

# Heather 'n Yon

**April 2025**  
Vol. 39, No. 2

Heather Gardens  
Community Magazine





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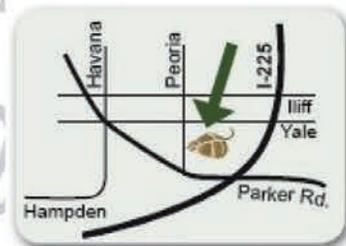
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## Our Staff

### Publisher

Bluefish Publishing

### Editor

Susan Harman

bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com

303.521.8846

### Photographer

Janis Farrell

jcfarrell225@gmail.com

### Distribution

Matt Dunne

mdunne259@aol.com



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

### Writers

Mary Hafka

mhafka@comcast.net

Gloria Lesher

gjlesher@gmail.com

Patricia McLaughlin

mpa1026@qwestoffice.net

Laura Reed

lreed@berkeley.edu

### Classified Advertising

Brian Harman

720.373.0226

bfpublishinginfo@gmail.com

### Advertising Sales

Susan Harman

303.521.8846

bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com

### Trademark Owner:

HG Association

2888 S. Heather Gardens Way

Aurora, CO 80014

303.755.0652

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

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# Heather Gardens Chapel



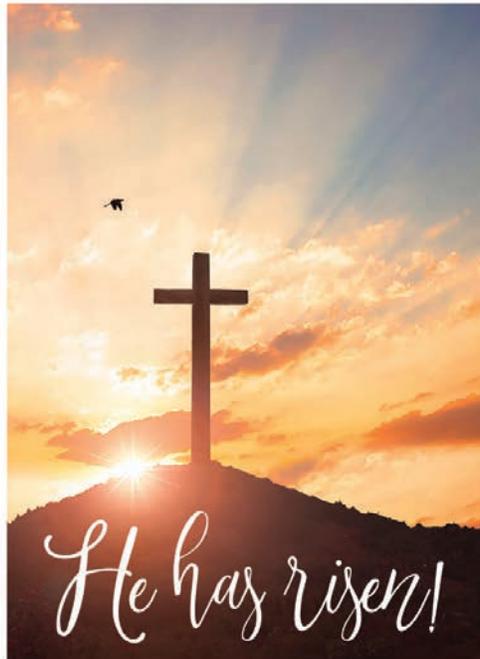
Holy Week Services

**Palm Sunday**

April 13 11am

Non-Denominational  
Inspirational

All Services -  
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**Easter Sunday**

April 20 11am

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## Heather Gardens Metropolitan District Board Continues to Tackle Finance and Accounting Issues

The Heather Gardens Metropolitan District Board of Directors held two meetings in March, both of which focused on resolving outstanding financial and accounting issues. At a special meeting March 7, Treasurer David Kennedy gave a thorough update on the district's financial standing and accounting practices, including the relationship with accounting firm Community Resource Services of Colorado.

Kennedy explained that the last two months were chaotic and challenging, in part because there was no prior planning for the transition of accounting services from Heather Gardens to Community Resource Services of Colorado. In addition, miscommunication and staff turnover added to the confusion and delay. Processes have now been implemented to streamline some things, including paying regular restaurant entertainers at the time of the event and reviewing and processing invoices electronically whenever possible.

In addition, General Manager Lary Herkal and Controller Carrie Toennis now have access and signing authority on all district bank accounts. Because of the inconvenience, Community Resource Services of Colorado will be giving the district a \$5,000 discount on the prior month's invoice, Kennedy said.

At its regular meeting on March 20, President Bill Gold explained that there have been some issues with the bonds due to the delayed 2023 audit and that Moody's has removed the district from its grading scale. Gold said Heather Gardens accounting has made it a top priority to get the audit completed. Herkal added that the association's auditor, Rubin Brown, began the 2023 audit on March 17, 2025 and it is moving "full steam ahead."

At its March 20 meeting, the board also discussed how to verify the amount owed to the association for 2024 payroll expenses. While the board voted to terminate the forensic audit at its February meeting, concerns remain about validating the amount the association billed to the district for the cost of Heather Gardens' employees. A motion was made to request a bid from the association's auditor, Rubin Brown, for a payroll audit to validate the cost.

Former association president Larry Davila, speaking as a member of the public, expressed concern about the cost of such an audit, especially because the residents are the ones paying for the payroll expense one way or another, whether it comes out of the district's account or the association's.

"As a resident, what difference does it make to me if the district owes money to the association or the association owes money to the district, and yet we have to pay more money for that?" he said. Gold responded that the board has a fiduciary responsibility to the district and cannot pay a bill without some verification. The board agreed and approved the motion to get a bid for a payroll audit.

In other news, the board revisited a proposal from Denver Trimlight Company to install permanent holiday lighting on the clubhouse. The LED lights, controlled by a cell phone application, will last 50,000 watt-hours or 20-30 years, depending on use, and can be programmed in various colors to be used on many different occasions. The permanent installation would eliminate the safety risk to employees climbing on the roof to hang holiday lights.

Director Eloise Laubach explained that the Foundation Committee was in favor of the proposal, but the Foundation could not cover the entirety of the cost. The board approved a motion to pay up to \$11,814, or one-third of the price of the installation, from capital reserves. The association also committed to cover one-third of the price at their last meeting. The Foundation will pay for the remaining one-third; the board also approved a motion for this expenditure. Denver Trimlight Company will give a 20% discount in exchange for taking photos and videos of the lights for their advertising. Laubach suggested that the community could fundraise for the project and asked that anybody wishing to donate to the Foundation for the lighting designate their funds for general enhancement.

Finally, the district has made an initial payment of \$431,733 towards the outstanding balance owed to the association. This payment was approved at the district's regular meeting in February.

Other action taken by the board in March:

- Approval of a resolution to establish an electronic mail policy
- Approval of the amended RV Storage Lot Committee procedure memorandum
- Approval to replace the swimming pool and hot tub chemical feeder

## HGA Board Meeting: Moving From Discussion to Action on Major Initiatives

---

- Committee on Aging & Independent Living
  - Foundation Collaboration on Upgraded Lighting
  - Fiber Optics
  - Roof Replacements
  - Town Hall Meeting
- 

The HGA Board continued significant forward motion on major initiatives at its regular monthly meeting, Tuesday, March 18.

In February, the board agreed to research and develop a policy on the critically important issue of Independent Living, based on the declarations of Heather Gardens.

With welfare checks and kitchen fires up dramatically over the past year, the establishment of Independent Living standards for residents in the quest of protecting our neighbors and the HG property are of significant concern.

In the board's February meeting, Director David Baxter, Chair of the Security & Emergency Preparedness Committee (SEC), had noted that SEC certainly would be involved. At the March meeting, Baxter followed up by announcing that based on initial study, an Independent Living Committee is being formed. The board is asking for people willing to serve on the committee and someone to head it up.

**Fiber Optics:** General Manager Lary Herkal reported the results of the recent survey of HG residents on fiber optics, noting that about around 65% are in favor of fiber, with approximately 95% of respondents indicating they do not want to pay any additional money for the service. At this time, Herkal is negotiating with a couple service providers.

