

Heather 'n Yon[®]

October 2023

Vol. 37, No. 8

The Official Newsmagazine for HG
www.heathergardens.org

On Sept. 15, the 50th Anniversary Celebration had a ribbon cutting to open “The Next 50 Years at Heather Gardens” by invited guests. Due to inclement weather, the ceremony was moved indoors to Sandberg Auditorium. A simulation of burying a time capsule to be opened in September 2073 was done by putting dirt into a box that contained the capsule. See story, page 6; more photos, page 25.



Among those cutting the ribbon (from left): MC Rick Crandall, representative from Aurora Chamber of Commerce; Ward V Councilmember Alison Coombs, Nancy Linsenbigler, B243; HGA President Jill Bacon, CEO Jon Rea, HGMD President Daniel Taylor, Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman (with scissors), Arapahoe Commissioner Leslie Summey, Aurora Fire Department #7 fireman, and Bruce Henson, HG Brokers.



Above: Items included in the time capsule — a 50th Anniversary T-shirt, Aurora Sentinel, Heather 'n Yon magazine, Heather Gardens Facts, resident handbook, golf rule book, class schedule, photos of HGA and HGMD Directors, Foundation History, and USB drives with photos and a film of Friday's 50th event.



Left: Shoveling dirt on the time capsule were HGA President Jill Bacon and CEO Jon Rea (from left). Councilmember Alison Coombs assisted by holding the box containing the capsule. Three other participants were HGMD President Taylor, Mayor Coffman and Commissioner Summey.

Photos by Anita Huddleston



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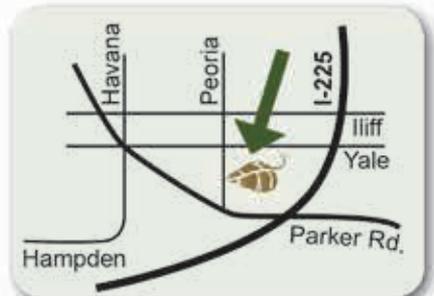
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TO HG RESIDENTS:

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.

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

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ADVENTURE GUIDES FOR THE BLIND



Pumpkin and Plain Pancake Breakfast benefitting Foresight Ski Guides

Saturday, October 28, 2022 8:00am—10:30am Rendezvous Restaurant, Heather Gardens

Every \$15 ticket purchased is entered into a drawing to win one of three prizes:

- ◆ \$100 gift certificate for Rendezvous Restaurant
- ◆ \$100 gift certificate for the Heather Gardens Golf Club
- ◆ (2) lift tickets good at Vail/Beaver Creek/Breckenridge/Keystone.

All proceeds from the breakfast will support Foresight’s transformative programs for blind and low vision individuals. Programs include a Learn to Ski program for blind and low vision youth, a guided ski program for adults and Summer Camp for Blind Youth. For more information please call 303-506-3859, or visit www.foresightadventureguidesfortheblind.org.

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Insurance premium increase coming, HGA to fix Maintenance parking lot

All directors attended the Sept. 19 meeting of the HGA Board of Directors. The board thanked departing Chief Financial Officer Jerry Counts, who is leaving HG at the end of September, and moving out of state.

Treasurer Terry Hostetler announced that HG was facing an increase in its insurance premium in the coming renewal period. The exact figure was not yet final, he said. HGA insurance runs October to October, so part of the increase will hit this year, as well as impacting the 2024 budget.

Counts reported that he'd received an email regarding insurance, which said HG is looking at a 37 percent increase in HG's property insurance, but lesser increases for other categories. The impact on the budget might be an averaged increase of 31 percent.

Discussion ensued over whether HGA should pay for repairing the asphalt in the Maintenance Building parking lot. HGMD had signaled it did not intend to pay for the work, although it was included in the 2023 budget by last year's HGMD Board.

Many directors agreed that repairing and resealing the asphalt was a priority, as its condition represented a safety concern for both HG employees and residents who enter the Maintenance Building through its parking lot. Who pays for the asphalt repairs based on which entity owns the parking lot is moot — residents pay for the work whether it is funded by HGMD or HGA.

In discussing the project the day before, the Budget & Finance Committee, on a split vote, recommended making the repairs. Getting the work completed before winter weather set in was part of the rationale.

The board approved a contract, not to exceed \$35,000, to remove and replace 5,000 square feet of damaged parking-lot asphalt, using 2023 contingency funds. The vote passed with five yes votes and two abstentions (Linda Hileman, Bill Gold).

A second motion, made by Director David Kennedy, to invoice HGMD for the repair, failed. The vote of directors was four to four; President Jill Bacon voted no, to break the tie.

The board approved a contract with BC&E to develop and provide repair designs for Parking Structure (PS) 2 and 4 (\$35,625). This amount represents a portion of the \$1,004,392 budget approved for 2023 PS maintenance. The engineering-design plan included preparing bid sheets describing the actual work that a different contractor would do – and BC&E would review submitted bids.

The board approved the 2024 Budget Development Schedule (see page 10 for October events).

The deadline for budget ballots to be returned is close of business, Friday, Nov. 17 (Friday before Thanksgiving). Civic Affairs Chair Bill Gold reported that the final ballot, to be mailed to residents on Oct. 18, was being finalized.

Long Range Planning Committee Chair Kennedy reported his committee is meeting every two weeks, striving to filter through recommended projects to arrive at those that should be pursued. He is asking residents for input into the committee's planning for its next cycle.

Comcast sent Tierney Meyer to answer questions about Comcast's most recent offer of two Genesis options to continue installing network fiber optic cables throughout HG's property. Meyer stressed that, if the board did not vote on an option selection that day, it would delay timely completion of the project, which already has been extended from original plans.

Comcast network

The board did not vote, as it was dissatisfied with the Comcast's reasoning regarding where the cable boxes for each condo in multi-story buildings could be placed. Comcast's position was that it would not assume the liability for drilling through metal in those lanais that had

See HGA...page 7

Meet the HGA Board Candidates

On Friday evening, Sept. 8, the first of two Meet The Candidate sessions convened in the Sandberg Auditorium for a "Meet the Candidates" running for the 2024 HGA Board of Directors. Sixty-eight residents attended in person, with 27 tuning in via Zoom.

Only five of the seven candidates were present. Forum moderator Gary Ford, B242, stated, "Two candidates chose not to be here. I do not have a reason."

The five candidates present were Sue McBeth, B224, Larry Dávila, B216, John Recob, B236, Greg Winslow, B222, and Ray Nash, CP2. The two candidates absent were Peter Cukale, B206, and Linda Kolhouse, CP4.

Candidates made opening statements, then were invited to respond to questions submitted in writing, and then made closing statements. Audience members were asked to pose only HGA-related questions, and not stray

into property or issues regarding HGMD.

Candidates agreed it was important to continue building HG's capital reserves, although doing so has led to larger homeowner association (HOA) increases recently.

Dávila, who is an incumbent, and serving his second stint on the HGA Board, commented, "One mistake we earlier boards made was not raising dues [to fund capital reserves], to placate people. It's 'pay me now, or pay me later.'"

Nash, a CPA, stated, "I truly believe we have to have a strong buildup of our capital reserves."

Winslow, a second-generation HG resident, said, "My dad didn't have a raise in his [HGA] HOA dues for 20 years. We're paying for it now."

Recob commented, "Our newest buildings are 40

See HGA...page 15

Extra! Extra! Information for you –

50th Anniversary finale

Rain interfered with the original plans for a ribbon cutting and time capsule burial on Sept. 15, but the 50th Anniversary Committee was well prepared with “Plan B.”

On the Sandberg Auditorium stage, Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman and other dignitaries good-naturedly went along with shoveling “dirt” (potting soil) onto a time capsule buried in a “hole in the ground” (a brown cardboard box). The other dignitaries included Aurora City Council Member Alison Coombs, County Commissioner Leslie Summey, CEO Jon Rea, HGA President Jill Bacon, and HGMD President Daniel Taylor. Everyone joined with Mayor Coffman to cut a red ribbon with giant scissors (see cover photo).

The crowd shouted, “Here’s to the next 50!” and the ribbon was chopped.

Air Force veteran and 30-year local radio fixture (KEZW) Rick Crandall served as the master of ceremonies for the ribbon cutting/time capsule ceremony, 1–2:30 pm. Crandall is a founder and frequent advocate for The Colorado Freedom Memorial, which honors fallen Coloradans while on active military duty.

Each dignitary on stage took the podium to say a few words to the audience. Speakers thanked the volunteers who serve on HG boards and committees, the HG staff, supporters of HG in the business and profes-

sional community, and Aurora and Arapahoe County public officials for their contributions to HG. Members of the Aurora Police Department and Fire Department were also in the audience.

During the HG Community Celebration, 3–5 pm, 50th Anniversary Committee Chair Nancy Linsenbiger served as master of ceremonies. Karen Gold’s PowerPoint slide show highlighted photos from 1973 to present day. The photos included everything from landscape photos of early HG construction to “old-timer” shots of residents partying and golfing when younger (including HG’s first golf pro and a general manager); to present-day residents and photos of current board members. The audience murmured in appreciation, as landscapes, buildings, friends and faces were recognized.

HG Golf Pro, Greg Kohr, created a drone video that was also presented to the audience. Watching the drone’s camera soar over the entire HG community and then swoop down for close-ups of golfers and the Golf Course took our breath away.

After a special dinner buffet in the Rendezvous Restaurant, the fun-filled and memorable day ended with “Live Juke Box Style” dance music by Bryce & Cindy, a husband and wife vocal duo who perform often at HG.

The time capsule will be buried in front of the Clubhouse when the



plaque is completed. The time capsule plaque will read as follows:

Heather Gardens Active Adult
Community
Aurora, Colorado
Celebrating 50 Years 1973 – 2023
“Here’s to the Next 50”
To Be Opened in 2073

Some of the contents of the time capsule include the first four newsletters from the 1970s; a *Heather 'n Yon* from January 2023; a copy of a current Aurora Sentinel; a 50th Anniversary T-shirt; the HG Community & Golf Course Drone video by Golf Pro Greg Kohr; the History PowerPoint Presentation from 50th Anniversary Committee; a 2023 HG Directory; the HG Foundation History; a menu from Rendezvous; a Class Schedule, a video of the Ribbon Cutting and Time Capsule event; a copy of the VIP invitation letter on Letterhead with 50th Anniversary logo; and a HG Resident Handbook.

– Gloria Leshner
B212

Colorado Freedom Memorial

The Colorado Freedom Memorial is one step closer to its goal of building a visitor center with a \$1.5 million grant from the federal government.

The funding is one of 15 Community Project Funding grants approved through the office of Rep. Jason Crow (D-Centennial) as part of the 2023 appropriations bill. Each member of the House of Representatives was eligible to submit 15 requests.

The Colorado Freedom Memorial was constructed in Aurora

near Buckley Space Force Base in 2013 and honors the more than 6,000 Coloradans who died or were declared missing in action in the nation’s wars. The memorial hosts remembrance ceremonies, tours, field trips and other events, including an annual candlelit memorial over Veteran’s Day.

Rick Crandall, executive director of the Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation, said that a center will allow the foundation to increase the programming it provides and will

serve as an indoor gathering place for tours.

The 7,000-square-foot Colorado Freedom Memorial Center will be located on the south end of the park, opposite from the memorial. The building will include a 150-seat theater, a classroom and an outdoor reception area.

Crandall said the foundation plans to use the center to hold programming for students, host veteran’s group and military events and

See Memorial...page 26

Maintenance parking lot rumbles on; Mediator accepted for negotiations

All five directors attended the Sept. 21 regular meeting of the HGMD Board of Directors. Attorney Jennifer Ivey was present.

The board approved adopting an expenditure policy, saying that no money could be spent on behalf of HGMD without prior approval. The policy specified that expenditures under \$2,500 must first be approved by the HGMD Treasurer. Expenditures over \$2,500 must first be approved by the HGMD Board, whether budgeted or unbudgeted. Any contracts that obligate the HGMD to spend money must be signed by the HGMD President and Secretary.

Director Eloise Laubach noted this measure effectively ended the signing authority of HG's CEO. Voting no on the motion, Laubach commented, "I think the CEO should have a little more leeway."

Director Robin O'Meara asked, "Can you give a concrete example of an expenditure we did not approve, but went forward anyway?"

President Daniel Taylor responded, "The asphalt in the Maintenance Building parking lot. That was budgeted, but we did not approve it, because we didn't think it was necessary [The HGA] approved the repairs Tuesday, and will fix the lot [whether we wanted it or not.] I walked the parking lot in June. It's not a safety issue. The top of the asphalt is cracked — it's just not an urgent thing.

"[Missing] wood bollards on East Linvale Place [which HGMD owns] is a greater issue, as they protect resident pedestrians."

Ivey commented, "This policy wouldn't change that. It changes expenditure authority for non-capital items."

Treasurer Rita Effler explained, "We don't know how much money was spent [on HGMD's behalf], until the end of the month. I think we should have the authority to approve the money before it's spent."

Candice Compton, B220, remarked that HGA has an entirely different spending model than HGMD. If HGA overspends its budget, "they can adjust at the end of the year. But HGMD [by law] cannot overspend its budget. It might be wise to micromanage all expenditures."

The board approved a procedure memorandum (PM)

for its new Audit/Finance Committee. The PM sets out the committee's structure, duties and responsibilities.

The board approved an attachment to the Clubhouse PM, entitled Outdoor Swimming Rules. One provision is that Family Swim Time (children under 16) is 10 am–noon and 3–5 pm daily, including weekends and holidays.

The board approved attachments to the RV Lot PM, including a schematic of the lot, and a space-rental agreement.

Discussion ensued over whether the board should direct HGA to resume counting small items of HGMD property, such as tables and chairs.

Director Craig Baldwin reported, "We did a count, last year, using volunteers. I participated in it."

The board adjourned into Executive Session, for approximately 75 minutes, to discuss legal issues with its attorney and develop strategies for negotiating the Management Agreement with HGA. They returned to an open meeting, and voted on two more motions.

The board accepted HGA's request for a mediator, and accepted its appointment of the mediator. Taylor moved that the board enter into mediation with HGA pursuant to the Management Agreement, and HGMD accepted Mavis Richardson, CP3, as its mediator.

The board next formally requested that HGA follow through on a lengthy list of budget and management requests regarding HGA's management of HGMD property. Formalized items included getting details on wages and benefits requested in the 2024 manager's budget by number of employees per job title and payment rate.

Other requests included returning two parking spaces near the tennis courts — currently assigned to security — for reassignment as handicapped spaces; that employees park in the B250 parking lot in the row closest to South Heather Gardens Way; that the Fruit Shak set up on the top of Parking Structure 1, rather than take up Clubhouse parking spaces; that HGA resume installing wooden 4-inch x 4-inch bollards along the south side of

See HGMD...page 11

Mediator for Management Agreement

HGA...from page 5

such material, nor would it put boxes outside a unit for those condos where owners refused to allow the company installers inside. Drilling through concrete was okay.

