me a range of questions. They asked about my past jobs, the hitch-hiking I did as a teen, even my favorite films. They asked whether I thought technological advances in the past 30 years—personal computers, the internet—made high school and college classes easier now than they were before. We discussed the benefits and downsides of social media. I described living at Heather Gardens, and one asked “Is it like a prison? Do they let you do stuff?” I answered “no” to the first question, and “yes” to the second.



Looking forward to next fall

Before the fall term, when CCHS English teacher Robert Jackson approached the Heather Gardens Writers Club with the idea of this cross-generational meeting of the minds, the members were intrigued—but none knew what to expect.

Now that the 18 senior citizens have undergone the interview session, though, they not only report that their expectations were exceeded—all say that they’d love to do it again next year!

-Barbara Creswell, CP4

-Bill Kaluza, B232

IN MEMORIAM



- Gerald Beltran B221
- Vernon Ediger, CP6
- Susan Galley, STH
- Duane Gilbert, former B243
- Betty Nelson, former CP1



Senior 88 Show

YOUNG AT HEART





Photos by Janis Farrell

HEATHER GARDENS SINGERS

Do you like to sing? Do you sing along to the Holiday music on the radio? Did you know singing is good for your health?

Then this article is for YOU!

The Heather Gardens Singers are starting a new year of singing and appearances and we are welcoming new singers!

The Heather Gardens Singers started in July of 2017 as The NoteAbles. The purpose of the club is to offer the opportunity to sing good choral music in a variety of genres, while improving the capabilities of all its members. Our mission is to spread the joy of music, foster basic choral techniques, improve music reading skills, and develop a common supportive atmosphere resulting in a greater appreciation of choral music and its performance. Our goal is giving back to our community through scheduled concerts and appearances.

Since our inception, the Heather Gardens Singers have lived up to their mission with numerous Christmas Shows, Memorial Day Concerts, clubhouse appearances for Valentines Day, singing Christmas Carols, and Rendezvous appearances. From time to time we have joined with other clubs at their events to sing a few songs with them.

The Heather Gardens Singers provide a welcoming environment to the community of people who enjoy singing choral music, experienced or inexperienced. All are welcome. We also allow 25 percent non-residents so invite your friends to join us.

We sing a wide variety of music from popular music, musical theater, Christmas music etc. We are open to suggestions from our members on pieces of music that they really like.

No auditions or musical background necessary -- all you must do is match pitch and love to sing.

We meet every Tuesday from 1:00-2:30pm in the Skyview Room of the clubhouse. We are currently welcoming new members for our chorus. We are also looking for an accompanist -- someone who plays piano to join us to help Joyce in leading our chorus. Please contact Joyce Culwell (303 888-9408) or Tom Kappel (720 377-5756) or show up at our rehearsal on Tuesday.

We are excited to welcome our new music director, Joyce Culwell, to lead our chorus. She has been conducting church choirs and community choruses for 35 years. Joyce has a bachelor's in music education (University of Central Missouri) and a master's in choral conducting (University of Colorado – Boulder). This training has allowed her many heart-warming experiences.

Welcome Joyce!

-Tom Kappel, B219



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Denver Dolls at HG

Photo by Janis Farrell



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Saturday, January 25, 2025. 3:00-4:00 PM

Plains Conservation Center
21901 E. Hampden Ave
Aurora, CO 80013

Immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of Native American culture with an engaging and educational storytelling program designed to celebrate and preserve the oral traditions of Native American communities. Each story is told by JoDene Sherwood and is accompanied by native dancers performing traditional dances.

Presented and managed by the City of Aurora

Price: \$5 per person

39th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration

Join the city of Aurora and community partners to honor the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The city's 39th annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration in January 2025 is themed "Let Freedom Ring."

This event will feature dance, music, and theatre to welcome the month-long celebration honoring King and his legacy. Refreshments will be provided, followed by an interfaith prayer vigil and the reading of the MLK commemoration proclamation at the City Council meeting by Mayor Coffman.

Registration is not required.

Check out the schedule of events at AuroraGov.org/MLK. Please note that the time and location of each event varies.

FREE Days in January



Denver Art Museum

Tuesday, January 14
720-865-5000, 10am-9pm
www.denverartmuseum.org
100 W 14th Ave Pkwy

Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Sunday, January 12
303-370-6000, 9am-5pm
www.dmns.org
2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver

Longmont Museum

Saturday, January 11
303-651-8374, 9am-5pm
www.longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-e-m/museum
400 Quail Rd 80501

Plains Conservation Center

Thursday, January 16
303-326-8380, 10am-3pm
www.botanicgardens.org/other-locations/plains-conservation-center
21901 E. Hampden Avenue

National Parks

Monday, January 20
<https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/fee-free-parks.htm>

TABOR Refund Alert!