Additionally, the well and irrigation system on the golf course has been in testing recently. Herkal added that for residents thinking that HG is irrigating at this early time in the season, it's just a test in process.

**Capital Reserves Study:** Director John Recob, Maintenance Committee Chair, noted forward movement on the Capital Reserves Study, with the firm to do the review now under contract. A first draft is expected in August, Recob noted.

**Foundation Proposal on Lighting:** An innovative request by the HG Foundation on improved holiday lighting outside the Clubhouse is becoming a collaboration between the Foundation, HGA and HGMD. The lights would go up in front and back of the Clubhouse, and instead of requiring maintenance to put up and take down holiday lights during the Christmas season, these lights would stay up all year. They would be installed under the lip of the roof,

making them invisible unless they are in use.

Another advantage is that they are computer controlled, meaning that different colors can be activated electronically for various events and occasions to create additional excitement at the Clubhouse. The example given was keying the lights to blue and orange on Broncos game days.

With a cost of around \$38,000 quoted, the preliminary recommendation from the Foundation is that the cost be divided equally between the Foundation, HGA and HGMD, or about \$13,000 each. Additionally, a community fund raiser is being discussed. While more study is in progress, the proposal was viewed favorably by the HGA Board.

**Roof replacements:** Based on the recommendation of the Maintenance Committee, a motion was made to award a contract of \$2,014,083 to Terpstra Roofing to replace roofs on Buildings 217, 231, 235, 236 and 244. Motion was approved.

The project includes removal and replacement of the existing foam and built up roofs. The new roof is Versico 90 ml with a 30 year warranty and two inch hail warranty. Each roof includes a 1/8 inch per foot taper for proper drainage. Each building receiving a new roof will receive new scruppers, downspouts and metal roof cap to give it a finished look.

**Building 242 parking garage waterproofing:**

A contract of \$31,088 was approved to remove a portion of the landscaping, soil, plant materials and fiber conduit above the underground B242 parking garage. It is part of an already budgeted project with a total budgeted amount of \$72,450, of which \$26,151 was previously expended.

**Town Hall Meeting:** This new format for improved communication at HG held its inaugural gathering on Friday, March 7. The meeting was a huge success, with 120 people attending at the Clubhouse and an additional 90 on Zoom.

The next meeting is slated for Friday, April 4, 4 pm, Sandberg Auditorium and on Zoom, with Juanita Dominguez, our new Clubhouse Manager, joining the panel of leaders taking questions from residents. Other panel members are Sue McBeth, HGA Board president; Bill Gold, HGMD Board president, and Lary Herkal, General Manager.

Director Linda Hileman, Chair of the Community Engagement & Communications Committee (CECC), which produces the Town Halls, noted that the committee also is updating the Heather Gardens website, making it more user friendly.

HGA Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month, with the next meeting slated for 1 pm, Tuesday, April 15 in the Clubhouse Board Room and on Zoom. Residents are encouraged to attend. For a complete list of HGA and HGMD Board meetings, plus committee and special meetings, visit [www.heathergardens.org](http://www.heathergardens.org).

## MEET THE HGMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The HGMD Board of Directors will hold a MEET THE DIRECTORS meeting in the Board Room and via Zoom on Tuesday, April 22nd, at 6:00pm. Directors will introduce themselves and provide their ideas for the District during their time of service. The Meet the Directors meeting replaces the Meet the Candidates meeting as only four eligible electors applied for the four open seats on the District Board.

Residents will have the opportunity to ask the Directors questions they have about the District. Please mark the date and time on your calendars.

The Directors are:

Bill Gold, serves until May 2027  
David Kennedy, serves until May 2029  
Steve Stratton, serves until May 2027  
Eloise Laubach, serves until May 2027  
Linda Savage, serves until May 2029

 Heather Gardens

## TOWN HALL MEETING

Friday, April 4 • 4-6pm  
Sandberg Auditorium

**Why:** To update you on the latest developments at HG and offer direct, engaging, and insightful answers to your questions and recommendations by those in the know at HG

**Highlighted Topic:**  
Activities and Classes

**Guest Panelist:**  
Juanita Dominguez, Clubhouse Manager

### Panel

Lary Herkal · General Manager  
Sue McBeth · HGA President  
Bill Gold · HGMD President  
Juanita Dominguez · Clubhouse Manager

HG Town Hall



HG Town Hall Panel



Photos by Janis Farrell

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## HGA Board President Reports

Sue McBeth

Happy Spring to everyone! What a wonderful time of year with all the new growth and everything turning green. It is a hope-filled time with new life springing up all around us. For me, this is a time to put on an ATTITUDE of GRATITUDE. I have just ended my first quarter of the year as President of the HGA Board of Directors, and am filled with thankfulness for the board members that you have elected who are so supportive and professional in their approach to board work. All of the members bring energy and thoughtfulness to their positions.

Larry Dávilla as Vice President is very supportive of me and is an excellent right-hand person. He handles the Personnel Policy Committee with integrity and purpose. Mike Pula as Treasurer keeps all of our financial business in order and very competently runs the Budget and Finance Committee. Linda Hileman is note and minute taker extraordinaire; she captures the essence of our meetings and makes sure we have a clear record of our proceedings. David Baxter, who chairs the Security/Emergency Preparedness Committee (SEC), is my go-to person for working on our Independent Living Policy. His thoughtful questions during our meetings are on target and helpful for discussions. John Recob chairs the Maintenance Committee and is our spreadsheet guru who keeps all of our capital expense items logged and updated. He is spearheading the Capital Reserve Study that will bring us much needed information on pricing for our upcoming projects. Bill Archambault, chair of Civic Affairs, provides much needed history for the HGA Board as well as the HGMD Board. He fills in our knowledge gaps with his expertise and past experience on both boards and is also a valued resource for Budget and Finance. John Harvey, chair of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC), handles all of the resident submitted applications for their home projects and improvements. He is also working with Maintenance to provide a recommendation for additional outlets in the common areas of the multi-story buildings. Brad Archer, co-chair of the Joint Long Range Planning Committee, is bringing forth future project ideas that come from suggestions submitted by residents on the census form. His engineering background lends itself well to these types of projects.

### Board Meeting Highlights

1. Refining the draft policy submitted by our attorney concerning Independent Living has been delegated to the SEC Committee. This was also talked about at the town hall meeting. Stay tuned for further developments.

2. The contract for conducting a Reserve Study that includes both HGA and HGMD is being finalized by our association general manager.

3. The Management Agreement has effectively been extended to the end of 2025 through the passage of a motion to secure jobs for all HGA employees through this time period.

### Joint HGA/HGMD Leadership Workshop

Weekly meetings of the two boards are continuing and two plans have emerged in the process: One, a shared services approach, in which the services to be provided to HGMD by HGA are being delineated. The second, an Asset Management Agreement, places the entire operation of Heather Gardens, including the HGMD enterprises, under the control of HGA. All of the responsibilities that this includes are being defined as well.