The representative was asked to gather additional information from Comcast engineers. Directors Greg Winslow and Maintenance Committee Chair Mike Pula indicated that the answers presented, from a list of "major questions" the board sent to Comcast, "made no sense."

After the regular meeting, the board adjourned into executive session, to discuss collections, and discuss legal issues with its attorneys.

Other actions approved by the board:

...changed the funds designation for emergency repairs to B219's garage drainage to using unbudgeted Capital Reserve Contingency, rather than Operating Funds, as the cost exceeded the minimum required to be in capital reserves (\$12,975).

...added \$309,320 in unused 2022 budget funds for PS-repair to be used for change orders from Restruction Corp., that, when added to \$500,000 in 2022 funds already carried over, totaled \$809,320 for the project.

...\$47,508 for Custom Contract Elevator to renovate elevator cabs in B214 and B222 — a budgeted capital expense.

Re-elect Curtis in November 2023!

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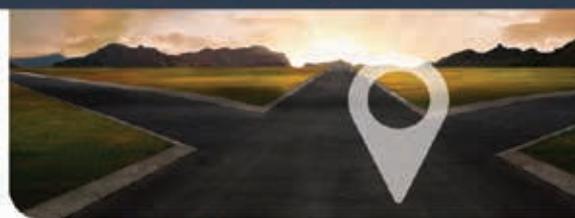
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HGA Board President Reports

By Jill Bacon

Fall is finally here. Warm days and cool nights. This is the greatest time of year.

First, I want to say once again kudos to the amazing job that the organizing committee did on the 50th Anniversary celebration. They went out of their way to plan and accomplish wonderful events and activities throughout the year. We recognized that Heather Gardens (HG) has been here 50 years. The September 15 event was amazing and brought all of their efforts to a close.

...

Time to remind you of the 2024 Budget workshops. These were days of hard work by CFO Jerry Counts, who has now left to retire to Oklahoma. Many residents will miss him, as he has done an amazing job getting HG finances in order after several CFOs before him who left after a short tenure. He shall be missed. I wish him well in his retirement.

The workshops were several days of concentrated work in which all residents of HG were encouraged to take part, sharing their wants and desires in the budget for the coming year. It was an opportunity to "have a say" in how "your" homeowner association dues are spent. Unfortunately, in a community of almost 4,000 residents, only a small number actually took part in these workshops.

The Budget & Finance Committee worked extra hard this year to make the schedule available to everyone by identifying the approximate time for discussing each section of the budget. This way residents would not have to sit through the entire day if they were only interested in

one small part of the budget to comment on.

Now, the HGA Board is looking forward to electing a new set of directors. Bill Gold, the Chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee, and his team provided the community with an excellent two sessions of "Meet the Candidates" — one evening and one morning session. Both were available on Zoom so those who could not make it to Sandberg Auditorium could watch the candidates at home.

The five candidates were excellent and answered the questions that moderator Gary Ford asked them from those that residents submitted. Both sessions were well attended, although it was a small number of all eligible voters in HG. You will have an opportunity to vote in November ballot for the four candidates of your choice.

...

This brings me to the final subject — the veto vote for the budget. That will be the other item on which you will be casting a vote in the November ballot. You have the opportunity to veto the budget as presented in Annual Meetings at the end of October (see schedule below). If you do not agree with the 2024 budget as presented by the two boards, it is your choice.

Some residents have asked me, "What happens if the budget does not pass?"

Then the boards go back to the 2023 budget, using those figures and attempt to work from these constraints, or provide a revised 2024 budget. The only problem with this action is that HG is still responsible for paying its insurance premium and the natural gas bill, both of which are increasing. Neither you nor I have control of these changes from 2023. Using the 2023 budget would require that the boards and HG management will have to find the funds to pay for these fixed expenses.

That about catches you up on what is going on right now at HG. I hope that everyone is enjoying their fall days and the great weather we are having. I hope that you are looking forward to the holidays this year and spending time with friends and family. It seems that these days fly by faster and faster with each passing year. Have a wonderful October.

Thursday, Oct. 12 10 am. At a *Special* HGMD Board Meeting, the board accepts the 2024 proposed budget and conducts a Public Hearing on it. After hearing comments, the board may modify the budget and adopt its 2024 budget. Owners/residents are encouraged to ask questions regarding the budget at this meeting. Colorado statutes provide that for governmental agencies, the Board of Directors (the Legislative body) sets the final budget. **ONCE APPROVED AND SENT TO THE STATE, THE FINAL BUDGET CANNOT BE CHANGED!**

Thursday, Oct. 12 1 pm. At a *Special* HGA Board meeting in which residents may make comments. The HGA Board may make changes to the HGA 2024 Budget. When the 2024 budget is approved, the board sets the membership veto (between 15 and 50 days after notice).

Wednesday, Oct. 18 HGA and HGMD Budget summaries are available on the website and emailed to the membership. Ballots are mailed to the membership for mail-in voting. Full copies of both budgets are available in the HG Management Office.

Auditorium

Monday, Oct. 30 10 am. Daytime membership meeting to present and discuss the budget

Tuesday, Oct. 31 6 pm. Evening membership meeting to present and discuss the budget

Wednesday, Nov. 1 1 pm. Afternoon membership meeting to present and discuss the budget



HGMD Board President Reports

By Daniel Taylor

Fall is in the air and that means only one thing — It's budget time at HG! This year the process for HGMD may be different. I want to explain our position and intent. First, HGMD cannot delegate away its budget authority to HGA through the management agreement. HGMD's authority to adopt its budget is absolute.

Second, during the campaign for new directors on the HGMD Board, and since the election, the message from the community has been clear. Residents want services to be improved. Most significantly, by the restaurant. On Aug. 15 and 16, the board met with HGA CEO Jon Rea and HGA CFO Jerry Counts to discuss the 2024 budget.

At the meeting, we had agreed with management that the restaurant would be fully funded for 2024. Count had changed the numbers in his spreadsheet during the meeting. Restaurant Manager Cormac Ronan agreed to provide part-time staff hours and an additional estimate to hire a chef. The board was satisfied with the process. We had lobbied for input before the manager's budget was published, because the prior practice has been not to make significant changes after it was published.

At the most recent Restaurant Committee meeting, Cormac commented that the manager's budget was published on Sept. 8. It did not include the numbers that had been agreed to. When I contacted CEO Rea about this, he said that he and CFO Counts had decided to include funding the restaurant at the current level, then created a separate spreadsheet for fully funding the restaurant. The budget published on Sept. 8 did not contain the numbers wanted by the HGMD Board.

Management decided that funding for the restaurant would be discussed at the Joint Budget & Finance Committee meetings on Sept. 27. HGMD has one member on that committee that only makes a recommendation to the two boards after its perusal of the draft budget. Remember, only the HGMD Board can adopt its budget.

The other directors and I will not adopt a budget that

does not fully fund the restaurant for 2024. What does that include? Residents have consistently requested that breakfast be served and that the restaurant be open seven days a week. Also, ending the dinner service at 6 pm is ridiculous. The Clubhouse is full with morning classes, swimmers and golfers. We also have meetings, classes, concerts, and dances during the evening — residents might like to eat afterward.

Third, HGMD Directors have been clear about its budget expectations since June. At the joint meetings with HGA and their attorney, we stated that the HGMD would not approve a budget with unsubstantiated numbers. That means HGMD will not write HGA a blank check for \$1.3 million in wages and benefits that provides only details by cost center. We specifically stated that the board needed the number of employees by job title and pay rate before it would approve any budget.

Fourth, HGMD will not adopt a budget with decreased funding for HGMD activities to offset HGA's 11.04 percent budget increase. HGMD provides services directly to residents and the public. It has an obligation to maintain a consistent level of service or improve the services provided. We promised to minimize costs without sacrificing service. The Sept. 8 manager's budget actually reduced the part-time hours for the restaurant staff from 8,280 in 2023 to 7,409 for 2024, while claiming that it maintained the current level of funding. That is a reduction of 871 hours, or about the equivalent of firing one part-time employee. When have you been in the restaurant this year and thought to yourself, "Gee, we have more servers than needed?"

...

HGMD also has some exciting news this month. We are announcing the launch of a new website: www.HGmetroDist.org. All HGMD meeting notices, agendas, board packets, and documents will be available on the website. Any director will be able to update residents on current HGMD events. You may contact directors and committee chairs or apply for committee membership.

I expect the website content to increase in the coming months. For now it will have everything you need about HGMD news and meetings. HGMD records that are governed by Colorado's Open Records Act will be stored indefinitely. We have no storage limitations for documents or Zoom recordings.

For the immediate future, you will still sign up for classes on the HGA website. Please check out the website. We are happy to finally have a way to communicate with residents and receive your comments and questions.

HGMD ...from page 7

East Linvale Place; that management resume ornamental trimming of trees and bushes; that management obtain proposals for additional signage to designate the B250 parking lot for golf and pickleball players; that felt billiards table tops, which should still be under warranty, be repaired, and a Dirt Devil purchased for the Billiards Room to be used on the table tops; and that a list

of fees for activities, dances and events with the expenses associated with them be provided to HGMD. Finally a list of teacher costs associated with classes was requested.

The board discussed the fenced area surrounding the retention pond on the Golf Course that has become a storage area/dumping ground for equipment. The pond is supposed to drain when water overflows, but doesn't.

IN MEMORIAM

- Dorothea Hughes (221)
- Frances Leonhardt (221)
- Valery Van Matre (236)
- Blanche McKinney (former 215)
- Dennis Semin (232)
- Cynthia Weber (203)
- Joe Zerucha (former 218)



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Publisher's Corner

Population demographics by Local Affairs, Colorado (DOLA)

by Lynn Donaldson, Editor of Heather 'n Yon

HG has just spent nine months analyzing what transpired over its first 50 years since the first condos were built and inhabited. I thought it might be fun to look at the demographics of elder adults in Colorado.

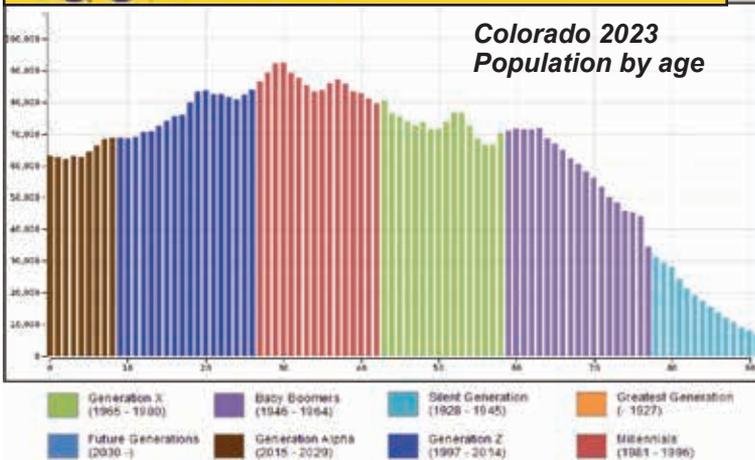
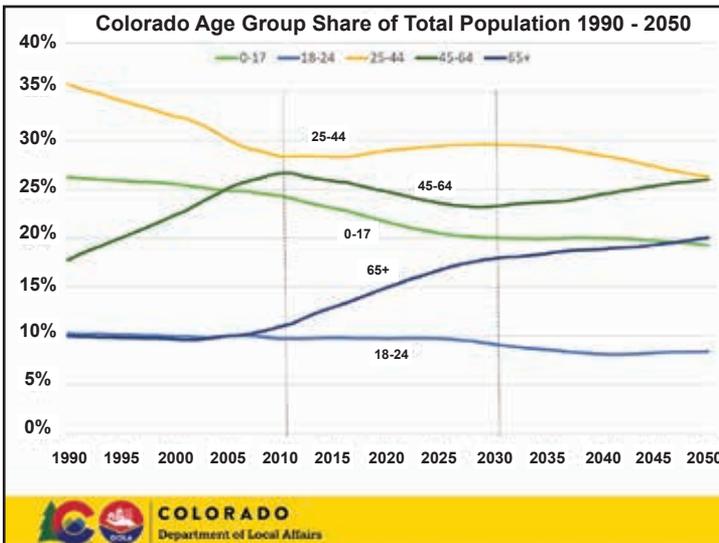
"Census 2020 state level results were released in April 2021. The results showed that Colorado's resident population as of April 2020 was 5,773,141, ranking it 21st in size in the U.S. Colorado's 2020 population represents growth of 744,518 or a 14.8 percent increase over Colorado's 2010 Census population.

Colorado's 2010-2020 growth percentage was the sixth-highest among U.S. states. Utah, Idaho, Texas, North Dakota, and Nevada

saw a larger percentage increase in population. The growth rate of 14.8 percent is slower than the previous two decades and one of the slowest growth rates on record [for Colorado].

"The growth between 2019 and 2020 is estimated to have slowed to 48,000 with net migration slowing to 27,300 and natural increase slowing to 20,600. Births remained flat at 62,800 and deaths increased to 42,000 — over 4,000 higher than the previous year due to COVID-19 (see chart below).

"Births continue to slow in both Colorado and the U.S. even though the population of women of child-bearing age is increasing. Changes in births have been driven by declines



were to mothers ages 30 and over.

"Over time, the number of deaths in Colorado have increased, reflecting an increased number of older adults. COVID-19 has caused an additional increase in deaths in 2020 and 2021.

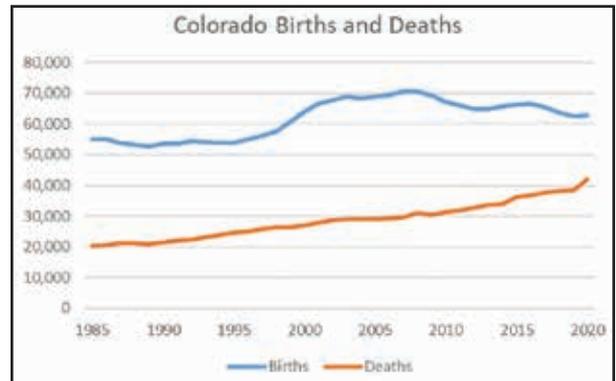
Life expectancy at birth declined 1.5 years last year as a result of the pandemic...Life expectancy had generally increased from 2000 through 2019. Female life expectancy continues to be higher than male, but the increase through 2019 had been slightly higher for males.

"Net migration to the state has declined during the pandemic continuing a slowing that started in 2015. International migration was down 70 percent as compared to the average level from 2010-2018...In 2020, domestic migration slowed 35 percent." {Colorado Department of Local Affairs, DOLA}

Conclusions from this data?

- Colorado is in the top half of U.S. states for population.
- Seniors (65+) are expected to become more than 20 percent in Colorado by 2045.
- Baby Boomers (born 1946–1964) alive in 2023 are still a formidable group that can affect demographics in Colorado.
- I expected historical data to be analyzed, but to develop future trends was a surprise. What about unexpected events like a pandemic?

in births to younger mothers. Average age at first birth in U.S. is 27. In 2020, over half of all births in Colorado



Left above: The change in age groups that populate Colorado from 1990 and projected to 2050 as presented by Nancy Gedeon, Colorado State Demography Office, Oct 2022, Demography.dola.colorado.gov. Note the strong increase from 2010 to 2020 and beyond for 65+ adults.