Colorado citizens MUST file a Colorado state tax return to receive this year's TABOR refund. Seniors should file for state taxes even if they have no additional income to report. Don't miss out on your TABOR refund! For more information call Smoky Hill Tax Service, 303.680.6794

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Holiday Gatherings

B220



Photos by Janis Farrell

B218



Photos by Janis Farrell

JANUARY CALENDAR

Thu 2	Tai Chi (every Thurs) TOPS (every Thurs) Optimist Club (1st & 3rd Thurs) Bowling League (every Thurs) Time4Tap (every Thurs) Writers Club (every Thurs) Bunko (1st & 3rd Thurs) Social Bridge (every Thurs) Ping Pong (every Thurs) Meditation Club (every Thurs) Kiwanis Club (1st & 3rd Thurs) Men's Billiards (every Thurs)	Tennis Courts Blue Spruce Room Rendezvous Bar & Grill Arapahoe Bowling Center Sandberg Auditorium Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room Game Room Skyview Room Skyview Room Billiards Room	8-11am 8:30-9:30am 9am 10am 11am-12pm 1-4pm 1-3:30pm 1-3:30pm 2pm 4pm 6pm 7pm
Fri 3	Texas Hold'Em (every Fri) Men with Purpose (1st & 3rd Fri)	Mountain View Room Skyview Room	12:30-5pm 10-11am
Sat 4	Mexican Train Dominoes (every Sat) Ping Pong (every Sat) Karaoke Club	Arts & Crafts Room Game Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	12-3pm 2pm 3-5pm
Sun 5	Social Bridge (every Sun)	Skyview Room	1-3:30pm
Mon 6	Men's Bridge (every Mon) Book Club (1st Mon) Spanish Club (every Mon) Texas Hold'em Mah Jongg (every Mon) Games Galore! (every Mon)	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 7	CP2 Hand (Knee) and Foot (every Tues) HG Singers (every Tues) Mah Jongg (every Tues) Ping Pong (every Tues) Billiards Club (every Tues)	Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Mountain View Room Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Billiards Room	TBA 12:30-4pm 1-2:30pm 1-4pm 2pm 6:30pm

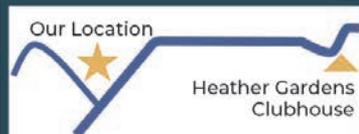


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Wed 8	Red Hattitudes Cribbage (every Wed) Men's Poker (every Wed) Duplicate Bridge/ACBL (every Wed) Woodshop Club Rummikub (every Wed) Active Minds: The Mississippi River B201 & B202 CP1 Aviation Club Square Dance (1st & 3rd Wed)	Rendezvous Bar & Grill Sunburst Café Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Lodgepole Lounge Sandberg Auditorium TBA Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Aspen Room Sandberg Auditorium	12:30pm 12:30-3pm 12:30-5pm 1pm 1pm 1-3pm 2-3pm 4:30pm 5:30pm 7pm 7-9pm
Thu 9	RV Lot Club	Aspen Room	5-6pm
Fri 10	HG Indivisible	Library	11:30am-1pm
Sat 11	The Breakfast Club	Rendezvous Bar & Grill	8:30am
Mon 13	Texas Hold'em (2nd, 3rd and 4th Mon)	Mountain View Room	12:30-5pm
Wed 15	Frolics: "Variety is the Spice of Life"	Rendezvous Bar & Grill	4pm
Thu 16	Social Justice Discussion	Blue Spruce Room	10am
Fri 17	Men with Purpose	Skyview Room	10-11am
Sat 18	Wine & Cheese Social Club Voice of Residents Forum	Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Sandberg Auditorium	3-5pm 3-4:30pm
Mon 20	Photo Club	Aspen Room	3-5pm
Tue 21	Caregivers Support Group	Skyview Room	2-4pm
Sat 25	National Federation of the Blind	Mountain View Room	10:30am-12:30pm
Mon 27	Low Vision Support Group SRA	Aspen Room TBA	1:30pm TBA
Tue 28	HG Republicans HG Democrats Sevillians Monthly Dinner	Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium Rendezvous Bar & Grill	1:30-3pm 4-5:30pm 4:30pm
Wed 29	Lifelong Learners	TBA	TBA