### Leadership Meetings with the Association General Manager

- Lary Herkal (AGM) continues to meet with Comcast to figure out how to get fiber optics to the residents.
- Hiring for the master plumber has been narrowed to two applicants. Final interviews are taking place and a decision will be made soon.
- Juanita Dominguez, the new Clubhouse Manager, is now on-site full time. She is working on organizing classes, events, clubhouse rentals and club activities so that duplicate bookings are a thing of the past. She is also working on hiring new teachers.

As we move into the month of April, I look forward to pleasant days, blue skies, and flowers starting to bloom. Until next time – HAPPY SPRING!



## HGMD Board President Reports

Bill Gold

As I come upon the 3rd month as an HGMD Board member and President, things are starting to feel somewhat ... how would I say it? Routine. Maybe expected. How about familiar? The number of issues seems to be reducing, but the severity seems to be increasing. However, with the continued work of this board, the joint efforts with the HGA Board, the HGA staff and CRS, we seem to be getting our heads and hands around the current issues and are working hard to find resolution.

Accounting continues to be an issue, but we are all working very hard to get this under control and resolve these as soon as possible.

It is difficult to go deep into the issue we are working on in a letter like this, as we plan to make progress on this weekly, if not daily, and by the time you are reading this, many updates will have taken place. So instead of going in to detail, I would encourage every resident to attend the HGMD and HGA meetings to gain information firsthand and have all your questions answered.

We held our first HG Community Town Hall last week, and I have to say (even with the technical issues) I feel it was a great success. It was planned to be held in the back half of the auditorium, but the attendance was so large we had to open the place up to accommodate everyone. If you missed this event, you can see it on the HGMD YouTube site at <https://www.youtube.com/@HeatherGardensMD>. We got to use our new sound system, and Rudy Morris had it working very well once it got tuned in and some of the extra mics were turned off. We used the existing projector in the back half and it performed well. Our amazing volunteers served delicious refreshments. The MC for the event was our own HR Manager Jaymie Sheppard-Johnson, and she did a great job keeping the event moving. She only had to cut me off at five minutes once or twice. I am sure the *Heather 'n Yon* will cover this event also, so I will not go to deep into this, but I wanted to thank these people for their help in making it a success.

Some other things that we are working on for the community or that are in the idea/planning stage are:

- A permanent "Holiday" lighting system for the clubhouse – Our Foundation Committee has been working with Matt Martella (Golf and Landscape Manager) to propose a lighting system that can be used all year around to provide accent lights on the clubhouse. This system could eliminate the need to have staff place and remove lights on the clubhouse every holiday season. This could result in a saving of 300 staff hours each year and remove the dangerous process of placing and removing these lights. For more information, please check out the proposal from the Foundation Committee.
- Lary Herkal has asked the clubhouse committee to look into replacement of the gym equipment this year – the committee will be looking into the priority of the replacement and planning how this project might go forward in 2025.
- To address the continued issue with internet connection in the clubhouse, we have contracted with Comcast to bring business fiberoptic to the clubhouse. This should be completed in the next few months and will allow us to do a full evaluation of the WiFi and other improvements as needed.
- This year I will be bringing to the HGMD Board a plan to improve the security of the clubhouse overall. This will include a new access system for the gym, pool, woodshop and other areas as needed. Keep an ear out during the upcoming HGMD Board and clubhouse meetings to have input and hear updates to this proposal.

I would like to end on one of the most positive events that I feel has happened in the last month. I would like to welcome our new clubhouse manager, Juanita Dominguez! Juanita comes to us with such a large and impressive resume that I will not even try to touch on it in this letter. I will say that I have heard some very impressive plans and desires from her already. I would like to invite you to come by the clubhouse and welcome her to the community.

Blessings, Bill



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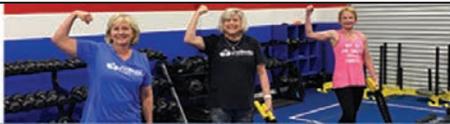
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## A Note from the Editor

*Hello  
Heather Gardens!*

This issue marks a year since I became editor of *Heather 'n Yon* magazine. The last 12 months seem to have flown by reminding me that “time flies when you’re having fun.”

It truly is a labor of love creating this publication each month. We are blessed with a talented and hard-working staff, the support of wonderful advertisers and a community that comes together to get things done.

I want to take a moment to thank you all. For your support, kind words and grace. Thank you.

For the last several months I have been working with Community College of Aurora graphic design students on a new logo design for *Heather 'n Yon*.

When I was in design school (many moons ago!) it was very beneficial to work on “real life” projects

to get the client-designer experience. To pay it forward, I wanted to give an opportunity to local students here in Aurora.

You will find the 3 finalists on p.16

Please take a moment to vote on your favorite. The winner will be revealed in an upcoming issue.

Happy April!

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



*Heather 'n Yon*

### SUBMISSION POLICY

Submissions must be sent to  
**bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com**  
by the deadline published on p.30

**Any submissions past deadline or not  
sent to above email may not be  
considered for publication**

*If you have questions, please contact  
us at this email.*

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

**Subscriptions:** To accommodate owners, who wish to receive *Heather 'n Yon* while away, the publisher has a subscription policy. Provide a forwarding address, plus a check for \$3 (**payable to Bluefish Publishing**) for each issue desired. Annual subscription is \$36. You may drop off your check with address information and what month the subscription should start at the HG Management Office. Alternatively, mail to Bluefish Publishing, LLC 19809 E. Columbia Ave., Aurora, CO 80013. Past issues (2024) are available on [www.heathergardens.org/Resource Center](http://www.heathergardens.org/Resource Center).



**MANAGEMENT**  
**Lary Herkal**

Because of the new cooperation between the HGA and HGMD boards, the lawsuit filed by HGMD more than a year ago was dismissed. This lawsuit was interfering with buyers' ability to obtain loans to purchase residents' condominiums. This inability to obtain loans also had significant impact on condominium values. I am looking forward to more great achievements with

the boards working together.

It is Spring and time to for residents and our staff to start Spring cleaning, and for some, including myself, to dream about a 275-yard drive down the middle of the fairway.

The Heather Gardens Golf Course has some exciting updates for the 2025 golf season. You will notice our maintenance staff will be focusing on cleaning up the dead and stressed-out areas on the greens with sod and/or seed. This is due to the negative impacts of our well going down last season. Once completed, these areas will look like new.

Staff will also be working on renovating bunkers on the golf course, bringing them back to life and making them more playable. We have updated our player development programs for the 2025 season, with a lot more options to get better at golf, ranging from single lessons, month programs, multi-month, and clinics. If you are looking to get better at golf, we have a program for you! As nice weather begins to set in, so will our new update merchandise in the golf shop. Stop and see if anything catches your eye.

Lastly, we have partnered with a new company to help fill out the tee sheet. Using AI integration, nonresidents will be able to quickly see available tee times and book them directly from the new App. The new App will free our golf team to grow our business and find opportunities to increase our golf popularity. We are looking forward to another wonderful and hopefully record-breaking season here at Heather Gardens Golf Course.

Our new Club Manager, Juanita Dominguez, and our Clubhouse Lead, Donna Stein, coordinated with the clubhouse staff with what I am told was the smoothest registration for classes in recent memory. New class have been added, while retaining most of last year's classes. I hope everyone was able to sign up for the class they wished to participate in.