Above: Births were fairly flat in Colorado since 2005 while deaths increased by 12,000.

Left: Age distribution in Colorado, 2023. Residents age 30 are above 90,000. Those in early 60s are slightly above 70,000. (gis.dola.colorado.gov)



Management
**Celebrating HG's
 50th Anniversary,
 I see a successful
 "community"**

By Jon Rea
Chief Executive Officer

I wanted to start off first with a thank you, and some recognition to the folks who made today a reality. Thank you to Nancy Linsenbiger and the 50th Anniversary Committee. Thank you to everyone who has given time to not only put together this event but dedicated time, love, and effort to make all the other events and activities happen over the course of this year. It's truly been outstanding and genuinely appreciated.

Thank you to all the residents who support Heather Gardens (HG) staff efforts daily. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time to attend, participate, and be involved with the committees and boards to make Heather Gardens a great place to be and live.

As I sat and began to write this speech, I thought about what Heather Gardens meant to me and what do I reflect on when Heather Gardens is mentioned.

The first thing that comes to mind is community. What does community mean? The standard definition could be described as a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. That's stating the obvious.

At HG, community means so much more. HG truly embodies a deeper definition of the word — and it's not only a word — it's a feeling.

It is a feeling of friendship, partnership, and cama-

raderie amongst residents. Sharing similar interests with your neighbors, like mindedness and attitudes, along with similar goals. And OK, I get it, we may not always agree, but we always find a way. We've done it for 50 years! This is a testament as to why HG continues to thrive after 50 years.

I am privileged, honored, and humbled that I get to see this daily throughout our community in many different aspects and settings.

Neighbors helping neighbors — it could be anything! Assisting a neighbor by carrying groceries to their unit, providing a ride to the Clubhouse or to an offsite appointment, a warm embrace for someone in a time of need, or being an ear to listen even if it is complaints about a spouse of 30 years. Currently, caring for your neighbor and community doesn't seem to be as commonplace as it once was. It makes HG unique and refreshing.

I've had the opportunity to witness this daily and I love it. It is genuinely amazing — the thoughtful, caring, empathetic and sympathetic approach this community has for their fellow man, neighbor, and friend.

When most think of HG, they mention the nearly 200 park-like acres, the multiple building models, the 9-hole executive Golf Course, the mature landscape, the clubs and activities, and the beautiful trees. All the amenities — those are all outstanding things, but I always gravitate to the community and people. Community is what has produced 50 amazing years of HG.

I am very proud to have been a part of HG for the last 3.5 years and have truly loved getting to know the residents and building lifelong relationships and friendships throughout our wonderful community.

Every single one of us is Heather Gardens. We are Heather Gardens.

Here's to the next 50!

Meet Candidates...from page 5

years old. I hope we get the 2024 budget published soon, so that everyone can understand [the need]." Recob drew a laugh by admitting he does spreadsheets for fun.

McBeth, a past board member and president of a residential community in Cincinnati, said, "In Cincinnati, the builder kept the HOA low, to sell housing. When the owners took over, we had a huge deficit. I am absolutely in favor of capital reserves."

The two-million dollar question: if you found you had an extra \$2 million to spend, where would you put it? All five responded at least of portion of that money should go to capital reserves.

Winslow responded, "Into capital reserves, and financing related to security and safety." Winslow is the current chair of the Security/Emergency Preparedness Committee.

McBeth agreed. "I would carve out at least a portion of that [\$2 million] for safety, which is somewhat as important as capital reserves."

Nash, Recob, and Dávila all voted the hypothetical windfall should go to capital reserves. Dávila comment-

ed, "I will do as much as I can to avoid special assessments."

...

The panel of five was asked, how much time do you believe will be needed to fulfill your duties as a director?

Recob responded, "It depends on the office. The president meets with management often. The meeting packet [that directors need to study] can be more than 100 pages. I believe several recently appointed board members resigned when they learned how long it takes."

Nash commented, "I'm impressed by how much time it takes. The HGMD has been putting in a lot of time, lately. I salute them for that."

Winslow said, "It can be 35 hours a week. I'm willing to put in the time."

Dávila responded, "As much time as it takes. I try to attend all of the board meetings [both boards]. We should say, 'yes, I'm in it, however long it takes.'"

McBeth agreed, "It does take lot of time, both in preparation and the meetings. I need to be ready to spend the time."

...

The question was asked, is Piler being used effectively?

Nash responded, "It probably could be used better."

See Meet Candidates...page 27

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Re-enacting a marital ball at Versailles Palace, France

Do you address her as Madame Arlene Krell de la Fêtes Galants, B220? She certainly looked the role this past May when she attended a reception commemorating the 1770 marriage of Austrian Princess Marie-Antoinette to the future Louis XVI of France.

On this fancy-dress evening for “Rois et Reines” that recalls the final years of French royalty in Versailles Palace, Mme Krell wore an elaborate silver gown of silk shantung embroidered in multiple cerulean shades. Its sleeves were trimmed with

hand-tatted Chantilly lace. Waves of white hair looped in four-inch high tiers that framed her face. Modern panniers formed a most becoming silhouette. The panniers served as pockets in which my lady carried her smart phone and handkerchief.

Free from the cares of 2023 and properly composed to meet rococo-period society, Mme Krell glided through gold-caret gates into a courtyard alive with music and flowing with Champagne. She proceeded up the grand staircase into the great chamber where she posed seated on the king’s throne.

She witnessed scenes from the royal opera, listened to sacred music in the Royal Chapel, and dined at the King and Queen’s buffet. Krell lingered in the Hall of Mirrors during the baroque ball, then viewed fireworks bursting over the palace gardens. She was among the last to leave when security staff created a chain of hands to usher attendees from the hall.

“You can’t get any more fabulous than that,” she said of her immersive make-believe experience. “Everyone was convivial and supportive. I smiled the whole night.”

Royal guests represented many countries. Their appearance was the

common thread of conversation. She chatted easily with a couple from Dubai while admiring their garments stitched with actual gold thread.

Mme was accompanied by her daughter, Mademoiselle Kitty Krell, the driving force behind this adventure. Mlle Krell owns “Crimson Rose Masquerade Boutique” that crafts performance and festival attire. The two began work on their authentic period costumes in 2019 for the event that was

my daughter preparing for the event.”

The intricate gowns were constructed without a pattern, duplicating the way tailors made clothes in 1770. Kitty started by draping muslin fabric over her mother, pleating and pinning the basic form. The muslin guided her when cutting silk. Cutting into the most expensive fabric Arlene has ever bought was nerve-racking, but Kitty was confident.

With the exception of long straight seams stitched on a machine, all the stitching was done by hand. The bodice remained a separate piece and was pinned to the wearer. Pins don’t penetrate corsets.

Getting dressed required the help of another person. A muslin chemise was the first layer of clothing. The corset was second. Panniers were the third layer over which the outer dress was pinned in place — no buttons, fasteners or zippers are used.

Arlene’s ascent to royal guest would have been impossible in 18th century Europe. She was the first-born of farmers in central Illinois who leased the farm from an owner who was later rumored to have lost the property in a poker game (when Arlene was 11).

Her father found work at a Central Illinois and Midland Railroad coal-transfer plant. She visited him at work so she could watch the mechanisms that turned each coal car upside down, spilling the coal onto a conveyor belt that carried it to a



Above left: Arlene Krell, B220, adjusts stitching on her ballgown for re-creating a 1770 ball at Versailles Palace, France.

Above: Among the guests for the 2023 “Rois et Reines.”

Above right: Arlene and daughter Kitty Krell were driven to Versailles by Uber, not by a horse-drawn carriage.

originally scheduled for 2020. When delayed, they fussed, adding embellishments to the gowns until the eve of their departure in May 2023.

“Half the fun was working with

river barge.

Her fascination with coal cars didn’t last into her teen years. She chafed at small town life.

See Krell...page 26

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Doris Ferry and Loy Oakes — newlyweds

Ever wonder where a chance meeting at an HG event might just lead? For HG residents Doris Ferry, B218, and Loy Oakes, B202, both in their 80s, met on the HG tennis courts. It led to a marriage altar on Labor Day weekend.

"We actually met a year ago over the ball machine at the tennis court, then started to get acquainted at the Tennis Club dinner," reported Doris.

Loy adds, "She needed a ride home that evening. I agreed if she would have some ice cream with me."

A touch of divine intervention and similar interests, such as skiing, boating, dancing, and a love of giving back to the community, made it a perfect match.

"The Lord put us together and then we found we had a lot in common," Doris explains.

The wedding was held on Thursday, Aug. 31, adjacent to the tennis courts in the HG Picnic Pavilion. Jan Carney, B213, sang, accompanied on guitar by Shel McClaury, CP3. Greeters were Cindy Crockett, CP3, and Bob Baggs.

Doris' daughter, Kim Ferry Williams, B218, gave Doris away and Loy's son, Ryan, was his best man.

Remembering that first date over ice cream, Doris and Loy had a food truck, Luanne's Tasty Treats, serve ice cream sundaes and fancy cones rather than a wedding cake.

Doris and Kim moved to Colorado from Fort Meyers, Florida, about four months prior to when Hurricane Ian devastated the Florida coast.

"The Lord told me to sell the Florida property; otherwise, I would have been left homeless. My condo was wall to wall with wind and water damage and won't be inhabitable for

another year."

Doris is from New Jersey. Her formative years were filled with wonderful memories of visits to Radio City Music Hall in New York City and skiing at Killington Ski Resort in Vermont. Her father died when she was three years old. Her mom worked to support herself and Doris, which instilled a strong work ethic.

Doris graduated from St. Lawrence University in upstate New York with a degree in chemistry.

She met her first husband, Bob, at a roller rink when she was 15. They married when she graduated from St. Lawrence. They bought their first home in Levittown, New Jersey. In 1969, they moved to Rhode Island when Bob became president of the Rhode Island Banker's Association. Doris taught chemistry, other sciences, and provided guidance counseling at a vocational technical school.

Due to cutbacks in school staffing, Doris left teaching in 1983 and, "I founded a business of which I had absolutely no knowledge." It was a gift shop that she named "She Captain's Sea Treasures." When the endeavor succeeded, she opened "She Captain's Ski Treasures" in Breckenridge, Colorado.

Doris and Bob loved skiing and boating. After Bob's retirement, they taught skiing for 10 years at Breckenridge Ski Resort, residing in Breckenridge.

Additionally, in order to enjoy their sailboats and power boats, they owned condos in Fort Meyers Beach, Florida, and Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

When Bob passed away in 2020, she sold the Cape Cod condo and boat dock to fund the Bob and Doris Ferry Science Scholarship at St. Lawrence University. Now in its third year, the scholarship benefits a

young woman who is a biochemistry major.

"I attended on a scholarship and prefer that the scholarship always goes to a female."

Loy's dad was an Army Air Corps colonel who retired to Fort Collins where Loy was reared. After graduating from the University of Colorado (CU), Loy was commissioned in the U.S. Navy. He was an F4 fighter pilot, flying off the U.S.S. Saratoga and making 120 carrier landings. After five years in the Navy, he became a pilot with Continental Airlines for 31 years.

Loy and his wife, Mary, a nurse, lived in the Shenandoah community in Aurora for 27 years. They adopted an infant daughter, Christin, who now has two daughters and lives in California. Son Eric died in an accident. Son Ryan lives in the Denver area. Loy's wife died more than a year ago after living for five years with Alzheimer's.

Loy moved to HG in June 2022. He knew HG well because his mom lived in the Seville area for seven years.

As a Colorado native, Loy's love of the ski slopes began early. He supported the CU Buffs Ski Team and helped with races at Eldora Ski Resort where the team trained.

Who's the better skier, Loy or Doris?

"She skis backwards better than I do from all her years of teaching kids," Loy says. Both still ski black trails if they are well groomed, but aren't crazy about moguls any more.

Doris was thrilled to discover sailboats at Cherry Creek Reservoir adjacent to HG. They both are members of the Salty Dog Sailing Club of Denver and enjoy sailing at Cherry Creek State Park, Chatfield State Park and Lake Dillon. The Salty Dog Sailing Club rendezvous at Lake Dillon over Labor Day — it was their honeymoon site.

With a high level of physical energy, mental sharpness and a true joy for life, both Doris and Loy certainly appear younger than their years.

"Doris has an amazing memory," Loy emphasizes.

See Oakes...page 27



Above: Wedding photo of Doris Ferry, B218, and Loy Oakes, B202, at HG Picnic Pavilion, Aug. 31



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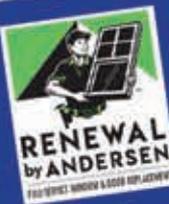
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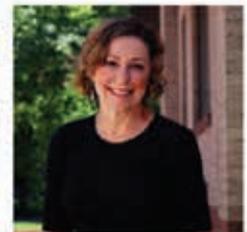
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The Month (September)

The shooting incident that took place in HG (East Bates Avenue) on Thursday, Sept. 14, has reportedly sparked the local rumor mill. Aurora Police responded to the incident at 10:50 pm when notified about a vehicle crash.

Based on a news release by Aurora Police Department post on X (formerly Twitter), Jacob Factor wrote in *The Denver Post* on Saturday, Sept. 16:

“Two men were found in a crashed Toyota Camry when officers arrived, both having suffered gunshot wounds.

“The 21-year-old driver was pronounced dead at the scene; the passenger, a 47-year-old man, was taken to a hospital.

“He is in police custody, according to the Aurora Police Department news release, and charges are pending further investigation.”

Investigators believe that the driver died after being struck by a bullet when the gun his passenger was holding “went off.”

When this incident was discussed at the Sept. 19 HGA Board meeting, Director David Kennedy noted that two resident vehicles — a car and a truck — that were parked on the street were totaled when the Camry crashed.

...

At its August meeting, a member of the HGMD Audit/Finance Committee, Nancy Reid agreed to prepare a

Request for Proposal to secure an auditor to perform the annual audit required for Special Districts. This new auditor specializes in Special District matters. The engagement letter for Rubin Brown will not be approved at this time. This will be the first time that HG has two different auditors reviewing expenditures of the completed year, 2023, and reporting publicly on those findings. Rubin Brown has been engaged to do the HGA audit for 2023. The HGMD auditor has not been selected as yet.

...

A recent analysis of similar golf courses completed by Golf Manager Greg Kohr showed the Golf Committee that the 2023 fee rates are still competitive or better. The committee is not recommending fee increases for 2024.

...

Personnel Policy Committee Chair Larry Dávila announced, at the Sept. 19 HGA Board Meeting, that HG had a new Maintenance Manager, Richard Barowsky. He added, though, that HG had lost its CFO, Jerry Counts, who announced his last day was September 30.

...

At the RV Storage Lot Committee meeting on Sept. 11, security lighting and cameras were discussed. Due to the length of time it will take to implement both Darkhorse and Comcast projects (2 to 7 years, depending on which plan is chosen), the committee recommended that HGMD should implement other less expensive security projects for the RV lot.