See pages 34 and 38 for more information on Clubs and Recreation*

Advertised Activities and Seminars

Mon, Jan 6: 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, Jan 6

CECC (BR/Zoom) – 11am Tues, Jan 7

Clubhouse (BR/Zoom) – 1pm, Tues, Jan 7

Civic Affairs (BR/Zoom) - 11am Wed, Jan 8

HGMD Foundation Committee (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Wed, Jan 8

Budget & Finance Workshop (BR/Zoom) – 9am, Thu, Jan 9

HGMD Special Board Meeting (BR/Zoom) - TBD, Thu, Jan 9

Maintenance (Zoom) – TBD

Personnel Policy - 10 am Fri, Jan 10

RV Lot (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, Jan 13

HGMD Audit/Finance (BR/Zoom) – 2 pm Mon, Jan 13

Joint Long Range (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, Jan 15

Open Forum (BR/Zoom) - 3pm Wed, Jan 15

ACC (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, Jan 16

HGMD Board (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Thu, Jan 16

Budget & Finance (BR/Zoom) – 10am, Mon, Jan 20

HGA Board (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Jan 21

Golf (BR/Zoom) – Cancelled

Resident Orientation (BR/Zoom) – 10am Wed, Jan 22

Restaurant (BR/Zoom) – 3pm, Thurs, Jan 30

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

Heather 'n Yon Deadline: 1/16

SUBMIT TO:

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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

Heather 'n Yon,

Heather Gardens Management:
On behalf of several gym/workout facility users, we were hoping not to have to make this complaint so public. But we have gotten no results after months of broken equipment and several notes, including photos.

Please tell us your SLA (Service Level Agreement) policy for you and our residents. What we have experienced would not stand up with any organization—the leg press broken for many months, the treadmill broken for many months. Many items are slowly deteriorating.

Will you repair and fix our issues with the equipment pronto? Please tell us what we can expect for the facility maintenance in the future. If your SLA is that all repairs will be made within 30 days or sooner, we can live with that. If repairs go beyond 30 days, please post the expected repair date and the reason for the delay on the gym bulletin board: supply chain issues or whatever.

If “you” took responsibility for keeping your body in shape and maintaining excellent health, you would ensure our gym facility was repaired and in 100% working order as soon as possible. Thank you for your prompt attention in these matters.

Evan Morris, STH

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!

Wisdom in the Silence

In
the
stillness
of the forest
time ceases to matter.
The racing, raging, madness
that suffocates my heart is released.
I exhale.
Gone are the
meaningless, mediocrities that cry out...
cry out to be heard.

The trees stand tall, surround me, peaceful,
certain of their destiny. Untouched by the chaos below.
I lie at the base of a giant Ponderosa Pine,
feel its certain strength, serenity, sweet silence.
Breathing in the healing aromatic scent, there is wisdom in the quiet,
reaching to ancient roots,
echoes to my core, whispers to my heart, a mother's song from long ago.

I
sway
with the
trees,
one with
nature,
rocked in
the arms
of solitude,
nothingness,
that in the end
is everything.

-Aleta Antoinette, B204

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Future screenings will be twice monthly and feature theater classics such as:

Gypsy, Funny Girl, Showboat, Porgy and Bess
Sunset Boulevard Hello Dolly!,
42nd Street, The Man Who Came To Dinner

And lost musicals such as:

Little Johnny Jones, Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon,
Good News, Pal Joey, and many more.

For additional information please contact:
irwinjzook@gmail.com

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CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Aviation Club

Our first meeting will be on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, Jan 8 at 7 pm in the Aspen Room. Our program will feature the A10 "WartHog," the awesome firepower aircraft created for close air support for our ground troops. Besides multiple type bombs and rockets carried under the wings, its main weapon is the GE AU-8 Avenger, 7 barrel rotary "Gatling Gun" that can deliver over 4,000 rounds per minute of special 30mm ammo! The standard load consists of 5 types of 30mm ammo, one of which is a "depleted uranium" round that in combination with other high explosive rounds will penetrate any country's armor. It is deadly to any tank, armored vehicle, sure death to any personnel inside the armored vehicle!

We will also feature a tour of the Barry Goldwater Weapons Range outside Gila Bend, AZ where we got to watch and photograph A-10's on the live fire target range! Quite the weapon ... and we'll get to see the new updated A-10 version that is faster, and more deadly than the original model. -Rudy Morris, 303-506-8070, rudymorris4@gmail.com

Book Club

The HG Women's Book Club meets on the first Monday of each month in the Mountain View 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 Bar & Grill 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 Harnes

CP1

We will resume Happy Hours on 1/8/2025 at 5:30 pm in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms, where you are encouraged to bring your own drink and shareable snack. Susan Osman, susanosman21@gmail.com.