Spring is here. Enjoy!!

**Handyman Services**

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# LOGO CONTEST!

HELP US pick the NEW *Heather 'n Yon* Logo!

To enter your vote:

Visit <https://www.bluefishcreative.net/hny-logo-contest>, scan the QR code or clip this and mark your vote and put it in the "*Heather 'n Yon*" mailbox in the Clubhouse lobby



#1 \_\_\_\_\_



#2 \_\_\_\_\_



#3 \_\_\_\_\_



## HGMD Foundation

---

The Foundation Committee met March 12. Most of the meeting focused on the Trimlight project for the clubhouse exterior. This is an expensive undertaking but has many pluses that will be of benefit for the community.

Here is a brief summary of the project and the positives of the project.

1. This is a community project supported by both boards, management, and residents.
2. The Foundation does not have the funds to pay for the entire project but will be partially funded by both boards, management and the community.
3. The project will pay for itself in 3 or 4 years.
4. The project will save on electric bill.
5. The project will protect the safety of employees and free them to work on other projects.
6. The lights can be used all year, has many light choices and patterns, we can regulate the brightness, and we can light the entire building or just the front or pool area.
7. The project can be used to highlight HG amenities and used by Realtors as a selling point.

The complete notes of the meeting are on the HGMD web page along with the video of the meeting. Your donations to the Foundation can help with this project and other projects. The donation form is available at the reception desk or online. Although most donations are in memory of someone, a donation can be made in honor of someone who has made a positive influence on Heather Gardens or had volunteered in the community. When completing the donation form please check for "General enhancement of Heather Gardens."

*Thank your continued support and generosity to the Foundation*

Recent donations to the Foundation:  
Building 213 - Memory of Peggy Hoff  
Building 213 -Memory of Linn Maestas

-Eloise Laubach, Foundation Chair, HGMD Vice President

# HOW TO KEEP YOUR BELOVED PET FROM GETTING LOST?

When Cheryl Branch, CP3, and her mom, Carol, saw a little gray cat on their patio, a saga ensued that provides critical information for all of us who love our pets.

"I was new to the cat world, so when I tried to approach it, my dog scared him, and he ran away. He was well fed and looked healthy, so I was hoping he belonged to someone here at Heather Gardens and was going home."

But, it turned out that the little cat, named Leo, was far from home.

A few days later, Cheryl's neighbor noticed the same gray feline under a bush. "She's a cat person, so I held on to her dog while she approached Leo and grabbed him."

Cheryl agreed to keep Leo until she could take him to the Dumb Friends League the next day to see if he is microchipped.

"He was hungry and thirsty. I put him in my soft side kennel, put a dog bed in there and opened a can of cat food for him. I put him in our spare bathroom upstairs so he would be close enough to us that he wouldn't be scared, and I called it a night."

In the morning, Cheryl would have gone to the Dumb Friends League, but she is fortunate to have a friend, Ashley Gibson, with Red Fern Rescue. "Ashley came over with her microchip reader. If you aren't lucky enough to have an Ashley in your life, the first thing any animal shelter or veterinarian will do is look for the animal's microchip."

Good news! Leo is chipped! Bad news! The contact information on the chip was incomplete, meaning the family had not checked the box that states anyone who has the pet can call the owner.

## How to help Leo find his way home?

"Once the chip has been read, you know who the animal belongs to and where it had been chipped, which in this case was Home Again. But without the owner giving approval to be called, I couldn't take any more action. Home Again did call, but no one at Leo's house was answering."

Later in the day, Cheryl placed yet another call to Home Again, and was told, "Let me call her

again, and if she answers, I'll let you finish the conversation."

The mom answered, Cheryl got on the phone, and Leo was going home!

Leo's family had searched frantically for him for the last two weeks. They live a couple miles south of Heather Gardens and had been visiting in our area. When the mom stopped the van and opened her door, she and her son didn't notice that Leo had hopped out.

They were near to giving up hope of ever finding their precious pet.

And Leo is not just any cat. Much like the ferocious Leo of the jungle, this Leo is the protective companion of the woman's 8-year-old son, who is on the Autism spectrum. Leo is always with his boy.

"When he saw Leo, that boy's face lit up and he came running, grabbed that cat like he was a football, held him tight to his chest and got back into the van," Cheryl chuckles.

Dave Marris, HG Chief of Security, notes, "The number one thing is to make sure your dog is on a leash at all times when it's outside, and we encourage that for cats, also. We see a number of cats wandering around the neighborhood, and there's a lot of heavy traffic here."



Cheryl's dog, Buddy, and cat, Luna



Cheryl Branch

see page 19

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# RICHARD LINDAHL

*"I've personally sold hundreds of Heather Gardens properties"*



**FOR SALE - 2 Bed 2 Bath Alph A - Priced Reduced \$249,900**  
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**FOR SALE - 2 Bed 2 Bath Atrium K - \$259,500**  
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from page 17

“Be sure that your pet’s collar has your name and phone number for easy identification.”

Just as important as leashing the pet, microchipping is essential.

“If someone gets ahold of an animal at large, animal shelters and veterinarians will scan the chip at no charge and track down the owner.

“We had a Husky mix running around loose in the RV lot not long ago, and Zachary Vallejos, one of the guys on our Security force, got close enough to grab the dog and put it into a patrol vehicle. He brought it back to the office, gave it food and water, and I gave him the go-ahead to run it over to the nearby 24-hour veterinarian. We had the dog reunited with its owner in about two hours.

“Our policy is to call Animal Control when dogs or cats are at large, but from a humanitarian standpoint, our Security team does try to help, as long as the animal isn’t vicious in any way.”

What if you find an animal on the loose? “I advise you to call Security before you try to approach it,” Marris emphasizes. “Remember to always use caution, as not all animals are friendly. It may be lost and confused, and if you try to pick it up, the stray may take that as an attack.

“Sometimes, people dump animals here, so you can’t be sure it’s a pet belonging to one of your neighbors.”

-Patricia McLaughlin, B215

## Is your pet microchipped?

According to Arapahoe County Animal Control, “microchipping is a crucial safety measure, because it provides permanent identification, facilitating quicker reunions if your pet gets lost or is found by an animal shelter or veterinary clinic, who can then scan and match the microchip number with the owner’s identification.”

Microchipping is critical to keeping your pet safe, should it get lost. Any veterinarian can do the chipping. Annual renewal for small animals is around \$20.



## What about the little white dog loose on the golf course?

A cute little white dog on the loose caught the attention of many residents on a recent Saturday morning.

Upwards of a dozen residents tried to catch him, to no avail. Our HG Security officers on duty pitched in to help, and after not finding the dog, they called Animal Control.

About three hours later, there were no further reports from residents, which we assume means that Animal Control was there to help and that he may be home.

### Karnopp, Radosevich & Preston, LLC

*Attorneys at Law*

Martha J. Karnopp  
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#### IN MEMORIAM



Phyllis Bennett, B236  
Ginny Duncan B222  
Helen Fleischman, B235  
Byron MacDonald, B232  
Bill Marshall, B216  
Robert Mitchell, formerly B105

# VETERANS WALK

**Fifth Annual Walk a Mile in Their Boots:** Residents joined the inspiring walk to honor US service members who were killed in action in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, March 15, on the HG Golf Course. They were joined by Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) cadets from Pueblo, military veterans and even a horse tacked up as those in the Old Guard leading funeral processions at Arlington National Cemetery.