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That Was...

For solar lighting, the committee preferred the OKPRO streetlight, as it is 1,200 watts. It recommended purchasing and installing one for testing. Tom Sandquist volunteered to study methods of mounting this light. Total cost \$105.25. Landscape spotlights were rejected by the committee.

The committee recommended purchasing and installing a Cellular-Security Camera for testing as an alternative to more expensive commercial security cameras. Total cost \$75.87. The camera detects motion, sending a warning to a cell phone, whose owner may respond appropriately. Several committee members were willing to help monitor the trail cameras.

...

At the September 18 meeting of the Budget & Finance (B&F) Committee, HGMD Treasurer Rita Effler stated that HGMD would rather spend the \$35,000 "on a piece of equipment," than on repairing the maintenance building parking-lot asphalt.

"HGA departments are the ones who actually use the parking lot," she said.

The HGMD experienced a budget shortfall on replacing the restaurant outdoor freezer. Budgeted at approximately \$35,000, the final project cost was double that.

...

At the same B&F meeting, CFO Jerry Counts reported HG was having to absorb an 85-percent increase from Waste Management, which wasn't in the 2023 budget. Even though HG is changing trash collectors, there is a several-month transition period, to integrate the new carrier.

"We still have to use the [Waste Management] a couple of more months."

...

www.hgmetrodist.org – HGMD's new website contains such information as committee chairs, HGMD meeting notices, governing documents, and features. With time and refinement, it is hoped the new website will develop into an even more valuable resource for residents.

...

According to an analysis conducted by the Senior Citizens League, Social Security recipients are expected to see a 3.2 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase in their benefits in 2024, based on inflation data from July, August and September. (ABC News, Sept. 22)

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 *Heather 'n Yon*) 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 *Heather 'n Yon*, c/o Lynn Donaldson, 13731 East Hamilton Dr, Aurora, CO 80014. Past issues (2008–21) are available on www.heathergardens.org/Resource Center.

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For the Time of Your Life!

End of Summer Party; Labor Day Picnic, B235

The Seville area said "Aloha to Summer" in a party on Sept. 12 with entertainment by hula dancers. Photos by Bonnie Williams, B232

B235 had a Labor Day Picnic behind their building with the wildlife area formed by the Cherry Creek Spillway behind them. Photos by Patt Clark, B235



Cake Photo by Rudy Morris, B217



Left: Mayor Mike Coffman
Below: Alison Coombs,
City Council Ward V



Photo of ceremonial
shovels and time
capsule by Lynn
Donaldson



Photos by Anita Huddleston

Krell...from page 17

"I couldn't wait to get out."

College at Illinois State University was her ticket to a preferred destination. She transferred to study Interior Design at Brooks College at Long Beach California. School friends exposed her to textiles and fashion design — an interest that went hand-in-hand with the sewing she had learned from her mother and used in 4-H activities.

She worked in interior design first in California, then in Colorado, selling floor coverings wholesale to contractors who referred their clients

to her when help was needed. It was work she enjoyed until she retired.

In California, Arlen married and had two children: daughter Kitty and son Oliver. They all still live close-by. Oliver and his wife Holly are looking forward to their first child (and Arlene's first grandchild) next month.

Krell moved to Heather Gardens in 2016 after her divorce.

In retirement, she volunteers her skills to help design and build sets for local theater productions. She enjoys the challenge of building a set that conveys the feel the director wants to create for the audience.

She designed the set for Aurora's Seniors 88 production "Glitzy Girls in Vegas," due to be

presented in November. At HG, Krell is vice president of HG's Frolics Club.

International travel remains high on her list of to-do's. After the Fête, Arlene embarked on a two-month tour of Europe. Next, she wants to travel in Thailand, visit the factory that makes corsets her daughter sells, relax at a beach resort, and visit a baby elephant rescue mission.

She has no plans to return for another Fête Galants. Her extravagant gown is stored in special packing materials probably never to be worn again. Immersing in French 18th Century opulence was a one-time event with a long-time memories.

"It was the experience of a lifetime, it just was."

— Dala Giffin



Left to right: Arlene Krell was photographed on a bench outside Versailles; Krell holds the panniers she sewed; her corset; Cerulean embroidery on the bodice of her gown.

Memorial...from page 6

host other presentations. History Colorado and Buckley have both expressed interest in the center, and he hopes the latter will be able to use the center to strengthen its ties to the wider community.

The center is being designed by Kristoffer Kenton, who designed the

original memorial.

"It's exciting to have him back working with us because he had an amazing vision for the Colorado Freedom Memorial and I can't wait to see what he comes up with for the visitor center," Crandall said.

The Aurora City Council unanimously approved a proposal for the center last month, and he said there's been a lot of local support for

the project.

An optimist by nature, Crandall said he hopes that the center will be dedicated by the end of next year, but may not be ready until Memorial Day 2025.

In total, Crandall said the building is expected to cost \$4 million. The money from the appropriation bill will be used to cover site preparation and planning documents.

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Oakes...from page 19

People ask them how they can be so active and energetic.

"We don't see age as a limitation. We love to dance, ski, swim, hike, bike. We're planning to travel the US and abroad," Doris adds. "We hope to have a long and happy life together." Both concur.

Between them, they volunteer in the community with several organizations: the HG Optimist Club's reading program, ARC of Aurora that advocates for disabled individuals, and the Whiz Kids tutoring program.

Doris and Loy are building their marriage on a solid foundation.

"Keys to a healthy lifestyle for

us are always having a purpose in life, reaching out to help others, staying active and eating right," Loy notes.

He is a masterful cook, specializing in dishes like grilled salmon and vegetables, avoiding gluten and sugar.

"I keep him active, and he keeps me eating right," Doris emphasizes.



Above: Doris (second from right) on the slopes with former students.

Left: Doris and Loy at her July 4th birthday party at Noonan's, Heather Ridge.

Heather Ridge.

"We look forward to being at HG for a long time."

— Patricia McLaughlin, B215

Meet Candidates...from page 15

Are we willing to spend the time to be trained on it?"

McBeth noted, "I think Pilerá is a great tool. We still need postings on paper for those without computers."

Recob answered, "Unfortunately, some residents still don't have computers. And, absolutely, the HGMD should have unfettered access to Pilerá."

Winslow remarked, "HGMD has as much access as anyone. I'm tired of hearing that they don't."

Dávila commented, "Who is against better communication? Yet how do you communicate with those who don't want to be bothered?"

Question: what should be done to further increase security?

Nash remarked, "I think leaking pipes need to take an equal footing with security."

Winslow responded, "Boots on the ground. I think more visibility is a deterrent. We live in crazy Aurora, yet HG has the lowest crime rate in Aurora."

Dávila noted, "A lot of the problem is us. We continue to let people into our buildings [who don't belong]. We need to take some responsibility. But I agree that the visibility of our security team is a deterrent."

McBeth responded, "I think better visibility [of the security officers] would be necessary, and more effective."

Question: with the staff we have, how can we improve customer service?

Nash remarked, "The most improvement would come from being managed properly."

Winslow responded, "Be nice to the people who work here. Also, maybe we can tier [tasks], to be more efficient."

Dávila said, "One thing is how we approach our staff. I believe in The Golden Rule."

McBeth added, "Training is probably one of the biggest items we could spend our money on."

Recob said, "I think it starts with training and management. Educating our community is important. We're trying to do that. Maybe training classes for our residents?"

A question was, how will you be able to work with the HGMD?

Recob answered, "Respectfully."

Incumbent Winslow replied, "I won't be comfortable answering that question [due to some conversations that are ongoing]."

Nash said, "I have my differences, but that's no reason we can't work together."

McBeth added, "If we listen first, we can come to some common ground."

Dávila said, "We're here to work together. You're my opponent, not my enemy." ...

The second Meet The Candidates Forum met on Saturday morning, Sept. 9. Attendance was sparse with about 30 in Sandberg Auditorium; Zoom numbers are unknown. The same five candidates were present.

If you had to cut \$3 Million, what would you not cut from the budget?

Dávila said, "I would not cut anything. B&F is examined carefully. If something happens — find another way to cover unexpected expenses."

Recob agreed with Dávila, "There might be some small areas that could be cut, but \$3 million is 20 percent of HG's budget. There is not much 'fat' in it."

McBeth said, "if it really is necessary, then I would prioritize Capital Reserves first; second — security and safety."

Winslow noted, "that cutting by \$3 million is not an option. We would have to find a different option."

Nash remarked, "It is hard to imagine what kind of event would lead to a \$3 million unexpected expense. Maybe not paint for two years? Have to keep Capital Reserve. Look at borrowing instead of cutting existing planned expenses."

Many questions were repeated from the Friday session. Because this event was recorded, you may listen to candidate responses on the website, www.heathergardens.org.



OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sun 1	Social Bridge (every Sunday, Joanne Turner) B216 Meeting	Skyview Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	1-3:30 pm 3:43-7 pm
Mon 2	VNA Senior Wellness Clinics (1st & 3rd Mondays) Men's Bridge (every Monday) HG Women's Book Club (Arce) Spanish Club (every Monday) Texas Hold 'em Poker_Reddy or Hill (1st Monday) Time4Tap Dance Novice Group (every Monday) HG Women's Book Club (Urias) Mah Jongg (every Monday) Men's Poker HG Game Night (Karen Gold; every Monday)	Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Mountain View Room Aspen Room Aspen Room Sandberg Auditorium Mountain View Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Arts & Crafts Room	8:30 am-1 pm 10 am-2 pm 10:30 am-12:30 pm 11 am-noon 12:30-5 pm 1-2 pm 1-3 pm 1-4 pm 3:30-7 pm 4-6 pm
Tue 3	Hand (Knee) and Foot (every Tuesday) Heather Gardens Singers (every Tuesday) Mah Jongg (every Tuesday) Ping Pong (every Tuesday) Frolics Club CP2 Happy Hour Tennis Club Billiard Club Co-ed 8-Ball (every Tuesday)	Mountain View Room Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Aspen Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Rendezvous Restaurant Billiard Room	12:30-4 pm 1-2:30 pm 1-4 pm 2-3 pm 2:30-4 pm 5-8 pm 5 pm 6:30 pm
Wed 4	Cribbage (every Wednesday) Men's Poker_Reddy or Hill (every Wednesday) Woodshop Club Meeting Rummikub (every Wednesday) HG ACBL Duplicate Bridge (every Wednesday) Pinochle (every Wednesday) CP1 Meeting Square Dancing Club (every 1st and 3rd Wednesday)	Sunburst Café Skyview Room Mountain View Room Lodgepole Lounge Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Sandberg Auditorium	12:30-3 pm 12:30-5 pm 1 pm 1-3 pm 1-4:45 pm 1:30-4 pm 5:30 pm 7-9 pm
Thu 5	Tai Chi (every Thursday) TOPS (every Thursday) HG Optimist Breakfast Time4Tap Dance Group (every Thursday) Bunko (1st and 3rd Thursday) Social Bridge (every Thursday, Joanne Turner) HG Writers Club (every Thursday) Ping Pong (every Thursday) Meditation Club (every Thursday)	Tennis Courts Blue Spruce Room Rendezvous Restaurant Sandberg Auditorium Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Mountain View Room Game Room Blue Spruce Room	8-11 am 8:30-9:30 am 9 am 11 am-noon 1-3:30 pm 1-3:30 pm 1-4 pm 2-3 pm 4-5 pm

Advertised Activities and Seminars

Mon, Oct. 2	Bayer Ear Clinic (every Monday, by appointment), Arts & Crafts Room, 9 am-noon (see ad, p. 55)
Thu, Oct. 5	Square Dance Class, HG Square Dance Club, Sandberg Auditorium, 2:30-4:30 pm (see ad, p. 23)
Thu, Oct. 19	Medicare Workshop by Ben Torrez, Rendezvous Restaurant, 11:30 am (see insert)
Sat, Oct. 28	Foresight Pancake Breakfast, Rendezvous Restaurant, 8-10:30 am (see p. 4)

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Thu 5 (cont'd)	CP4 Social Kiwanis Club of Aurora Business Meeting 9-Ball Men's Billiards (every Thursday)	Rendezvous Restaurant Skyview Room Billiards Room	5 pm 6 pm 7–9 pm
Fri 6	Men with Purpose (1st and 3rd Friday) Texas Hold 'em Poker_Reddy or Hill (every Friday) Friday Afternoon Bridge (every Friday)	Skyview Room Mountain View Room Skyview Room	10–11 am 12:30–5 pm 1–5 pm
Sat 7	HG Optimist Pancake Breakfast Mexican Train Dominoes (every Saturday) Ping Pong (every Saturday) Karaoke Club Clubhouse Event: Comedy Night	Rendezvous Restaurant Arts & Crafts Room Game Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Sandberg Auditorium	9–11 am noon–4 pm 2–3 pm 3–5 pm 7 pm
Mon 9	Columbus (Indigenous Peoples') Day – Federal Holiday Texas Hold 'em Poker_Reddy or Hill (2nd–4th Monday)	Mountain View Room	12:30–5 pm
Tue 10	Clubhouse Event: Steady CBD Seminar HG Republican Club: Ballot Issues Workshop Tuesday Evening Bridge (2nd & 4th Tuesday) Men's Book Club	Aspen Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room	9–11 am 5–7:30 pm 5:30 pm 6 pm
Wed 11	Clubhouse Event: Baseball (Active Minds) Aviation Club	Sandberg Auditorium Aspen Room	2 pm 7 pm
Thu 12	Clubhouse Event: Mobile Food Pantry The Green Team Men's Poker (Jess Deal; 2nd and 4th Thursday) RV Lot Club	B243/B244 Parking Lot Blue Spruce Room Game Room Aspen Room	10 am noon–2 pm 3:30–7:30 pm 5–6 pm
Fri 13	Birding and Nature Club HG Indivisible	Lodgepole Lounge Skyview Room	11:30 am 11:45 am
Sat 14	The Breakfast Club	Rendezvous Restaurant	8:30 am
Mon 16	VNA Senior Wellness Clinics (1st & 3rd Mondays) HG Photo Club	Blue Spruce Room Aspen Room	8:30 am–1 pm 3 pm
Tue 17	Caregiver's Support Group B201 and B202 Monthly Social Ward V Town Hall Meeting with Alison Coombs	Aspen Room Rendezvous Restaurant Aspen/Blue Spruce Room	2–4 pm 4:30 pm 6:30 pm
Wed 18	Square Dancing Club (every 1st and 3rd Wednesday)	Sandberg Auditorium	7–9 pm
Thu 19	HG Optimist Club Social Justice Discussion TOPS Picnic Clubhouse Event: The Druids by Kathleen Arnold Bunko Kiwanis Club of Aurora – Guest Speaker B250 Meeting	Rendezvous Restaurant Skyview Room Picnic Pavilion Sandberg Auditorium Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Room	9 am 10 am–noon 11:30 am–2 pm 1–2 pm 1–3:30 pm 6 pm 6:30–8:30 pm
Fri 20	Men with Purpose (1st and 3rd Friday) Clubhouse Event: Bingo	Skyview Room Sandberg Auditorium	10 am 1–3 pm
Sat 21	Wine and Cheese Social Club	Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	3–5 pm
Sun 22	Frolics Club Stage and Costume Makeup Workshop	Sandberg Auditorium	2–4 pm



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Mon 23	Low Vision Support Group HG Democratic Club HG Garden Club	Aspen Room Sandberg Auditorium Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	1:30–3 pm 4–5:30 pm 6 pm
Tue 24	Sevillians Monthly Dinner HG Republicans Clubhouse Event: Mountain Man Fruit and Nut Co. Tuesday Evening Bridge (2nd & 4th Tuesday)	Rendezvous Restaurant Sandberg Auditorium Clubhouse Lobby Blue Spruce Room	4:30–6 pm 1:30–3 pm 2:15–3:15 pm 5:30 pm
Wed 25	Resident Orientation Clubhouse Event: Living Healthy to 100 (Humana) CP3 Meeting	Board Room/Zoom Aspen Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	10 am 1–3 pm 5–7:30 pm
Thu 26	Clubhouse Event: Watch Batteries	Sunburst Café	9 am–1 pm
Fri 27	Fourth Friday Bridge Green Team Doggie Bags Clubhouse Movie: Barbie	Skyview Room Lodge Pole Lounge Sandberg Auditorium	8:30 am–12:30 pm 9 am–noon 2 pm
Sat 28	HG Optimist Food Drive National Federation of the Blind, Aurora Chapter Pickleball Party Clubhouse Event: Halloween Party with Retro	B243 Parking Lot Mountain View Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Sandberg Auditorium	9–11 am 10:30 am–12:30 pm 4–8:30 pm 6–8:30 pm
Mon 30	HG Annual Membership Meeting (2024 Budget)	Sandberg Auditorium	10 am
Tue 31	HG Annual Membership Meeting (2024 Budget)	Sandberg Auditorium	6 pm
Nov. 1	HG Annual Membership Meeting (2024 Budget)	Sandberg Auditorium	1 pm

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. Enjoy the fellowship. We welcome everyone. No sign up required, just show up. Call Joyce Smith, 918-586-2954. Hope to see you soon.