CP2

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

CP4

Please look for an email from the AR with an invite to the monthly get together, telling you when and where the gathering will happen. -David Crum

Caregivers Support Group

We will resume meeting in January on the third Tuesday of the month, 2–4 pm, Skyview Room. (Our location has been moved.) See you next year. Have a safe holiday season. If you have questions, call me (303 337 4890) or email me. (fuhrnan@gmail.com) - Nancy Fuhr

Democrats/HG

The Heather Gardens Democratic Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month in the clubhouse

auditorium at 4-5:30 pm. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 28. As we enter a new era in American politics, with a re-run of the Trump presidency and a Congressional Republican majority, we must stay alert to current events, align with other groups of active citizens, and act to protect our hard-fought rights and freedoms. I plan to invite speakers from groups whose interests are similar to ours so that we can learn from them and explore joining forces.

The purpose of our club is to support the Constitution, the rule of law, and GOOD GOVERNMENT. You don't have to live in Heather Gardens nor be registered as a Democrat to attend our meetings. Some of us like to socialize over dinner in the Rendezvous after the meeting, and you are welcome to join us. There is no charge for our meetings. - Marty Karnopp, Chair

Frolics

Rehearsals for our 2025 annual Spring Production, "The Mystery of the Stolen Sapphire Tiara," start this month! Mark your calendar for the first weekend of May. The Traveling Troupe returns to the Rendezvous on Wednesday, January 15, at 4 pm, presenting "Variety is the Spice of Life!" We're always looking for new talent! If you're looking for fun, frivolity and frolicking, along with community caring and respect, performing, dancing, singing, music, parties, workshops, special events, and so much more, contact Susie Hayes at (303) 745-1816.

Garden Club

The Club will resume meetings in April 2025. If you are interested in renting a garden plot, pick up an application at the clubhouse and submit it to the management office before the end of the year. Offers of available plots are made on a first-come/first called basis beginning February 1, so don't take too long to get your name on the wait list. Go to the Metro District's website

at www.hgmetrodist.org/ to read the Procedure Memorandum and learn everything about the garden plots and club. To be added to the Garden Club's email notification list, call or text President Nancy Linsenbigler at 720-932-9797.

The Green Team

CHANGES are coming! At the December meeting we voted to move our monthly meeting date and time. SO, please mark your calendars ... starting February 2025 we will gather on the first Thursday of each month at 10 am in the Blue Spruce Room. All residents who are interested or concerned about our environment are welcome. Or, if you have suggestions as to improving it, we are always open to new ideas. For more information, call 303-587-9797. W. Pfaffhausen

Heather Gardens Singers

We are starting a new year with our music director, Joyce Culwell. If you enjoy singing, please join us. The group meets on Tuesdays in the Skyview Room from 1-2:30 pm. We are also looking for an accompanist so Joyce does not have to play and direct. Interested in joining or for more details call Tom Kappel 720 377-5756.

Indivisible/HG

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, environmental threats, women's reproductive rights, gun safety, etc., with both education and action. Although people of any political affiliation are welcome, our approach is progressive.

Friday, January 10, 11:30 am – 12:50 pm. HG Library (Media Room). You are welcome to join us for lunch afterward at Rendezvous SPEAKER: Wayne Laws, co-facilitator of the Aurora Immigrants Protection Network, will share with us ways HG residents can unite with other religious and

social justice organizations to minimize the harm done by the upcoming Migrant Deportation efforts. 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, cccason287@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 more 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

Facilitators Wanted. The Learners program depends on residents like you who are willing to share their background and/or passion with their neighbors. Could you be a facilitator for a future session? Lifelong Learners will be conducting a Prospective Facilitator Briefing on January 29, 2025. Place and time TBD. We will offer suggestions on how to plan your sessions, how to manage your time and how to engage your students. Plus answer any specific questions you may have. Everyone has a story or experience to share and many of the residents of Heather Gardens want to hear those stories. Now is the time to plan for your contribution to our learning. If you have any questions, contact us at heathergardenslearners@gmail.com

Low Vision

Support Group

Low Vision Support Group meets on January 27 (fourth Monday of the month) in the Aspen Room, 1:30 pm. Questions? Call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224

Meditation Club

Meditation for stress relief and general well-being. Join us for 20 minutes of deep relaxation and de-stressing from the hassles of daily life. We meet every Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Skyview Room. Questions: contact Darryl Stafford, 303-489-5292

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, Mountain View 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 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month for breakfast in Rendezvous Bar & Grill, 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.