Photos by Janis Farrell



**UNDER CONTRACT**  
*in the LAST 30 DAYS!*

**13931 E. Marina Dr. #402 Atrium L-2 2BR/2BA 1,396 sqft**  
2 Lanais, including one off the primary bedroom.  
Updated kitchen and baths. This is a beauty  
w/ South exposure for bright winter afternoons. **\$369,999**

**3144 S Wheeling #410 Alpha AE Executive 3BR/3BA 2,145 sqft**  
Double patios offer a panoramic look over the 8th tee box. Generous  
dining room, end unit for nice summer breezes. **\$359,500**



**SOLD!**  
*in the last 30 days!*

**13781 E Marina #B PH Best Location in HG! Rare 3BR/4BA ranch.**  
1,376 sq.ft. plus full finished bsmt. 2-car garage. Open view down Fairway 7  
with mountains. Wow on layout and location! **\$460,000**

**14215 E Marina CP5 Ranch Patio Home Covered patio, full basement, two-car  
garage, new flooring and paint. New paint and carpet throughout. \$440,000**

**13961 E. Marina #611 Atrium A 2BR/2BA Newly Remodeled 1,230 sq ft**  
Beautiful blonde LVP, fully equipped kitchen w/ SS appliances,  
quartz countertops and an under mounted sink. **\$370,000**

**13631 E Marina #107 1BR/ 1BA 900 sq ft Somerset B on corner with cross  
ventilation. Enclosed lanai overlooking expansive greenbelt. Great location  
near golf course path. Washer/dryer included! \$175,000**  
**\*HGB brought buyer too!**

**Outside HG - UNDER CONTRACT**

**5214 S Ironton Way Englewood, CO 80111 3,381 sq.ft. 2 story home with  
bsmt. Beautiful layout, just steps from Cherry Creek reservoir! This stunning  
5 bedroom 3 bath home is warm and welcoming with countless well thought  
out spaces. With an impressive , this home features vaulted ceilings,  
Canadian Oak floors, formal dining room, main level bedroom/office with  
built in shelving & 2 wood burning fireplaces. **\$1,250,000****

**Outside HG - ACTIVE**

**660 S Alton #10D Aurora, CO 2BR/2BA 1,200 sq.ft. COMPLETE REMODEL**  
Designer finishes, luxury vinyl plan. Stainless steel appliances, new vanities/  
tile in both bathrooms. This modern condo has all of the bells and whistles,  
detached garage, cowboy storage locker. Windsor Gardens. **\$305,000**

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***Coming Soon***

**Patio Home 3BR/3BA 1,176 sq.ft. +  
588 sq.ft. in finished basement. Completely  
remodeled with barn doors, engineered hardwood  
and hard surface flooring throughout. designer color  
scheme and backsplash, quartz countertops, and  
two-car car garage! A lovely home, ready for you!**

**13850 E Marina Seville AB Executive 3BR/3BA  
1,876 sq.ft. Updated kitchen: Newer cabinets,  
granite counters. Hard surface flooring in living  
areas. Two enclosed lanais with lovely mountain  
views. Perfect for entertaining! Formal dining area.  
Available in April. Call broker for details.**

**Somerset J Popular 3BR/2BA, 1400 sq.ft. Popular  
plan with full glass lanai and nicely fixed up, ready to  
move into. Release date TBD, Call for details.**

***For Lease***

**13609 E Cornell #111 Alpha A 2BR/2BA  
Alpha A 1,200 sq.ft. Rare end unit! Encl lanai  
walks out to the golf course! Perfect for taking  
the dog out for a walk. **\$1,999/mo.****

**14091 E Marina #604 2BR/ 2BA  
Somerset A 1,200 sq.ft. AMAZING mountain/ golf  
views! New carpet, linoleum, paint. In-unit  
laundry. Underground parking. **\$1,950/mo.****

**13606 E Bates #409 2BR/2BA Alpha A 1,200  
sq.ft. Just steps from the clubhouse! Cheerful  
vaulted ceilings, enclosed lanai. **\$1,850/mo.****

**13606 E Bates #401 2BR/1BA, 940 sq.ft. New  
paint and new carpet, vaulted ceilings and  
enclosed lanai. Close to clubhouse.  
Move-in ready. **\$1,650/mo.****



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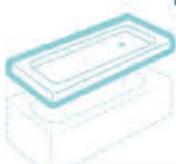


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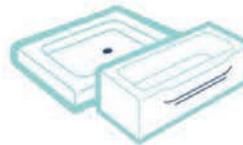


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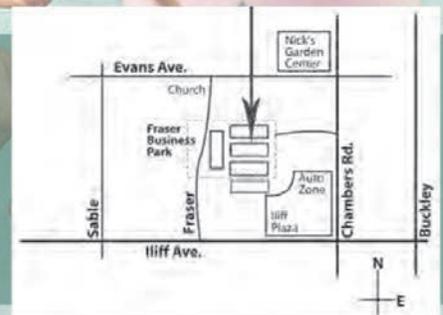
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# You're Invited! Lecture Series with Active Minds

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## April Lectures

### UNDERSTANDING WILDFIRES

April 14th | 3:00 PM | RSVP by April 12th

For those who live in areas subject to fire, few things can be more frightening than a wildfire. Join Active Minds as we address the issue of wildfires from a variety of perspectives. We will look at the pros and cons of fire prevention and suppression, how fires are fought, and the effects of climate change on fire frequency and intensity. We'll also look at the role of fire in nature and how areas have recovered from devastating burns.

### CONFLICT IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

April 28th | 3:00 PM | RSVP by April 26th

The South China Sea is an incredibly strategic body of water located between China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. At stake is one of the busiest trade routes in the world as well as oil and fishing rights. Recently China has been pressing its claim to long disputed parts of the South China Sea, raising concerns as to what may happen as tensions rise. Join Active Minds for a closer look at this delicate situation.

**St. Andrew's Village** is proud to partner with **Active Minds**, an organization dedicated to expanding lives and minds by providing outstanding educational programs. Our monthly Active Minds programs cover a wide range of topics, including contemporary global issues, biographies, historical themes and more.

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# LOCAL EVENTS

## AURORA FOX PRESENTS:

### The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time Student/Senior Matinee

April 10, 10:00am

Fifteen-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain. He is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched, and he distrusts strangers. Now it is seven minutes after midnight, and Christopher stands beside his neighbor's dead dog, Wellington, who has been speared with a garden fork. Finding himself under suspicion, Christopher is determined to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, and he carefully records each fact of the crime. But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a thrilling journey that upturns his world.

Based on Mark Haddon's novel, Simon Stephens' adaptation THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME earned six Tony Awards, including Best Play. Join us for an unforgettable theatrical experience that delves into the mind of a remarkable young man on a quest for the truth.