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. For information, call Eric Cline, 720-839-4289, or email clinecellars57@yahoo.com.

HG Women's Bible Study meets the first Thursday at 10–11:30 am, in the Mountain View Room and on Zoom. All other Thursdays 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

FYI

VNA Senior Wellness Clinics

Charges: Toenail Cutting (includes blood pressure) \$60 (1st visit, 1 hour), \$55 (returning client); Fingernail trim \$15. If you cannot keep your appointment, please cancel or you will be charged \$5. Have exact cash amount, credit card, or checks made out to "VNA." Call

Heather 'n Yon Deadline - 10/17

• **Monthly Meetings** •

Boards and Committees

Listed meetings will be in the Board Room or Zoom.

SEC (Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, Oct. 2

CECC (Zoom) – 10 am Tue, Oct. 3

CEO Meet & Greet (BR/Zoom) – 8 am Wed, Oct. 4

Joint Long Range Plan (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, Oct. 4

~~Clubs & Activities (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Fri, Oct. 6~~

RV Lot (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, Oct. 9

Maintenance (Zoom) – 10 am Tue, Oct. 10

Clubhouse (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Oct. 10

Foundation (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Wed, Oct. 11

HGMD Special Board (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Thu, Oct. 12

HGA Special Board (Zoom) – 1 pm Thu, Oct. 12

ARO Meeting (BR/Zoom) – 6 pm Thu, Oct. 12

Personnel Policy (Zoom) – 10 am Fri, Oct. 13

Civic Affairs (BR/Zoom) – 2:30 pm Fri, Oct. 13

Budget & Finance (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Mon, Oct. 16

HGMD Audit/Finance (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, Oct. 16

HGA Board (Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Oct. 17

Joint Long Range Plan (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, Oct. 18

Resident Open Forum (BR/Zoom) – 3 pm Wed, Oct. 18

ACC (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, Oct. 19

HGMD Board (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Thu, Oct. 19

Golf (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Oct. 24

Resident Orientation (Zoom) – 10 am Wed, Oct. 25

Restaurant (BR/Zoom) – 3 pm Thu, Oct. 26

Canceled

VNA, 845-418-4006.

- Monday, Oct. 2, 8:30 am–1 pm, Blue Spruce Rm
- Monday, Oct. 16, 8:30 am–1 pm, Blue Spruce Rm

See FYI...page 52

Letters

Heather 'n Yon

In response to Kathi Zurn's letter to the editor, *Heather 'n Yon*, August 2023, the Green Team would like to thank her for her support of the bat house while also clarifying a few of her remarks.

First, at no time has HGMD ever taken credit for the bat house project. The Green Team went to the HGMD Board with the proposal for the project and to seek approval to erect the houses on HGMD land. After a couple of miscommunications, the HGMD Board granted permission with no legal hindrances. When the Green Team sought approval, we did so with caveats that the Green Team would be physically and financially responsible for all aspects of the project from construction through maintenance, assuring the board that the project would not cost HG money.

While no donations have been directly solicited for the bat houses, many individual members of the Green Team, as well as many individual residents, have freely donated money to the Green Team to assist with construction and installation costs and the ongoing maintenance costs.

The project is funded by The Green Team from its Annual Shred Event fundraiser. This has always been the agreement the Green Team took to the HGMD Board. It was not at their request.

We appreciate the space to clarify this matter.

– **Ginny Anthony, B204;**
Janet Arce B232, Co-Presidents,
HG Green Team

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. The HGA Board requires that letters do not exceed 300 words. Letters will not be run from the same individual in successive months. Writers may publish only four letters per year, but not in consecutive months.

Heather 'n Yon

The HG Optimist Club has been supporting the youth of our community since 1978. Here's a sample of projects we've done so far in 2023:

1. *Grandparent Program* at a local elementary school. Some of us go once a week to read with K–6 students. Others go once a year for other projects at the school.

2. *There With Care*. This non profit supports the families of critically ill children. In addition to cash donations, a group of us goes once a month to bundle books and make toiletry bags.

3. *Junior Golf*. We help pay expenses of kids who participate in the Optimist International Junior Golf Tournament in Florida.

4. *Shimmering Wings*. We made 23 fleece blankets for local kids attending grief camp because they lost a parent or family member.

5. *Barbara Davis Juvenile Diabetes Center*. Donated scholarship money for kids attending the center's summer camp.

6. *Food Drive*. The goods we collect go to local food banks.

We are always looking for new members and invite you to come check us out on the first and third Thursday of each month in Rendezvous Restaurant, 9 am. A free continental breakfast is offered for your first visit. It costs \$10 per meeting for members in addition to annual dues.

Another way to support our work is to attend our semi-annual fundraiser — a pancake breakfast Oct 7, 8–10 am, in Rendezvous for \$10 per ticket. Our annual food drive will be held Oct. 28.

Hope to see you soon.

– **Karen Thomas**
B250

Heather 'n Yon

A big "Thank You" to Nancy Linsenbigler, chair of the 50th Anniversary Committee, and her many volunteers for all their hard work. They made this a very special year of celebration with their creative ideas and fun events. And with all their fund raising — they were able to cover most of the activities' costs!

Sept. 15 was a great finale. The celebration in Sandberg Auditorium was fantastic. The HG Power Point Presentation, by Karen Gold, and the drone video "Above Heather Gar-

dens," by Greg Kohr, were both excellent. For those who missed these, you can find them on the HG website, www.heathergardens.org.

Kudos to Cormac, Kara and the restaurant staff for a gourmet dinner and a wonderful evening.

– **Russ and JoAnn Fitch**
B215

Heather 'n Yon

Thank you so much, Patt Clark and Sunflower Ladies, for our beautiful gardens and pots of flowers in Seville. They are gorgeous again this year. I know a lot of work goes in to making them look so pretty. It is really appreciated by everyone. The entrance to Seville has never looked so beautiful in the 12 years we have lived here. Thank you again.

– **Bill and Pam Howlett**
B233

Heather 'n Yon

The HG Optimist Club will once again be conducting its annual food collection drive. The drive has always been successful due to the generosity and support of the HG residents.

The collection will take place on Oct. 28, 9–11 am. It will be a drive-through and drop-off event in the parking lot of B243 on East Marina Drive. Simply drive through to donate your unexpired, non-perishable food donations. They will be unloaded from your car by Optimist Club members.

As in the past, the donations will be used to support local Aurora food pantries that serve the homeless and low-income residents of Aurora. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this worthy cause and for supporting the HG Optimist Club.

– **Sally Pula**
B243

Heather 'n Yon

We recommend John Recob.

Those who live in HG have a very good thing going. Our infrastructure, grounds, and community services contribute greatly to our health, enjoyment, and wellbeing.

Our infrastructure is aging, our grounds constantly require investment, and our services must reflect the needs of our changing demographics. We cannot stop change, but we must manage it to our best ability, respecting the financial constraints we each have. That is what

See Letters...page 33

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HGMD Foundation

The Foundation Committee has two openings. If interested in serving on this committee, please complete the application that is on the HG website, www.heathergardens.org, or get a copy in the Management office.

Next meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 11.

Recent Donations to the General Fund:

- B234 in memory of Milton Larry
 - B217 in memory of Mary Smith and Diane Stuart
- **Eloise Laubach, HGMD Vice President
Chair, Foundation Committee**

Letters...from page 31

this letter is about — effectively managing change.

The HGA Board members must possess the knowledge, experience, and business savvy to make prudent and intelligent decisions on our behalf, and on behalf of future residents. John Recob has those credentials.

Knowledge:

- BS. Civil engineering. Colorado University.
- Certified design build professional.
- Certified LEED-AP, accredited professional.

Experience:

- Commercial construction management (30 years)
- Commercial Real Estate management, (14 years)
- Projects totaling \$2.0 billion
- Asset property management: 635 apartment units
- Pier Point 7, HOA Board, Aurora Colorado. Member (10 yrs.), President (2 yrs.)
- Wild Irishman HOA Board, Keystone, Colorado. Member. (5 yrs.)
- Treasurer and Finance Coordinator for several non-profits.

Heather Gardens Committees:

- Budget & Finance (June 2022–present)
- Maintenance (Oct. 2021–present)
- Parking Structure Advisory (2 years)
- Capital Programs, member/current chair (May 2021–present)

Business Savvy:

- Managed multiple projects, and priorities for seven individual residential villages with diverse needs. (Pier Point 7 HOA)
- Engineering knowledge contributing to redesigning an old, unsuitably designed roof. (Wild Irishman HOA)
- Project Management skills conducting a Project Scope Analysis that identified potential cost savings for HG residents exceeding \$15,000,000

on Parking Structures.

We deserve board members with knowledge, experience, and business savvy to make prudent and intelligent decisions to manage change effectively.

John Recob has the knowledge, experience, and business savvy to manage change effectively.

– **Shannon and Dr. Mike Boyd
CP2**

Heather 'n Yon

Friends and neighbors in HG, as you are undoubtedly aware, HGA Board elections are upon us. We need to elect board members who are experienced in providing oversight and expertise for communities such as ours. One of the people running for a board position has my full and unwavering support — John Recob. Here's why:

John and his wife have been part of our community since 2020. In that time he has become an active member of numerous committees, including:

- HGA Maintenance Committee
- HGA/HGMD Budget & Finance Committee
- HGA/HGMD Capital Programs Subcommittee Chair
- Parking Structure Advisory Committee (PSAC)
- PSAC Design Group Chairman

In these roles, John's only concern and focus has been to maintain and improve the wonderful community that we have here. The management of HG and the HGA Board have come to depend upon John's guidance and recommendations as they work to keep costs down and find ways to take advantage of efficiencies.

John has a distinguished and diverse background in commercial-construction management along with commercial real estate; experience and expertise in areas near and dear to our hearts and wallets.

Friends, I humbly request that you strongly consider John as the best candidate to be a Director on

the HGA Board. It's in all of our best interests.

– **Jon Freyer
B213**

Heather 'n Yon

I would like to encourage the HG community to support and vote for John Recob for the HG Board. John has served on many Budget and Finance Committees and has held offices both in his building and on the Seville Recreation Association Board (SRA). As past president of the SRA, I attend all meetings when possible. John knows his numbers, ways to budget, and working with contracts.

I feel John communicates well with fellow board and committee members. He does his best to make sure his report is understood by all members and that everyone is "on the same page."

John has some great ideas to improve the HGA Board. He would like to see more interest and enthusiasm among residents who have backgrounds and experience that would fit into the HG network. They could bring new ideas for our community. Let's put these good minds to good use. Maybe your neighbor, or how about yourself?

Our community would benefit from John's past and present experiences in finance, property management and maintenance.

Please vote for John Recob to be a 2024 HG Board Director.

– **Vicki Wolfe
B235**

Heather 'n Yon

I love Heather Gardens and want to ensure it continues to be the premier large active adult community in Colorado. HG has some significant challenges ahead that need to be addressed over the next few years. This is why I think it is important to find and retain people with the experience to handle these challenges.

I have served on three committees with Ray Nash and know him to be up for the tasks at hand. He has

See Letters...page 47

Clubs and Organizations

HG Women's Book Club

The club meets on the first Monday of each month at 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.

Spanish Club (Club en Español)

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

Heather Gardens Singers

The group meets every Tuesday, 1–2:30 pm, Skyview Room. Everyone welcome to join and sing for fun. We are looking for an accompanist/director. For more details: Tom Kappel, 720-377-5756.

CP2

We meet on the first Tuesday in October, December, April, June and August. In October and April, we will meet in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms. In June and December, we meet in the Rendezvous Restaurant.

The months that we are not meeting in Rendezvous Restaurant will be potluck and BYOB. Please mark your calendars! – Jake Flint

Woodshop Club

A new Woodshop Club has been formed to promote use of the Woodshop and better care of the equipment; focus on safety within the Woodshop; and help develop new woodworking classes, fellowship, and training. The next meeting will be held 1 pm Wednesday, Oct. 4, in the Mountain View Room. Member experience varies from beginner level to experienced woodworkers.

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. Questions may be directed to President Dave Woods, heathergardenswoodshopclub@gmail.com.

CP1

We are moving our social hours into the Clubhouse, Blue Spruce/As-

pen Rooms, for the months of October and November. We will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30.

We plan to take a break in December, and enjoy a Winter Party in January (time and place TBD). Monthly social hours will resume on the first Wednesday of the month in February. – Tammi, 303-618-5345; Carolyn, 720-290-9908.

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 the 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 mjackson81@gmail.com.

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.

HG 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 HG. Join us on Thursdays, 1–4 pm, Mountain View Room. Club contact: Barbara Creswell, 651-485-3608.

CP4

We have our monthly get-together at 5 pm in Rendezvous on the first Thursday of each month. Call David Crum if you plan to attend.

Kiwanis Club of Aurora

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

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, in the Skyview Room. For information, contact Gene Dawson, 720-535-9672.

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.