Photo Club

We meet on the third Monday, 3-5 pm, Aspen Room. Contact Rudy Morris, 303-506-8070, rudymorris4@gmail.com. We will start our new year with the Photo Restoration session that I promised in Nov. but didn't happen ... my fault and I apologize for my mistake. If you do genealogy or other photo pursuits, I'm sure that from time to time you've run across a neat photo of Grand Pa's old farmhouse or maybe GrandPa and GrandMa that would be a family heirloom except that the photo is very old, damaged, cracked, creased and otherwise not usable. Here's where digital photography comes to our rescue!

Most of us have an all-in-one printer that can scan documents, old photos etc. and once it has been scanned into a digital format, we can do marvelous things to correct blemishes, cracks, creases and even underexposed or overexposed. After having access to a printer/scanner, then all we need is a print processing software application that can provide the "smarts" to apply the changes we need to FIX our beloved photo. We will be using Photoshop Deluxe Home Edition for processing. In spite of the name this is the Home version that is affordable, not the big commercial \$600 version.

Come to our January meeting and we'll demonstrate how to fix that old photo and make it usable as a family heirloom! If you have a favorite old photo and have a printer that can scan docs, photos ... scan it at 300 DPI or better 600 DPI (look for "Advanced Settings" on your printer/scanner menus). The higher the DPI, the better quality you will have when done. Scan your photo for a JPEG format and put it on a thumb drive and bring it to class.

Red Hattitudes

Ladies, if you are looking to have lunch with a bunch of fun-loving gals at the Rendezvous Bar &

Grill, join the Red Hattitudes on the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 pm. The Red Hats are a non-political, non-sectarian, group of ladies who like to wear purple outfits with a red hat or fascinator. Please call Janet Arce for more details at (720) 774-3368.

Republican Club

Tuesday, January 28, 1:30 - 3 pm auditorium, A MAGA YEAR: At the first general session of the club, We the People Republicans will meet to celebrate the 2024 election and plan MAGA Year 2025. Membership dues: \$20 per year. Guests are welcome. SAVE THE DATE: February 25, 1:30 - 3 pm auditorium, MOVIE - HILLBILLY ELEGY.

CONSTITUTION CLASS 2025. Knowing and Protecting the Constitution and Standing strong for the Constitution are two different things. In 2025, We the People Republican Club will be holding classes on the Constitution, facilitated by our club Vice President Mike Thoma. The class will touch on how many branches of government there are, which branch has the most power and which one has the least. Also, the class will cover the Bill of Rights with emphasis on certain amendments and current events. Was our 1st Amendment violated during COVID? Are our free speech rights being violated here at HG? How important is it that our 2nd Amendment be protected? How did our government violate the 4th Amendment with unreasonable searches and seizures? How were our January 6 prisoner's 6th Amendment rights taken away? Why were Tina Peters' 14th amendment rights violated? We the People firmly believe in what Thomas Jefferson eloquently said in the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Anyone interested in participating in the

classes may sign up on January 28. For more information, contact Robin O'Meara at rlomeara1@gmail.com.

RV Lot Club

Our club is open to all who RV, not just those who rent space in the HG RV Storage Lot. At our meetings, we share information and experience about RV-ing. We lobby to improve conditions in the storage lot. We also anticipate having social, travel and camping activities. We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, 5-6 pm, Aspen Room. Happy trails and safe travels! -Forrest McClure, 720-472-9250

Sevillians

To all residents of Buildings 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, and 236: The Sevillians will resume their monthly dinners on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 4:30 pm in the Rendezvous Bar & Grill, starting Tuesday, January 28. Please call Janet Arce at (720) 774-3368 or email: arcej1946@gmail.com if you would like to be placed on the invitation list.

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

You are invited to attend "Unpacking The Society In Which We Live" roundtable discussion on Thursday, January 16 from 10 am - noon in the Blue Spruce Room. We will be remembering the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and finalizing the plans for our celebration of Black History Month, Dr. King, and Rosa Parks' birthday on February 4. Discussion will also include ways in which we can support immigrants in our community. -Diane Pritchard dianekpritchard@gmail.com, Bernie Hupperts marlynber@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 Forum

Our last forum was December 14, to plan and organize for our 2025

year goals. We will continue to meet monthly with our first forum on Saturday, January 18, 2025, 3 to 4:30 pm in the auditorium. We plan to keep addressing community issues as we move forward to provide education opportunities on management and guiding documents to provide a framework for residents to continue to be informed on issues affecting the Heather Gardens community. Contact Vickie Hoffman or Marilyn Macdonald at TheVoiceForResidents@gmail.com.