Tickets: \$15

<https://www.aurorafoxartscenter.org/>

## FREE Days in April

### Denver Art Museum

**Tuesday, April 8**

720-865-5000, 10am-9pm  
[www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org)  
100 W 14th Ave Pkwy

### Denver Botanic Gardens

**Tuesday, April 22**

720-865-3500, 9am-2:30pm  
[www.botanicgardens.org](http://www.botanicgardens.org)  
1007 York Street

### Denver Museum of Nature and Science

**Monday, April 7**

303-370-6000, 9am-5pm  
[www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org)  
2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver

### Longmont Museum

**Saturday, April 12**

303-651-8374, 9am-5pm  
[www.longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-e-m/museum](http://www.longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-e-m/museum)  
400 Quail Rd 80501

### Clifford Still Museum

**Saturday, April 12**

720-354-4880, Tues-Sun: 10am-5pm  
[clyffordstillmuseum.org](http://clyffordstillmuseum.org)  
1250 Bannock St.

### US National Parks

**Saturday, April 19**

[www.nps.gov/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/index.htm)

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## TABOR Refund Alert!

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

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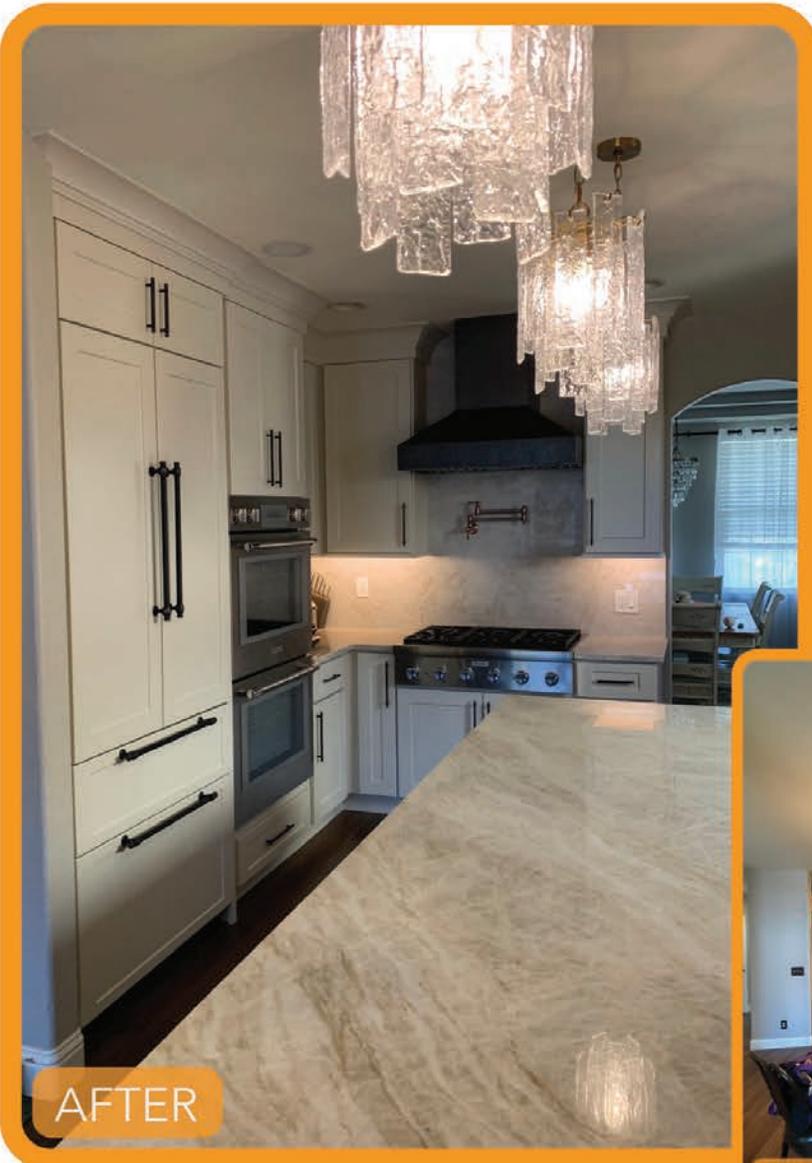
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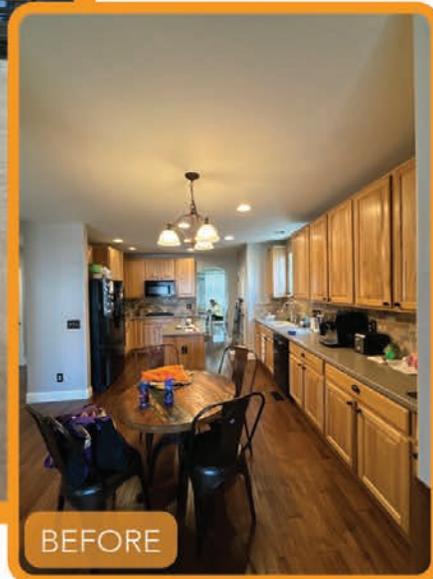
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# APRIL CALENDAR

<b>Tue 1</b>	Hand (Knee) and Foot (every Tues) HG Singers (every Tues) Mah Jongg (every Tues) Ping Pong (every Tues) CP2 Billiards Club (every Tues)	Mountain View Room Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Rendezvous Bar & Grill Billiard Room	12-4pm 1-2:30pm 1-4pm 2pm 4:30-8pm 6:30pm
<b>Wed 2</b>	Ladies Golf Club Cribbage (every Wed) Men's Poker (every Wed) Duplicate Bridge/ACBL (every Wed) Woodshop Club Rummikub CP1 Square Dance (1st & 3rd Wed)	Golf Course Sunburst Café Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Lodgepole Lounge Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Sandberg Auditorium	9am 12:30-3pm 12:30-5pm 1pm 1pm 1-3pm 5:30pm 7-9pm
<b>Thu 3</b>	Tai Chi (every Thurs) TOPS (every Thurs) Fun Gals Golf Optimist Club (1st & 3rd Thurs) Bowling League (every Thurs) Time4Tap (every Thurs) Bunko (1st & 3rd Thurs) Social Bridge (every Thurs) Writers Club (every Thurs) Ping Pong (every Thurs) Meditation Club (every Thurs) Kiwanis Club of Aurora (1st & 3rd Thurs)	Tennis Courts Blue Spruce Room Golf Course Rendezvous Bar & Grill Arapahoe Bowling Center Sandberg Auditorium Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room Skyview Room Game Room Skyview Room Skyview Room	8-11am 8:30-9:30am 9am 9am 10am 11am-1pm 1-3:30pm 1-3:30pm 1-4pm 2pm 4pm 6pm
<b>Fri 4</b>	Men with Purpose (1st & 3rd Fri) Texas Hold'em (every Fri)	Skyview Room Mountain View Room	10-11am 12:30-5pm
<b>Sat 5</b>	Mexican Train Dominoes (every Sat) Ping Pong (every Sat) Karaoke Club	Arts & Crafts Room Game Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	12-3pm 2pm 3-5pm
<b>Sun 6</b>	Social Bridge (every Sun)	Skyview Room	1-3:30pm
<b>Mon 7</b>	Men's Bridge (every Mon) Book Club Spanish Club (every Mon) Texas Hold'em Mah Jong (every Mon)	Skyview Room Mountain View Room & Library Aspen Room Aspen Room Blue Spruce Room	10am-2pm 10:30am & 1pm 11am-12pm 12:30-5pm 1-4pm