HG Republican Club

On Tuesday, Oct. 10, we will hold a Ballot Measures 2023 Workshop, 5–7:30 pm, Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms. While there are only two Ballot Measures on the 2023 November Ballot, both measures are complex and have an impact on your wallet. Come to the workshop to find out more about the following:

- Two ballot measures
- Candidates running for Aurora City Council
- Candidates running for Aurora Public Schools and Cherry Creek School District.

Please note: This is a non-partisan election and a non-partisan presentation. Pros and cons of the ballot measures will be presented. Also, if you have received your ballot in the mail by this date, please bring it with you to the workshop.

Our regular, Tuesday meeting is on Oct. 24, 1:30–3 pm, Sandberg Auditorium: “Save Colorado Project.” Guest Speaker is Senator Kev-

in Lundberg. Join us to learn how grassroots Republicans are advocating for change to "Make Colorado Great Again."

After 16 years in the Colorado Legislature, Lundberg continues to serve as an active citizen of the state of Colorado. He promotes "the solid principles of liberty and good civil government." Lundberg is the executive director of the Republican Study Committee of Colorado (www.RSCC.us) and is actively engaged in legislative oversight duties.

Every Monday morning (except holidays), 7:30 am, Lundberg holds a gathering via Zoom to discuss the latest issues in Colorado and beyond. Please be a part of the discussion via your phone or computer. For more information: www.kevinlundberg.com. Be sure to read The Lundberg Report published every week.

Save Our Republic. If you are interested in forming and/or joining a weekly prayer group, please email Robin O'Meara, president, HG Republican Club, hgrepublican@protonmail.com.

Aviation Club

The club will meet on the second Wednesday, Oct. 11, 7 pm, Aspen Room. The program is on the SR-71 Black Bird, the world's fastest and highest-flying manned jet aircraft.

Built to fly at 85,000+ ft., at Mach 3.0 to 3.1, it holds several major records:

- Top Speed – still classified
- World record 2,184 mph, which equals 3,000 ft./second, or 33 miles/minute.

The SR-71 Black Bird has performed record flight times:

- NYC to London = 1 hour 54 minutes
- London – LA = 3 hours 47 minutes
- Used for Strategic Reconnaissance in Vietnam, Kosovo, and many other conflicts.

Our program covers the plane's history from concept, through design and construction to historic flights. A truly fascinating story, with many photos. For questions, call Rudy Morris, 303-506-8070.

The Green Team

Our club welcomes all interested folks to attend meetings at noon on the second Thursday of the month

(October 12). For more information, call 303-587-9797. – Wendy Pfaffhausen

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 second Thursday of each month, 5–6 pm, Aspen Room. Happy trails and safe travels!

Birding and Nature Club

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

HG Indivisible

The group meets on the second Friday of the month (Oct. 13), 11:45 am, Skyview Room. After the meeting, for those wishing to join us, we go to lunch at 1 pm, Rendezvous Restaurant.

The HG Indivisible group is an informal network of citizens concerned about the increasing role of anonymous big money groups infusing elections with dark money and disinformation. We are concerned about the interlocking catastrophes of a rigged democracy, growing wealth inequality, racial injustice, and the escalating impacts of the climate crisis. The group also sends out a newsletter several times a month with events and action items relating to local and national issues. Contact me if you want to receive the newsletter.

Please join us if you share our concerns, or are just curious about how we can preserve our Democracy. We are all inclusive, and there is never a fee or any other obligation to participate. – Linda Champ, 720-252-7324, lindachamp91@gmail.com.

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.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. TBC has grown in the past 20 years — it is larger with 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

HG Photo Club

If you want to learn more about photography, get inspired, meet others who share your passion, and make new friends, try the HG Photo Club. Using an iPhone or an Android, you can learn ways to get a great shot and edit on your cell phone. If you are interested in learning more about your cell phone, check us out. We meet on the third Monday, 3–5 pm, in the Aspen Room. Contact Larry Renshaw (Larry_Renshaw@msn.com), 303-648-0049, or Anita Huddleston (anvid7@hotmail.com), 303-718-6676.

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.

B201 and B202

B201 and B202 meet at 4:30 pm on the third Tuesday, in Rendezvous. For more information, please call Nancy Grossman, 714-470-5660.

Social Justice Discussion

Social Justice: "Unpacking The Society We Live In," invites you to participate in a roundtable discussion on the third Thursday of each month, 10 am–noon, Skyview Room. The purpose of our group is to further our understanding, increase our awareness, expand our knowledge, foster reconciliation, and to share our stories of equity and inequity in our society.

On Oct. 19, a HG resident will share her story of growing up in segregated Troy, Ohio. Facilitators: Bernie Hupperts, marlynber@gmail.com, and Diane Pritchard, dianek-pritchard@gmail.com.

Wine & Cheese Social Club

We meet on the third Saturday of every month. Join us at 3–5 pm Saturday, Oct. 21, Aspen/Blue Spruce Room. Bring a beverage and snack to share. Entertainment is provided. For information, call the Clubhouse Activity Desk, 303-751-1811, ext. 5.

See Clubs...page 46



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2 bed / 1 bath 952 sq. ft. – Quiet end location overlooking wildlife area. Remodeled kitchen w/updated cabinets, granite counters, & laminate wood floors. Built-in bookshelves in 2nd bed. Screen enclosed lanai.

FOR SALE – 3164 s. Wheeling Way #311 - \$280,000



2 bed / 2 bath 1200 sq. ft. Alpha A – Beautiful end unit! Remodeled kitchen w/luxury vinyl plank wood floors, Cherry cabinets, granite counters, tile backsplash, stainless appliances & pantry. New paint & newer windows in both beds. Remodeled baths. Screened lanai to watch sunsets.

SOLD – 13635 E. Bates Ave. #412

SOLD – 13618 E. Bethany Pl. #107

SOLD – 14277 E. Marina Dr.

I have helped several buyers recently too!

“Fred was great! I felt he gave wonderful advice, and I really appreciated his recommendation to use Lynn & Shane for painting. He also went to bat for me to get HG to respond to their responsibilities. I’m grateful!” - Lisa

**If you are ready to FALL in love with a new home, I can help!
Contact me for a tour.**



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Sports and Recreation

Social Bridge

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

Pickleball

Come on out and try the fastest growing sport in the country. We have loaner paddles and pickleballs for you, so show up any time we are playing. Court shoes are recommended. We have a new “Pickleball Light” program for those who enjoy a slower and easier pace of play,

Club play will be 9–11 am, and often later every day, weather permitting. We have added events such as Round Robin and Ladder Play, occasionally, on Saturday or Sunday.

Visit our club’s website www.hgpickle.org for much more information. Or contact Phil Hughes, 303-503-7633, or Ron Hileman, 720-256-7477, ronhileman@gmail.com, with your questions, or to schedule a private, free orientation.

Men’s Monday Bridge

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

Time4Tap Dance Group

If you’ve ever wanted to learn how to tap dance, or you’d like to renew your tap skills, Time4Tap Group (Beginning) is for you. We meet on Mondays, 1 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. With questions, call or text Julie Whalen, 303-550-5985; email jwhalen97@comcast.net. Or just drop in on a Monday.

If you are a seasoned tap dancer, you might want to join Time4Tap Dance Group (Intermediate/Advanced) at 11 am Thursdays, Sandberg Auditorium. Make Time4Tap!

Monday Mah Jongg

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.

Men’s Poker & 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.

Tennis Club

Our play times, October through April, are Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, at 1 pm. Please come out and give us a try. We welcome all levels of players. We offer free lessons, and training on the ball machine.

We have monthly business/social meetings on first Tuesday of the month, 5 pm, Rendezvous Restaurant. Our next meeting is Oct. 3. We are friendly and welcoming. If you have any questions, call Ms. Jimmie Whorton, 303-923-3038.

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, HG 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 Kevin Keator 303-699-4641, or just show up.

Tuesday Mah Jongg

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.

Afternoon Cribbage

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

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.

HG ACBL Duplicate Bridge

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.

Pinochle

We play for fun and friendship. We start at 1:30 pm, and end at 4 pm, every Wednesday in the Mountain View Room. Join us if you’d like to play, learn, or just sharpen your skills. Call Diane, 707-799-6449 or 6446. We look forward to seeing you.

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.

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. Information: Carli Williams, carliwilliams@hotmail.com, 303-518-7337.

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

Billiard Club

The club meets for Co-ed 8-Ball at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays. Check in before 6:15 pm 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, 303-693-0766, or Judy Brehmer, 303-369-6258.

8-Ball Results August 15

- 1st Chuck Toner Team
- 2nd Dee Moore, Roger Goldstein
- 3rd Connie Burns, Ed Harvey

August 22

- 1st Dee Moore, Roger Goldstein
- 2nd Tammy Beeman, Scott Crowl
- 3rd Bob Schlageter Team

August 29

- 1st Roger Goldstein, Don Gunnerson
- 2nd Greg Kachadoorian, Judy Brehmer
- 3rd Tammy Beeman, Brian Bucenec

September 5

- 1st Dee Moore, Ed Harvey
- 2nd Don Gunnerson, Judy Hein
- 3rd Chuck Toner, Bob Schlageter

September 12

- 1st Doug Miller, Judy Brehmer
- 2nd Jack Doherty, Gil Lochhead
- 3rd Ed Harvey, Connie Burns

9-Ball Results August 17

- 1st Tammy Beeman
- 2nd Brian Bucenec, Jack Doherty, John Manzanares

August 24

- 1st Jack Doherty
- 2nd Brian Bucenec, Ed Harvey

August 31

- 1st John Manzanares
- 2nd Jack Doherty
- 3rd Lindy Davenport

September 7

- 1st Jack Doherty
- 2nd Roger Goldstein
- 3rd Brian Bucenec

September 14

- 1st Brian Bucenec
- 2nd John Manzanares
- 3rd Roger Goldstein

HG Ladies Golf Club

Cooler mornings and shorter days mean that Fall has arrived, and the 2023 golf season has officially ended. This year introduced monthly shotgun starts, a new method for

turning in score cards, and the addition of luncheon specials at Rendezvous following Wednesday play. The club is grateful to Rendezvous Manager Cormac Ronin and his staff for making these luncheons possible.

When asked about her first term as club president, Sara Stoner remarked, "Everyone has been so kind and supportive of me this year. The thing I like best is even though it's a competitive club, we all hope each other plays well and wins. For that I am proud to be the president."

The Year in Review

Membership for the year was 104. The club welcomed 12 new members and averaged 53 players each week. During the 18 weeks of play, there were 27 birdies and 51 chip-ins, a testament to the skill level of HGLGC players.

Congratulations to the following players who recorded the low gross in their respective flights this year:

- Flight A: Sara Stoner, 37, May 31
- Flight B: Rosalie Einspahr, 42, May 31
- Flight C: Anne Gillis, 46, July 5
- Flight D: Adele Grasee, 49, May 31

Elections

On Aug. 30, the club held its annual election of officers. Congratulations to the following members who will serve in leadership positions next year:

- Sara Stoner – President
- Jan Belt – Vice President
- Linda Savage – Secretary
- Laura Thompson – Treasurer

The club extends its sincere thanks to outgoing Vice President Carol Anne Mayne and Treasurer Bonnie McMullen for their dedicated service to the club.

Club Championship

Played on Sept. 6 and 13, the winners will be announced at the year-end luncheon on Wednesday, Oct. 18. Watch for a complete list of recipients in the November issue of *Heather 'n Yon*.

In July, club members participated in a bake sale to support the Optimist Club's Junior Golf program. We are proud to announce that the event raised \$886, which the Optimist Board rounded up to \$900 and donated in HGLGC's name.

The year's final HGLGC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday,

Oct. 25 at 1 pm. All members are welcome to attend. Minutes from board meetings are posted on the club's website following each meeting.

Prospective members can obtain an application for the 2024 season in the Heather Gardens Pro Shop, or on our website, www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com, or by contacting Membership Chair Mary Jo Prichard at mjpinsurance@hotmail.com.

Tournament Results August 9

Flight A

- 1st Jan Belt, Margie Francone, Judy Phillips
- 4th JoAnn Fitch, Debbie Madril, Charlane Plucheck

Flight B

- 1st Bonnie Soman
- 2nd Carol Strickland
- 3rd Rosalie Einspahr
- 4th Linda Hileman

Flight C

- 1st Bev Nelson, JoAnn Sterling
- 3rd Pat Profera, Sharon Weiss

Flight D

- 1st Lisa Matthews
- 2nd Sharon Menger
- 3rd Miquela Luna
- 4th Marilyn Cornell

August 16

Flight A

- 1st Judy Phillips
- 2nd Debbie Madril
- 3rd Jan Belt, Margie Francone

Flight B

- 1st Mary Jo Prichard
- 2nd Karin Bentley, Anne Gillis, Susan Brennan

Flight C

- 1st Carol Ann Mayne
- 2nd Bev Nelson
- 3rd Connie Burns, Dee Moore

Flight D

- 1st Susan Craig, Lisa Matthews
- 3rd Pam Acosta-Watson
- 4th Lil Pickerel

August 23

Flight A

- 1st Nancy Bonniwell, Margie Francone
- 3rd Jan Belt, Charlene Plucheck

Flight B

- 1st Florence Madonna
- 2nd Judy Nelson, YE Scott
- 4th Karin Bentley, Linda Savage, Bonnie McMullen, Pat Taylor

Flight C

- 1st Suzi Stolte
- 2nd Judy Brehmer, Myra Lansky
- 4th Mary Lou Corliss

Sports...page 48



SOUND OF THE ROCKIES

*Holiday Harmony Show
"Carols Around the World"*

HG CHARTER BUS

Saturday Matinee performance
December 9th

\$47.50 includes preferred
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bus ride from Heather Gardens.

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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

Comedy Night

Saturday, Oct. 7, 7 pm, Sandberg Auditorium
Cost: \$10 — Reservation required, 303-751-1811, x5

Back by popular demand! Harvest the funny with Karyn Ruth White. An evening of uplifting comedy! Pack your Depends, grab some tissues, and get ready to laugh! Karyn always draws a great crowd so get your tickets soon! You will not be disappointed with this show. Sponsored by: Ben Torres of Humana

Steady CBD Seminar

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 9–11 am, Aspen Room

Learn how Steady CBD products will help relieve pain. Steady CBD also has products that will help relieve anxiety and help you sleep. Steady CBD representatives will recommend the right product for your specific needs. Coffee and donuts will be served. Enter for a door prize. No need to sign up, just come on in.

Active Minds: America's Pastime — Baseball!

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2 pm, Sandberg Auditorium
FREE: Reservation required, 303-751-1811, x5.

A brief history and selected stories from the game of baseball. Join Active Minds as we trace the history of baseball from its disputed origins to the present day. We will look at the way that "America's Game" is often reflective of the nation itself. Baseball has often been plagued by scandal, from the 1919 Chicago Black Sox to the "Steroid Era" and revelations of cheating. At the same time, Baseball has also seen transcendent figures such as Babe Ruth, Ted Williams and the man who broke down Baseball's color line, the heroic Jackie Robinson. Bring your own favorite baseball story to share with the group.