Wine & Cheese Social Club

We meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month, 3 – 5pm, 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, Skyview 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

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

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.

Clubs/Organizations Contact Person

Email Submissions to:

Gloria Leshner:
gjlesher@gmail.com

***Monthly Deadline is listed on p. 30**

300 word limit

*Please note: any submissions after deadline may not be included in the upcoming issue of *Heather 'n Yon*



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SPORTS & RECREATION

Billiard Club

The Billiard Club meets for Co-ed 8-Ball at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays. Check in BEFORE 6:10 pm in order to play. Men's 9-Ball is at 7 pm on Thursdays. Annual dues of \$12 are payable on Jan. 1 of each year. All new players are welcome. Questions? Call Connie Burns 303-695-0766 or Jimmie Whorton 303-923-3038

8 BALL WINNERS 11/19 – 12/12

Nov. 19:

1st Jack Doherty/Rita Cusack
2nd Otis Lawson/Bob Schlageter
3rd Scott Crawl/Judy Brehmer
Nov. 26:

1st Brian Bucenec/Rita Cusack
2nd Otis Lawson/Bob Schlageter
3rd Scott Crawl/Judy Hein

Dec. 3:

1st Otis Lawson/Miquela Luna
2nd Doug Miller/Melissa Sugar
3rd Ditto Schultz/Dee Moore

Dec. 10:

1st Otis Lawson/Gil Lochhead
2nd Jack Doherty/Don Gunnarson
3rd Scott Crawl/David Worden

9 BALL WINNERS 11/19 - 12/12

Nov. 21:

1st Greg Kachadoorian
2nd Eddy Biren
3rd Otis Lawson

Dec. 5:

1st John Manzanares
2nd Otis Lawson
3rd Brian Bucenec

Dec. 12:

1st Otis Lawson
2nd Ditto Schultz

Bowling League

We bowl on Thursday morning at 10 am at Arapahoe Bowling Center. If interested or have questions call Mary Jo Prichard at 303-929-1241 or email mjpininsurance@hotmail.com.

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 in Mountain View Room and Sundays, Skyview Room, 1–3:30 pm. 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.

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 Linda Serio, 303-396-2218, 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

Our play schedule starts at 10 am primarily on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Please visit <https://www.hgpickle.org> for the latest schedule changes and to find many informative pickleball links. We often have an hour or more scheduled with courts based on level of play. That's in addition to our open play, round robin and ladder play plus dedicating time for drills and instruction to improve our pickleball skills. We are doing our best to offer fun experiences for players of all skill levels. Please contact Phil Hughes at 303-503-7633 or Ron Hileman at 720-256-7477 with feedback, questions or to schedule a free orientation and/or lesson. If you would like to be added to our weekly email updates, let Ron know at ronhileman@gmail.com. We provide loaner paddles and pickleballs for new players interested in experiencing America's fastest growing sport. You can click on HG Wind & Temperature on our website for current weather conditions. We will generally not be playing when the wind gusts are above 15–20 MPH

or when the wind chill “feels like” temperature is below freezing.

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, Sandberg Auditorium. The cost is \$7. If you are an experienced dancer, a newer dancer or feeling 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 at 303-750-6632

Tai Chi

Tai Chi is a slow moving, meditative exercise that began in China around 500 years ago. The health benefits of Tai Chi have been studied in randomized, controlled

clinical trials throughout the world including the Harvard Medical School. Some of the benefits of practicing Tai Chi include but are not limited to: improved strength and flexibility, improvements in balance and fall prevention, positive effects on cognitive function and improved relaxation. One of the best ways to learn Tai Chi is the step-by-step approach which is the method practiced by the Tai Chi Club. Our goal is to make Tai Chi accessible for residents in the community that are interested in learning Tai Chi. There is no cost or fee to join the club.

Although you can join and start learning Tai Chi at any time during the year, starting at the beginning of the spring season facilitates the step-by-step learning method. Additionally, there are several resources the club provides to help you. The main resource is a series of free video tutorials the Tai Chi Club has posted on YouTube.

The club meets on Thursday mornings on the clubhouse tennis courts. The time varies depending on the weather and temperature. Please contact Dean Uyeno via email prior to your first meeting for information that will help make your first experience more enjoyable and productive. Contact him at: dean.uyeno@live.com.