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<b>Wed 9</b>	Red Hattitudes <b>Active Minds: Georgia O’Keeffe</b> B201 and B202 Aviation Club	Rendezvous Bar & Grill <b>Sandberg Auditorium</b> TBA Aspen Room	12:30pm <b>2pm</b> 4:30pm 7pm
<b>Thu 10</b>	RV Lot Club	Aspen Room	5-6pm
<b>Fri 11</b>	HG Indivisible <b>Strum Therapy</b>	Library <b>Sandberg Auditorium</b>	11:30am-12:50pm <b>6pm</b>
<b>Sat 12</b>	Breakfast Club Voice for Residents Forum	Rendezvous Bar & Grill TBA	8:30am 3-4:30pm
<b>Mon 14</b>	Texas Hold’em (2nd, 3rd and 4th Mon) HG Water Conservation Taskforce (1st & 4th Mon)	Mountain View Room Zoom	12:30-5pm 1pm
<b>Tue 15</b>	Caregivers Support Group	Aspen Room	2-4pm
<b>Wed 16</b>	HG High Twelve Club #11 Masonic Club Frolics “April Showers Bring May Flowers”	Rendezvous Bar & Grill Rendezvous Bar & Grill	11am 4pm
<b>Thu 17</b>	Social Justice Discussion <b>AARP Smart Driver Class</b>	Blue Spruce Room <b>Clubhouse</b>	10am-12pm <b>12:45pm–5pm</b>
<b>Sat 19</b>	Saturday Afternoon LIVE Social	Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	3-5pm
<b>Mon 21</b>	Photo Club	Aspen Room	3-5pm
<b>Tue 22</b>	HG Republicans HG Democrats Sevillians	Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium Rendezvous Bar & Grill	1-3:30pm 4-5:30pm 4:30pm
<b>Thu 24</b>	Residents for Responsible Leadership	Blue Spruce Room	TBA
<b>Sat 26</b>	Tennis Club Breakfast National Federation of the Blind	Picnic Pavillion Mountain View Room	9-11am 10:30am-12:30pm
<b>Mon 28</b>	Low Vision Support Group Garden Club Pot Luck SRA	Aspen Room Blue Spruce Room TBA	1:30pm 6pm TBA

### Advertised Activities and Seminars

Mon, April 7: Bayer Ear Clinic (every Monday by appt.), Arts & Crafts Room, 9am-12pm (see ad p. 55)  
 Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday Services, HG Chapel, 11am (see ad p. 4)  
 Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday Services, HG Chapel, 10am (see ad p. 4)  
 Monday, April 14 & 28: St. Andrews Village Lecture Series, 3pm (see ad on p. 24)  
 Saturday, May 3: Green Team Shred Event, Golf Parking Lot, 9-11am (see ad p. 8)

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## Boards and Committees Monthly Meetings

CECC (BR/Zoom) – 10am Tues, Apr 1  
Joint Long Range (BR/Zoom) – 10am Wed, Apr 2  
SEC (BR/Zoom) – 1pm Mon, Apr 7  
Maintenance (Zoom) – 11am Tues, Apr 8  
Clubhouse (BR/Zoom) – 1pm, Tues, Apr 8  
Civic Affairs (BR/Zoom) - 11am Wed, Apr 9  
Foundation Committee (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Wed, Apr 9  
Restaurant (BR/Zoom) – 3pm, Thurs, Apr 10  
Personnel Policy (BR/Zoom) – 10am, Fri, Apr 11  
RV Lot (BR/Zoom) – 1pm Mon, Apr 14  
**HGA Board Meeting (BR/Zoom) - 1pm, Tues, Apr 15**  
Joint Long Range (BR/Zoom) – 10am Wed, Apr 16  
ACC (Zoom) – 10am Thu, Apr 17  
**HGMD Board Meeting (BR/Zoom) - 1pm, Thu, Apr 17**  
Budget & Finance (BR/Zoom) – 10am, Mon, Apr 21  
HGMD Audit/Finance (BR/Zoom) – 1pm, Mon, Apr 21  
Golf (BR/Zoom) – 1pm, Tues, Apr 22  
Resident Orientation (BR/Zoom) – 10am Wed, Apr 23

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

# Heather 'n Yon Deadline: 4/16

**SUBMIT TO:**  
[bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com](mailto:bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com)

## Aurora Townhall Meeting with Angela Lawson

Saturday, April 26, 10-11:30am  
HG Clubhouse

**Bible Study** (Interdenominational) on every Wednesday, 9–10 am, Aspen Room (women); Blue Spruce Room (men). Join a lovely group of caring women dedicated to the study of the word of God. We welcome everyone. No sign-up. Just show up. Call Joyce Smith, 918-586-2954.

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

**Ecumenical Bible Study.** (Formerly Six Stone Jars Catholic Bible Study), All Christian traditions: Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, Other. Theme: Trust Jesus. We will begin by studying early Church history. Meets every Tuesday 9:30 – 11:30 am in the Mountain View Room. Drop in for a visit! Led by Eric Cline, D. Min., MA Biblical Exposition, 720-839-4289 or [clinecellars57@gmail.com](mailto:clinecellars57@gmail.com); also <https://www.godtalkshop.com/>

**HG Women's Bible Study** meets the fourth Thursday at 10-11:30 am, in the Mt. View room in person and also on Zoom. All other Thursdays are via Zoom only. Contact Carolyn Morris, 303-885-7807, or [motoringmorris@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:motoringmorris@gmail.com).

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

# Letters

## Heather & Yon,

I attended the Lifelong Learners class taught by Mitch Albert this winter. It focused on our community's water consumption, waste/loss and water's increasing cost. The class was well attended, and I recommend it to everyone. Mitch has valuable data and expertise that can save Heather Gardens residents money for years to come.

Water is a scarce but necessary commodity, and I believe that we, as a community, would be foolish not to heed his warnings about future water costs, and accept his help to mitigate price increases.

It has been great to see the Letters to the Editor and the articles in *Heather 'n Yon* that educate us about this project. I ask everyone to pay close

attention and give Mitch all the support and follow-up he needs to help us be more waste conscious with our water and our dollars. Who doesn't like to save money?!?!

-Pat Nugent, Building 221

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

**Please submit letters to:**  
bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com

**Subject line:** Letter for HnY

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

*Word Limit: 300*

**Thank you!**



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# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

## Aviation Club

Aviation Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Aspen Room. We often use YouTube videos to cover many different topics concerning Aviation both civilian and military. You do not have to be a veteran, or a pilot or aircrew, just have an interest in airplanes and aviation in general. The March program was about the new SR-72 Hypersonic Dark Star spy plane & war platform. The core specs were: fly at Mach 6, sustained operation at or above 80,000 ft, be invisible to radar. Our April program has not been finalized at press time, but it should be interesting. Our next meeting will be April 9. -Rudy Morris, 720-995-0484, rudymorris4@gmail.com

## Book Club

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

## B201 and B202

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

## The Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club (TBC) for Singles 50 Plus meets at 8:30 am on the second Saturday in Rendezvous Bar & Grill for breakfast. Call 303-794-3332 to make your reservation. Cost is \$20. TBC has grown in the past 20 years — it has three other chapters along the Front Range. We have ongoing activities, such as bowling, the Birthday Bash, eating at a new restaurant, and Happy Hour. Each month, there are also different activities planned, such as museums, sports events, plays, concerts, and day trips, to name a few. Come see! – Suzanne Harnes

## CP1

We have Happy Hours on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms, where you are encouraged to bring your own drink and shareable snack. -Susan Osman, susanosman21@gmail.com.