Mobile Food Market

Thursday, Oct. 12, 10–11:30 am (or until food runs out),
Parking Lot B243 and B244 on East Marina Drive
FREE

Aurora, in partnership with SECORCares, is bringing a mobile food pantry for seniors. No cost for the food. *Food will be modified to accommodate senior needs as best as possible, i.e., low sodium, low fat, softer foods. Questions? Call 303-739-7281. Please do not line up before 9:45 am. For safety, stay within the boundaries of the cones set up. If you have reusable bags, please bring them to shop!

The Druids with Kathleen Arnold

Thursday, Oct. 19, 1–2 pm, Sandberg Auditorium
FREE, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5

The Druids have always been one of history's biggest mysteries. Were they peaceful priests and poets or dan-

gerous prophets who practiced dark magic? Sponsored by Cherry Creek Retirement Village and Garden Plaza of Aurora.

Bingo!

Friday, Oct. 20, 1–3 pm, Sandberg Auditorium
FREE: Reservation required, 303-751-1811, x5.
Snacks will be provided. Register early!

Mountain Man Nut & Fruit Co.

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2:15–3:15 pm, Clubhouse Lobby
Nuts, seeds, snacks, candies, dried fruits, trail mix.

Ben Torrez with Humana

"Living Healthy to 100" — a Medicare Workshop
Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1–3 pm, Aspen Room
FREE, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5.

Making a lasting behavior change is rarely a simple process. It usually involves a significant amount of time, effort, and emotion. Success is often worth it. Learn about steps you can take to help you age happily and healthfully. As a bonus, Torrez will start to introduce key Medicare considerations for 2024. In this workshop, we will talk about your options, how to enroll, eligibility and much more! Bring your questions. Bring your friends. This workshop is free to all so stay for both classes or one.

Watch Batteries Replaced

Thursday, Oct. 26, 9 am–1 pm, Sunburst Café
Cost: \$8 per battery

Bring in your watches, car remotes or hearing aids for new batteries while you wait.

Movie Matinee: *Barbie* 2023

Friday, Oct. 27, 2 pm, Sandberg Auditorium
Cost: \$5 pre-register; \$6 on the day of the event.
Reservation required, 303-751-1811, x5

Barbie is a 2023 American fantasy comedy film directed by Greta Gerwig from a screenplay she wrote with Noah Baumbach. Based on the eponymous fashion dolls by Mattel. It is the first live-action Barbie film after numerous computer-animated films and specials. The film stars Margot Robbie as the titular character and Ryan Gosling as Ken. The pair take a journey of self-discovery following an existential crisis. It features a supporting cast that includes America Ferrera, Kate McKinnon, Issa Rae, Rhea Perlman, and Will Ferrell.

Retro: Halloween Dance,

Saturday, Oct. 28, 6–8:30 pm, Sandberg Auditorium
Cost: \$10 pre-register / \$6 at the door
Reservation required, 303-751-1811, x5

Dress for the costume contest and lots of fun. Retro is one of Denver's premier acoustic performance groups that plays a wide range of folk/rock/country and blues. Twelve string guitars, appropriate percussion, soaring harmonies, and strong vocals offer a full-bodied performance that will have you tapping your feet and singing along. The group performs songs you know and love from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. You will be amazed at how well you remember these songs — some of which you may not have heard in decades. Snacks, pulled pork sandwiches, plus domestic beer \$5, craft beer \$6, wine \$6, and seltzers \$5.



Heather Gardens Trips

Dreamgirls

Wednesday, Oct. 25, Lone Tree Arts Center

Fee: \$75. Reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext 5.

Deadline: Monday, Oct. 9. No refunds or cancellations after this date.

HG chartered bus will load 12:30 pm, between B243 and B244 on E. Marina Drive, returning around 6:30 pm.

With dazzling storytelling and iconic musical numbers, *Dreamgirls* is a musical about the allure of fame and how it transforms the relationships of stars with their friends, lovers, and families. The Lone Tree Arts Center's triumphant return to producing theatrical events will bring audiences to their feet.

Dazzle Downtown Denver

October 21, 6–8:30 pm, DCPA Dazzle

Cost: \$81

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 13. No cancellations, or refunds after this date.

HG has chartered a bus to take residents to the new Dazzle location in the DCPA. Dazzle is known for its Jazz performers. We will be there to hear Sazón Six, featuring: Norma Tell, vocals; Bobby Trujillo, drums; Ed Stephen, guitar; Roger Johns, base. Special guest artist: Ron Jolly, piano. Cost includes charter bus, show, choice of meal — two Salmon sliders or one Muffaletta Sandwich; watermelon salad or Dazzle salad; one glass or house red or white wine, tap beer selection, or a well highball; gratuity and taxes. The Sazón Six have performed at Rendezvous where the group draws a crowd. Sign up early for an evening of dinner and jazz. Leave the driving to the bus driver. Charter bus to pick up between B243 and B244, 4:30 pm. The bus returns to HG around 9:30.

Murder for Two

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2 pm, Parker Arts Center Schoolhouse

Fee: \$56. Reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext 5.

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 6. No refunds or cancellations after this date.

HG chartered bus will load at 1 pm between B243 and B244 on E. Marina Drive, returning around 6:30 pm.

Officer Marcus Moscovicz is a small-town policeman with dreams of making it to detective. One fateful night,

shots ring out at the surprise birthday party of great American novelist Arthur Whitney and the writer is killed. With the nearest detective an hour away, Marcus jumps at the chance to prove his sleuthing skills — with the help of his silent partner, Lou.

Murder for Two is the perfect blend of music, mayhem and murder! In this hilarious 90-minute show, two performers play 13 roles (and the piano) in a witty and winking homage to old-fashioned murder mysteries.

Bally's Blackhawk Casino. Last trip for 2023!

Tuesday, Nov. 14, bus leaves at 7:45 am

Fee: \$20, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext 5.

Deadline: Friday, Nov. 10. No cancellations or refunds after this date. The casino requires all registrants to provide birthdays, please provide this information to the Activities Desk when registering.

Reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5. (See trip description in the September issue of *Heather 'n Yon*, or on HG website, www.heathergardens.org.)

Cinderella

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 1 pm, Arvada Center

Fee: \$74, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext 5.

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 27. No refunds, or cancellations after this date.

HG Chartered bus will load at 11:45 am between B243 and B244 on E. Marina Drive, returning 6:15 pm.

Music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II. New book by Douglas Carter Beane. When a young woman is forced to be a servant by her evil stepmother, it takes knowing her worth, some wonderful friends, and a little magic to help her. Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* takes a whimsical turn in the Arvada Center's production, creating a mysterious but playful world where magic is real and dreams come true.

Home for the Holidays

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1:30 pm, Lone Tree Arts Center

Fee: \$67, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5.

No cancellations after Monday, Dec. 4. (See trip description in the September issue of *Heather 'n Yon*, or on HG website, www.heathergardens.org.)



A Woodshop

Club was recently

formed. It meets on

the first Wednesday

of each month, 1 pm

in the Mountain View

Room. Members'

experience varies from beginner

level to extremely experienced. You

are invited to join this great, ener-

getic group. Come learn why these

members love working with wood —

from designing writing pens to wall

hangings and furniture. Questions may be directed to the President Dave Woods,

heathergardenswoodshopclub@gmail.com.

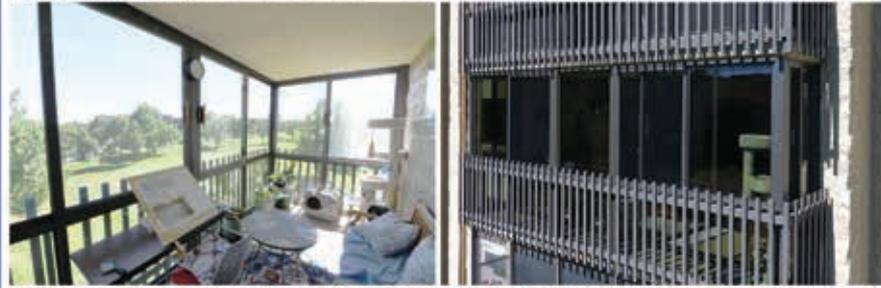
Photographs illustrate projects you could learn about producing in the Woodshop.



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Clubs *...from page 35*

Frolics Club

Get ready for Hallowe'en or your next stage performance. Free – bring a friend. The HG Frolics Club presents the Stage and Theatrical Make-up Workshop. Taught by professional make-up artist, Jewel Nelson, this two-hour workshop will explore the application of make-up for men and women, and its effects in a theatrical setting. This will be an adventurous, hands-on experience.

Join us 2-4 pm Sunday, Oct. 22, Sandberg Auditorium. Reservations are required. No walk-ins, please. Registration closes on Wednesday, Oct. 18. Please contact Arlene Krell to register, 720-284-9774.

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.

Low Vision Support

The October meeting will return to the Aspen Room, 1:30 pm Monday, Oct. 23. Questions, call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224.

HG Democratic Club

The October meeting of the HG Democratic Club will be on Monday, Oct. 23, 4–5:30 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. Our speaker will be Matt Crane, former Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder, a Colorado Certified Election Administrator and a Republican. His presentation on Election Security and Integrity is excellent, and will answer many of your questions about election fraud.

Please note the change-of-meeting day, and don't miss it! All voters are invited. We stand for the Constitution, the rule of law and good government. You are welcome to join us after the meeting for dinner in the Rendezvous. – Marty Karnopp, chair

HG Garden Club

The next club meeting will be 6 pm Monday, October 23, Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms. A celebratory potluck will include a discussion of the past growing season and plans members have for getting ready for the new year. The educational program will address how to keep house plants healthy during the winter months.

Membership in the club is not required. Gardeners who are interested in joining the club's mail-notification list, contact Nancy Linsenbigler, Nancy@nancylinsenbigler.com.

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, B235.

NFBCO Aurora Chapter

NFBCO Aurora meets once a month, on the fourth Saturday, 10:30 am–12:30 pm, in the Mountainview Room. Our chapter is open to all blind and low-vision persons interested in learning more about living the life you want with limited vision. For more information, contact Dale Holden, chapter president, B213, 303-905-9738.

OPOCS Singles Club

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

HG Grief Support

Grief Support has two-hour weekly meetings that convene twice yearly, for eight-week sessions. The last one ended in September. Contact Barbara Creswell, 651-485-3608, bcreswell6@gmail.com, for information on future sessions.

HG Golf course 1984 painting compared to 2023 photograph



Left: Shirley Jackson painted this scene from the fifth floor in B223 in 1984. It has hung in the 5th floor lobby until recently relocated to HG Golf Shop this year. (They were thrilled to get it!) For comparison, see a photograph from a similar vantage point (above). Note the change in exterior colors, and height/coverage of trees after almost 40 years. It still showcases the same beautiful view from B223!

Photo by Christine Zipps, B223.

Letters...from page 33

been on the Budget and Finance Committee for about six years, having his term extended beyond our normal limits by the board three times due to his valuable experience and participation.

Ray is a Retired Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and has worked for one of the largest international accounting firms for nine years. He has also been the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of a bank. Ray is the best choice to be our next HGA Treasurer, but to do so, he will need to be elected to the board.

In the coming years our most significant challenges will likely involve large dollar expenditures. Ray's experience will be critical for our future success in dealing with such issues. For these reasons, I strongly recommend you vote for Ray Nash for the Board of Directors in the upcoming election.

– John Recob
B236

Heather 'n Yon

I am writing to express my full support for the re-election of Larry Dávila to the HG Association Board.

I have known Larry for the last six years as a neighbor and friend. I am aware of how strong an advocate he has been for HG.

Larry's experience and knowledge of HG history and bylaws is extensive. He has served as both member and officer on several boards and values collaborations between the two HG boards. In the 26 years he has lived at HG with his wife, Carol, Larry has been involved with writing bylaws, amendments to the bylaws and he has a full understanding of why changes were made to benefit the community.

Larry is the go-to person if you want to understand the history, challenges, and strengths of our community. He has demonstrated his commitment to HG through innumerable hours in board activities.

Larry has always worked across the aisle. He recognizes the importance of holding our governance to certain standards. On issues that deal closely with our continued success as a community, his good judgment and wise counsel inform and

persuade others of the right path to follow. He is indispensable for the continued success of the HGA Board and our community.

All members of the board look to him when they want to know how things have been handled at HG in the past and how it is best to adhere to standards that ensure HG will remain a welcoming, attractive and viable community for years to come.

A vote for Larry is a vote for the wellbeing of our community

– Estelle Matus
B216

Heather 'n Yon

Reading the September issue of the *Heather 'n Yon*, I noticed Al Lindeman's letter, endorsing Larry Dávila to be reelected to serve on the Heather Gardens Association Board of Directors. I too, would like to encourage you to vote for Larry. I have known Larry for almost 20 years and I have served on several committees and on the HGA Board with him. During that time, I was always impressed with Larry's demeanor, honesty, and his commitment to HG.

He is always respectful of other people's ideas whether on social occasions or in a meeting. He contributes a keen sense of knowledge and plain common sense. He loves the community and would serve as a board director wisely.

I would like to encourage you to vote for Larry in this upcoming HGA Election.

– Bev Havens
B218

Heather 'n Yon

I have known Larry Dávila for over 12 years, and I respect and appreciate all the volunteer work he has done for HGA as a board member in the past. He has served on multiple HGA committees as chair over his board tenure. He has served as the HGA president and vice president previously.

We need Larry's level of HGA experience, guidance, and course direction to help us complete all the large HGA projects that are ahead of us. Larry is a major asset to our community, and we need a great listener like him on the HGA Board. I highly recommend Larry Dávila for re-election to the HGA Board.

•••

I have known John Recob for more than two years, and I have been very impressed with all the support he has provided to HGA. He is currently serving on multiple HGA committees, and he is also serving as Chair for multiple HGA Subcommittees.

John has spent a large amount of his personal time gathering insight and data by walking the HGA property, viewing firsthand our issues and concerns, then attending many HGA meetings. He supplied his findings to aid the HGA Board and committees on many of its critical current and future maintenance projects.

His civil engineering education and background lends itself to many areas of HGA that need significant operations and maintenance support now and in the future. He is great with numbers and budgets, providing logical and effective planning input for Capital Reserve and Operational budgets. I highly recommend John Recob for election to the HGA Board.

I am supporting Larry Dávila for re-election and John Recob for election to the HGA Board.

– Peter Clarendon
B243

Heather 'n Yon

I was not aware that it was relevant to have the Security Report as a forum for the opinion of the Security Chief. To state in the report that the homeless people who reside at the I-225 highway encampment are looking for an "easy payday" is not appropriate. In most cases, if not all, homeless people do not choose to live that way. I would ask that such personal opinions are kept out of the report.

Susan Pettit
B218

Heather 'n Yon

We would like to thank members of the HG Tennis Club for making an arch with decorated tennis rackets as an entrance for our wedding party on Aug. 31 at the tennis courts. We emerged and were greeted by nearly 100 well wishers.