Time4Tap Dance Group

Step in time with tap dance. Learn steps, combinations, routines and dances to a variety of music, tempos and styles. Make Time4Tap in the Sandberg Auditorium on Thursdays: Intermediate/Advanced meets from 11 am -12 pm and Beginning/Intermediate meets from 12 -1 pm. QUESTIONS? Call or text Julie Whalen at 303-550-5985 or email jwhalen97@comcast.net

Sports and Recreation Contact

Email Submissions:
Gloria Leshner:
gjlesher@gmail.com

***Monthly Deadline is listed on p. 30**

300 word limit

*Please note: any submissions after deadline may not be included in the upcoming issue of *Heather ‘n Yon*



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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

Active Minds: The Mississippi River

Wednesday, January 8, 2 – 3 pm, Sandberg Auditorium

The mighty Mississippi River is the third largest watershed in the world, starting at Lake Itasca in Northern Minnesota and winding some 2,340 miles before emptying into the Gulf of Mexico not far from New Orleans. Historically home to over a dozen Native American tribes who lived near its banks, the Mississippi river has been both a vital transportation artery and a fertile agricultural region throughout the entire history of North America, up to and including the United States.

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COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

Insight into our Capital Reserves

Unexpected costly replacements

In November a big crane was placing a new roof top unit, that controls the heating, ventilation and air conditioning, on building 243. The previous unit stopped working properly and needed to be replaced. Over the years regular preventive maintenance and some repairs successfully extended the 15-year life expectancy of the unit to almost 25 years! So, in a way it was not a big surprise the unit stopped working. After a bid comparison, our Contract Department presented a recommendation to the Heather Gardens Association (HGA) Board during the regular June meeting and got the approval to replace the unit. The complete replacement project was budgeted at \$68,425 (Incl. \$8,925 contingency).

How to pay for this unplanned capital expenditure?

Every year the Joint Capital Program Subcommittee together with HGA management and staff develops a Capital Projects list, which is included in the budget. On the list of projects for 2024 the replacement of the roof top unit of building 243 was not included. So, how does HGA pay for this unplanned capital expenditure?

The Joint Capital Program Subcommittee and HGA staff make sure we are prepared for these unplanned expenditures. Every year there will be a budget line in the Capital Projects list named: "Contingency Projects." The unplanned replacement of the building 243 roof top unit is a good example why this budget line is included in the budget. For 2024 there was \$321,368 available for this kind of unplanned expenditures (\$332,615 in 2025).

How to avoid unplanned capital expenditures?

The replacement of the roof top unit was, relatively, not a big expense, and "accidents can, and do happen." How can we avoid unplanned capital expenditures as much as possible?

Our Capital Reserves program is built by using the Capital Reserves database containing all the capital components of our infrastructure, including their lifespan and replacement cost estimates. Clearly, if not all components are in the database, or the lifespan is incorrect, we can expect more unplanned expenditures. On top of that, if the replacement prices are too low this can result in situations where we are "underfunded." The Capital Reserves database was created years ago by John Coil, a previous HGA treasurer. It was used to create our first internal capital reserve study. Over the years this tool has been built out and updated by members of the Capital Program Subcommittee and controllers. A lot of time and effort was spent refining the list of components. All replacement prices were also regularly reviewed and updated.

Nevertheless, to make sure this internally created reserve study we have been using for years, is reliable

and valid, the Capital Program Subcommittee recommended that the HGA Board hire a specialized independent third party to evaluate our Capital Reserves program and perform a reserve study. This externally created capital reserve study will give the HGA Board and the residents of Heather Gardens an objective professional opinion to validate that we are currently on the correct path, neither planning for too many components or too few and using the right cost estimates. We will also get a very important external opinion about the level at which our community should be funding our capital reserves!

Capital Reserve Study 101

A capital reserve study is used to evaluate the long-term financial needs of a property. It involves an on-site physical inspection and a financial analysis of the capital assets, to determine the funding needed for future repairs or replacements. The study results in a prioritized schedule of projects and a funding plan to offset future costs over several decades.

Costs and planning of the reserve study

During the regular meeting in October the Board approved the request to spend \$25,000 (Including \$5,600 for any additional work) to hire the company "Advanced Reserve Solutions" for the reserve study. The study is planned for early 2025, before the 2026 budget cycle starts. We will keep you posted in future "Insight" articles about this reserve study and its outcome. You can also attend the Joint Capital Program Subcommittee meetings to become informed directly. These meetings are announced via Pitera and in *Heather 'n Yon*.

-Community Engagement and Communications Committee / Project Insight



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Holiday Gatherings



CP5 & CP6



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Holiday Gatherings

B231



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SOLD – 14050 E. Linvale Pl. #603

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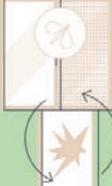
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Overhead @ HG

Timmy's in the well, again, Lassie?