The idea was hatched by Wendy Pfaffausen, NTH, and aided by Jimmie Whorton, STH, Judy Brehmer, B231, and Joyce Synott. It made a lovely start for our wedding!

Loy and Doris Oakes
B202

Sports...from page 39

Flight D

- 1st Ellen Allie
- 2nd Lisa Matthews
- 3rd Susan Craig
- 4th Pam Acosta-Watson,
Lil Pickrel

August 30

Flight A

- 1st Sara Stoner
- 2nd Debbie Madril,
Charlene Plucheck
- 4th Colleen Kreft

Flight B

- 1st Bonnie McMullen, Judy Nelson
- 3rd Carol Gilbert
- 4th Lucy Adler, Cindy Koch,
Betty Parko, Carol Strickland,
Gina Studer

Flight C

- 1st Bev Nelson, Mavis Richardson
- 3rd Cindy Strum
- 4th Myra Lansky, Dee Moore,
JoAnn Sterling, Suzi Stolte

Flight D

- 1st Ellen Allie
- 2nd Gwen Alexander
- 3rd Joan Murphy
- 4th Kathy Liss, Joan McGary
– Suzi Stolte, Publicity Chair

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.

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 feel a little rusty in your dancing, classes start on October 5 from 2:30–4:30 pm here at Heather Gardens. (See ad, page ?) We welcome all dancers to join us. Any questions, call Beverly Nelson, 303-750-6632.

HG Men's Golf

Tournament Results August 18

E flight

- 1st Wayne Wharton
- 2nd Steve Galambos, Neil Miller
- 3rd Phil Haas, Kenny Duncan

D flight

- 1st George Brown, Cliff Creswell
- 2nd David Croak
- 3rd Joe Rook, Philip Corliss

C flight

- 1st Mark Blagen
- 2nd Steve Smith
- 3rd Craigo Augustus, Paul Zipps

B flight

- 1st Rob Ledford
- 2nd Jess Deal
- 3rd Frank Leydens

A flight

- 1st Bob Bengen
- 2nd Dave Bushman, John Bender,
Dave Schmit
- 3rd Gene Barth, Chris Hughes,
Dick Baker

Club Championship Results

August 25

E flight

- 1st Phil Haas 99/69
- 2nd Steve Galambos 103/73
- 3rd Wayne Wharton 107/75

D flight

- 1st George Brown 92/66
- 2nd Cliff Creswell 93/69
- 3rd Phillip Corliss 98/70

C flight

- 1st Fred Skirde 88/62
- 2nd Tom Kappell 89/67
- 3rd Mark Blagen 91/67

B flight

- 1st Rob Ledford 83/65
- 2nd Jess Deal 88/68
- 3rd Gary Kessler 88/70

A flight

- 1st Bob Bengen 79/67
- 2nd John Bender 82/70
- 3rd Gene Barth 84/70

Club Champion Chris Hughes

38 and 36 = 74

September 1

E flight

- 1st Glenn Riggs, Dave Walstrom
- 2nd James Busby
- 3rd Steve Galambos

D flight

- 1st Joe Rook
- 2nd Phillip Corliss
- 3rd Mike Guise, Joe Robinson

C flight

- 1st Nick Streno
- 2nd Jim Jensen
- 3rd David Croak, Henry Ulibarri,
Tim Bessey, Tom Merges

B flight

- 1st Mike Benowitz
- 2nd Gary Kessler
- 3rd Rob Ledford, Frank Leydens

A flight

- 1st John Good
- 2nd Dick Baker
- 3rd Dave Bushman, Eli Henry,
William Casey

September 8

E flight

- 1st Dave Walstrom
- 2nd Mike Connolly
- 3rd Glenn Riggs

D flight

- 1st George Madonna
- 2nd Joe DeCristofaro
- 3rd Richard Apt

C flight

- 1st Fred Skirde, Tim Bessey
- 2nd Vinny Rozanskas
- 3rd Bob McElfresh

B flight

- 1st Mark Ruhl, Harold Robertson
- 2nd Gary Kessler
- 3rd Dave Oakland

A flight

- 1st Pete Profera, Chris Hughes
- 2nd Jake Flint
- 3rd Dave Schmit, John Good,
John Bender

September 15

E flight

- 1st Dave Walstrom,
Rich Richardson
- 2nd Glenn Riggs
- 3rd Bob Bamford, Ray Binder

D flight

- 1st Cliff Creswell
- 2nd Bill DeSonnier
- 3rd Joe Rook

C flight

- 1st Paul Zipps
- 2nd Vinny Rozanskas
- 3rd Nick Streno

B flight

- 1st Mark Blagen
- 2nd Rob Ledford
- 3rd Dave Oakland

A flight

- 1st John Bender
- 2nd Phil Marquis, Chris Hughes
- 3rd Bill Schmit

Match Play Final: Mike Steffens defeated Russ Gates, 3 and 2.

Evening Tuesday Bridge

This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, 5:30 pm, Blue Spruce Room. Questions? Contact DJ Vrooman, 303-204-4105.





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SERVICES

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Mental Health Information. Free information given for any mental illness by a patient/medical doctor. Paul Bregman, MD, 303-550-4115, or mdbregman@gmail.com.

WANTED

Electric Scooters, Wanted To Buy. Alan, 303-232-1212. HG resident, serving HG 18 years.

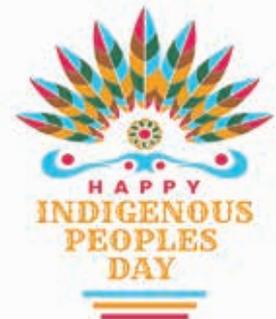
Ammunition, Wanted To Buy. Alan, 303-232-1212. HG resident, serving HG 18 years.

Bose Wave Music System. Wanted to buy. Alan, 303-232-1212. HG resident, serving HG 18 years.

Upper Level Garage. Wanted to rent, on parking structure 3 or 4. Call Dave, 303-699-3373.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: Deadline is 17th of each month. Rate per word = 50¢ with a \$10 minimum. Write your ad and mail with a check payable to Heather 'n Yon, c/o Mary Hafka, 14311 E Marina Dr, Aurora, CO 80014. Keep ads short (50 word maximum). Publication does not imply endorsement. Call Mary Hafka, 303-368-7559; e-mail: mhafka@comcast.net

**Federal Holiday
Monday, Oct. 9
(also known as
Columbus Day)**



End of summer may end Fruit Shak in HG parking lot — its nearby store is open



Owner Kurtis had my attention at “Farm to Table” and “NO pesticides” when proudly describing their Fruit Shak operation on a Sunday morning in July. My husband Paul and I visited their “Farmers Market” tents, set up in the parking lot of the Clubhouse at HG, 9 am–3 pm. Their offerings were so delectable and obviously fresh, it was a treat just to have a chance to pick

direct from the source! Kurtis pointed out that their food reaches customers before retailer reps get a chance to put them through chemical baths, then apply stickers and transport to stores. The difference in quality was clearly apparent. That day, we brought home some Palisade peaches, heirloom tomatoes and romaine lettuce.



The following week, we visited their store: Fruit Shak Produce & Meat Company (fruitshakproduceandmeat.com) in the Meadowood Shoppette, Aurora, located at Dartmouth and Laredo. We met Nana, who started this operation with Kurtis just a decade ago. She shared that her specialty is canning and baking. That day, we brought home a Palisade peach/blueberry pie, hot peach salsa, more Palisade peaches and two breakfast burritos (vegetable and spicy sausage). BEST breakfast burritos and their hot peach salsa rocks.



Everything we’ve tried has been delicious. We look forward to sampling more soon! What first started as a one-tent roadside stand working off of a 4x8 flatbed trailer has grown into quite a fruitful (pun intended) enterprise.



We highly recommend that you plan a visit soon!

– Christine Zipp, B223



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TED FULTON
Author of Garage Sale Gold, Former Chief Appraiser for Aspen Auction House

FYI...from page 30

Aurora Potter's Guild

Members of the Aurora Potters' Guild are pleased to announce their Fall Sale on Friday Nov. 10, 10 am-6 pm and Saturday Nov. 11, 9 am-3 pm. The sale will once again be in the rotunda at Community College of Aurora, 16000 East Centre Tech Parkway, Aurora 80011.

The Guild has clay artists from Parks & Rec facilities and several private local studios. Join us for unique hand-made pottery, sculptures, garden art, ornaments and gifts with prices starting at \$5. Free admission; Free parking.

Aurora Townhall Meeting

Councilwoman Alison Coombs, who represents HG in Ward V, will be at HG for her Townhall Meeting, 6-7:30 pm Tuesday, Oct. 17, Aspen/Blue Spruce Room. Visit AuroraGov.org/TownMeetings to confirm meeting dates and location or to find links for joining virtual meetings.

Colorado Women's Hall of Fame

Nominations are now open for the class of 2024 inductees into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame. You may nominate historical or contemporary women who have:

- Made significant and enduring contributions to her field or life focus

- Elevated or affirmed the status expanded new opportunities for women and others in society
- Inspired others as a role model, especially women and girls, by her actions and behaviors
- Significant to Colorado.

Nomination forms and information are available on www.cogreatwomen.org. Nominations must be submitted by Feb. 1, 2024.

Aurora History Museum Reflections on War and Peace through Oct. 8

In conjunction with the New American Arts Festival, the Museum presents a meaningful display of photos and thoughts of friends and neighbors affected by war and strife around the world.

Visit the museum's East Hall gallery to connect with these powerful stories and images before this temporary exhibit ends. Aurora History Museum, 15051 East Alameda Parkway, AuroraMuseum.org.

Fall into Fun

Saturday, Oct. 14, 10 am-3 pm

Join the city of Aurora for the 2023 Fall Into Fun Festival! Enjoy energetic live performances, delicious food trucks and unique vendors, fall-themed activities perfect for the family and a GOURDgeous pumpkin patch. Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E Alameda Pkwy, AuroraGof.org/FallintoFun.

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Overheard @ HG

I slept, my neighbors didn't

by Mary Hafka

Just ask any of my friends — they will tell you. I take sleeping very seriously.

I believe that a good night's sleep (or three) can cure the common cold, erase the day's aches and pains, and reset the body to face the following day's trials and tribulations.

I've been known to spend an entire day getting ready to have a tranquil evening, to prepare for a restful night. I might even take a preliminary afternoon nap as a trial run for that night's sleep.

I grow irritated if anything upsetting happens after 8 pm, because I'm in settling-down mode at that time, to set myself up for drifting slowly into dreamland a few hours later. (Don't call me at 9 pm — I won't answer.)

I've tried to train the cat and dog not to disturb me while "mother is sleeping." Or thinking about it. Unfortunately, my pets seem to be untrainable. Still, we three have all made compromises.

So the reasonable person can readily understand why, a couple of nights ago, I grew testy, when I ventured into my bedroom, late in the afternoon, and discovered that the power was out in the bedroom, the master bath, the basement, and in assorted other electrical outlets. This did not bode well for a peaceful evening to come.

The electricity in the rest of the house was unaffected. I've experienced this partial outage twice before while living in HG patio homes. Once it happened in CP1, and Xcel Energy had to remedy the problem.

The second time, in CP6, the outage was fixed by pushing a button in a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlet. The difficulty here was locating said GFCI outlet, as some devious electrician had cleverly concealed it in the garage. Apparently, these buttons can be anywhere — I always thought they were associated with being near

a sink. But the electrical outage in my house was solved by pushing a button in the garage.

So when my most recent partial outage occurred, I didn't know the source. I industriously ran around the house pushing all the little, red buttons I could find.

These sneaky buttons aren't always red, either. That would be too easy.

Next I called my helpful HG Security officer — as, by now, it was later than 4 pm. He came over, and threw some switches in my breaker box, but still no joy.

Admitting defeat, the Security officer called the helpful after-hours HG maintenance man. This guy's diligence was impressive. He repressed every little red (or not) button, and re-threw every breaker-box switch — twice. He got on the phone and called more experienced HG maintenance workers and electrical experts, for guidance.

As we galloped up and down the basement stairs, seeking ever new ways of enticing the electricity to return to its rightful occupation — powering my home — we noticed that the darkened lights in affected areas returned to brightness. Then they turned off again, then slowly flickered to half-power, then gradually faded out. This happened six or eight times. This eerie clue, and others, ultimately convinced us that the problem belonged to Xcel. So I called them.

Xcel immediately began to bombard me with helpful texts, declaring: Thank you for reporting an outage. Then, we are aware of outages in your area. Next, we are working on your outage and hope to have the problem solved soon. Then, we are happy to inform you that the problem has been solved.

Approximately two minutes after the last text, all the lights in my house went out. An Xcel service man knocked on my door, though,

and assured me the company was diligently working on my problem. He estimated everything would be all better by the following day.

"I hope," he added.

Not too reassuring, but I resigned myself to an early night, as reading, watching TV and noodling on the computer were out of the question. I'd even tried to submit, via email and between power outages, a completed story for the October issue of *Heather 'n Yon*, but I think, by then, my mind was elsewhere.

The first time, I submitted an old story, from a previous issue. The second time, I sent the wrong (unfinished) story altogether. All this button pushing and switch throwing — then running to the back bedroom, to see if it worked — can take its toll on a person.

So I called it a day. No stories got filed that night. Just before dozing off, I saw some guy in a torch-lit hardhat moving behind my house. I figured all would be well soon.

The following night, my neighborhood threw its "Farewell To Summer" party by the pond. At this gathering, I heard the rest of the story.

A gaggle of electricians arrived behind my house, accompanied by a cherry picker. A very large, noisy cherry picker.

These were electrical contractors that Xcel had called in. One worker explained to an inquiring neighbor, "Nobody works [directly] for Xcel any more."

I can't report more fully on exactly what they did, because I didn't see it. Apparently, lights shined into neighbors' bedroom windows until all hours, but my bedroom is at the front of the house. I was oblivious.

The diagnosis? I was told I lost a leg.

A leg of current, that is. Apparently patio homes have a three-phase electrical system, made up of two legs of 120-volt current and one of 240 volts.

One of my 120-volt legs went out. Who knew? (Who wants to?)

But when all was said and done, I'm happy to report that I enjoyed a thoroughly peaceful night's sleep.

My neighbors? Not so much.

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< **3082 S Wheeling #408** 2BR/2BA Alpha F 1,550 sq.ft. Views over 8th green, pond. Top floor with vaulted ceilings. Fresh paint and attractive hard surface flooring in living areas, full glass-enclosed lanai. 2 reserved parking spaces. **\$335,000**



14001 E Marina #505 2BR/2BA Somerset F > 1,560 sq.ft. See this nice Treehouse! Updated with quartz peninsula, custom roll-outs for storage, stainless steel appliances. Full glass lanai and great with friends! Expressions remodel. **\$405,500**



< **14001 E Marina #101** Somerset F 1,560 sq.ft. Gorgeous end unit w/loads of windows and lovely full glass lanai looks to mature trees. Bamboo floor and new carpet. Updated kitchen & baths. Golf course view from dining room. **\$410,000**

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