Mary Hafka

I've decided – forthrightly, assuring myself that I must be correct, because I agree with me – that the following is true. Dog walkers are the backbone of HG.

Dog walkers are everywhere, at all times of the day – sometimes night – patrolling the neighborhood. We see all and take note of much.

Want to know if the trash has been picked up? If the gutter cleaners came by and emptied the gutters? If grocery-store trucks are in the area, delivering groceries to the wrong house? Just ask the person being dragged over hill and dale by Fido.

Dog walkers function as an informal neighborhood watch. We are a backup to Security – whether they want us or not – because dogs simply must be walked.

There are risks connected with being a dog-walking private eye, and the dangers are many. Sliding on black ice, after dark in the winter, is a common occurrence. So is stumbling across – and startling – copulating skunks. This also applies to stumbling across, and startling, any number of other copulating wild animals.

Useful dog walkers don't have to possess valid HG credentials of residency. On one occasion, I had a guest dog walker flag me down. He didn't live in HG, but brought his dog over to enjoy our expensive spread of lush terrain.

The guest guy informed me that a homeless person was sleeping in a building stairwell, and ordered me to notify Security. He didn't know what building, exactly, because he didn't know our territory, but was adamant that I needed to handle the problem – since I had the bad fortune to pass by him while walking my dog.

Trying to notify Security of an infraction that a person hasn't actually seen with her own eyes is a little awkward. But dog walkers are nothing, if not resourceful. I passed the guest guy's detailed description on faithfully, and hoped it would suffice. (If not, a person, with a bicycle parked nearby, probably still is asleep in the stairwell. Plus I'm not sure I even reported the correct building.)

Just before Thanksgiving, I had the occasion to observe, during a nighttime walk, water poring down the driveway of a neighbor. It appeared an outdoor spigot had been left open, somewhere, but I couldn't find the spigot, in the dark.

The water in the driveway was already freezing, and I feared the driveway would be a thick sheet of ice by the next morning. Luckily, a Security car drove by, just then, so I handed the matter over to them.

This was a sterling example of dog walkers and our Security team working hand in hand. I identified the problem, then skedaddled before I actually had to help solve it.

I watch a lot of British-style murder mysteries on BritBox, and read many books in the same genre. It seems intrepid dog walkers are always finding dead bodies buried in the woods and at the bottoms of cliffs. I wonder how Scotland Yard would ever do their jobs, without dog walkers turning up all these corpses.

And do you know who never seems to get the credit? The dogs.

These extraordinarily efficient furry sniffing machines never seem to get the recognition that they're due. (Do you ever see grateful Scotland Yard detectives, on TV, rewarding these valuable finders of bodies? You do not.)

In return for all that dogs and dog walkers do for the community, I've decided it's time – once again, assuring myself I must be correct – that HG correct a long-time facilities deficiency, and erect a leash-free dog park. Fido needs a

place in the neighborhood to run free, expending all his pent-up energy and irresistible impulses to chase rabbits and squirrels (and discover corpses at cliffs' edges – not that we actually have much in the way of those at HG).

I make this statement as a sort of expert witness, because I own a dog that can't resist chasing every rabbit and squirrel she susses out – which in HG, is quite a few. Doggie should be able to do this without me, her leash holder, getting dragged along like a water skier, in support of this endeavor.

I think my dog has already re-dislocated my shoulder a few times, taking off without warning to pursue whatever rodent-like creature is within her sightline. I read on the HG website that HG possesses 200 acres of park-like land. Surely a block or two this land could be rededicated to an area where happy HG dogs can romp and play, without incurring the collateral damage of assassinating their owners.

But rain or shine, hell or high cliffs, dogs and dog walkers will continue, in tandem, to keep a watchful eye on our homes' exteriors, even as dog walkers keep a watchful eye on Rover, as he pursues his business, both canine and human. One time, in the dead of winter, an intrepid neighbor actually ran out into her driveway, as my dog and I passed by, bearing a cup of hot cocoa for me and a biscuit for the pooch.

This, clearly, was a neighbor who fully appreciated the contribution of sturdy dog walkers, and their four-footed compatriots, and wanted to reward the same. To the rest of you who stand idly by and enjoy the benefits of our tireless trekking – get with it. It's going to be a long, cold winter.

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13890 E. Marina Dr. #303 2BR/2BA Seville A 1,092 sq ft
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13626 E. Bates Ave. #203 2BR/2BA Alpha A-dinette 1,200 sq ft
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13931 E. Marina Dr. #402 2BR/2BA
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13992 E. Marina Dr. #109 2BR/2BA
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