## CP2

We meet the first Tuesday of the month in the Aspen/Blue Spruce rooms from 5-8 pm in February & October. These are BYOB drinks and a dish to share events. In April, August and December, we will be meeting in Rendezvous Bar & Grill from 4:30-8 pm. Drinks and food, as well as tax & trip are at your own expense. In June, we will be meeting in the Picnic Pavillion from 5:30-8 pm. Brauts and chips, plates, cups, napkins and utensils will be provided. (Voluntary donations accepted for these items). BYOB drinks and a dish to share. If you have any questions, please contact Jake Flint, AR Representative for CP2. 303-845-0541.

## CP4

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

## Caregivers Support Group

The HG Caregivers Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of the month in the Aspen Room from 2-4 pm. All caregivers are welcome. Questions? Call Nancy Fuhr at 303-337-4890.

## Democrats/HG

The Heather Gardens Democratic Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month (except December) in the clubhouse auditorium at 4-5:30 pm. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 22. The purpose of our club is to support the Constitution, the rule of law, and GOOD GOVERNMENT. In the recent weeks since the Inauguration, the institutions of our government, and indeed the world

order that has prevailed for most of our lives, have been systematically dismantled through Donald Trump and his supporters. If we are to preserve our democracy, we must support each other and our allied organizations. This year our speakers will feature various groups providing opportunities for citizen engagement, with our shared goal of preserving our democracy. Often, speakers for current "hot topics" cannot be confirmed in time for this announcement. I send an email newsletter a few days before our meeting, so please email me if you want to get on my list: hgdemocrats@gmail.com. You don't have to live in Heather Gardens nor be registered as a Democrat to attend our meetings. Some of us like to socialize over dinner in the Rendezvous after the meeting, and you are welcome to join us. There is no charge for our meetings. -Marty Karnopp, Chair

## Frolics

Come enjoy our Frolics Traveling Troupe performing at the Rendezvous Bar & Grill on Wednesday, April 16, at 4 pm. Our theme this month is, "April Showers Bring May Flowers." We are always looking for new talent! Mark your calendar for Friday, May 2 (2 pm), Saturday, May 3 (6 pm), and Sunday, May 4 (2 pm) for the 2025 Annual Spring Production, "Mystery of the Stolen Sapphire Tiara." Tickets are now on sale every week (until sold out) in the Clubhouse Lobby Monday-Friday, 10 am-12 pm. Contact Wayne Wharton for more information at 303.995.9246.

## Garden Club

Garden Club members this spring and our new members gather at the April 28 meeting with a pot luck dinner at 6 pm in the clubhouse Blue Spruce Room. Visitors are welcome and are asked to let us know in advance so we can ensure sufficient seating and know what

you will be bringing.

Looking forward to May, the club is inviting our community's gardeners to join us for a special event on Monday, May 12 at 3 pm in the clubhouse Arts and Crafts Room. Speakers from the Aurora Water Conservation Project and Community Garden Network will share tips on water conservation and annuals as companion plants and flowers for pollinators. Since Mother's Day on May 11 is the historic kick-off day for planting in our area, this event is timely. The Garden Club meets in Blue Spruce Room the last Monday of each month March through October and also hosts several walk-arounds for members and visitors throughout the growing season. For information about leasing a garden plot, joining the club, or being added to the email notification list, call or text President Nancy Linsenbigler at 720-932-6990.

### **The Green Team**

The Annual Shred Event is coming Saturday, May 3 from 9 to 10:45 am. We know you have boxes filled with old receipts or tax forms hidden away under the bed, in a closet, or in the farthest corner of your basement covered with cobwebs. This is your chance to get rid of them, so stop procrastinating, no more excuses. The shred truck will be parked in the golf parking lot near the Picnic Pavilion and tennis courts. Please try to be in line by 10:45, we do not want to turn you away should you arrive late.

You will be able to shred 2 standard-size file boxes for just \$5 (of course you can bring more.) PLEASE check inside those boxes before bringing them for shredding. We have found jewelry, money and even fireworks, which could have blown up the truck! We do not take plastic or metal spiral bindings, bound books, or metal clamps (paper clips are okay.) Please NO PLASTIC BAGS to carry your papers, they cannot be recycled. Need more information, call 303-587-9797. -Wendy Pfaffhausen

### **Heather Gardens Singers**

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

### **Heather Gardens Water Conservation Taskforce**

The Heather Gardens Water Conservation Taskforce (HG-WCT) was formed end of January 2025 after four "Lifelong Learners" lectures, where Mitch Albert presented his HG Water Consumption Study. The purpose of the newly formed taskforce is to work on implementing the recommendations mentioned in the study to conserve the usage of (city) water in Heather Gardens (HG) for environmental and sustainability reasons and to substantially lower our HG water/sewer bill. The activities of the taskforce will primarily focus on developing and implementing business plans by each of HG's 54 water meters with their associated building(s) or Country Place and Townhouse (CP/TH) area(s) to reduce water usage for irrigation and personal usage.

These business plans will be based on garden space design and implementation in specific areas in close cooperation with residents and garden committees of the buildings or CP/TH areas. The garden space designs will be integrated with smart irrigation systems to reduce water usage. The taskforce will also work on the reduction of personal water usage by developing and implementing (voluntary) exchange programs of conventional toilets with low-flow toilets greater than 1.28 gpf per HG maintenance. The focus will be to identify any primary toilets per unit that are still greater than 4.5 gpf.

All Taskforce plans will be guided by the HG Water Conservation Committee for content, planning standards and submissions to the HGA Board. The Taskforce will develop landscaping plans and provide data necessary for the business plans. We are looking for members of building or CP/TH area garden committees and for residents interested in helping to reduce water usage in HG. We are meeting on Zoom the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 1 pm. For more information visit our website [www.hg-wctf.org](http://www.hg-wctf.org) or e-mail to [hgwctf@gmail.com](mailto:hgwctf@gmail.com).

### **High Twelve Club #11 Masonic Club/HG**

High Twelve Club #11, a Masonic Club at Heather Gardens, meets every 4th Wednesday (3rd Wednesday in November and December) at Rendezvous Bar & Grill at 11 am. The club invites all Masons and friends to these open luncheons where there is usually a guest speaker. The club is "dark" June, July, and August. High Twelve International supports students at George Washington University in a Master's program so as to serve in public service. Members include a retired attorney, retired teachers, retired police officer, retired Air Force and Army gentlemen, and many more! The contact is Walter Martin at 303-810-6189 for more information.

### **Indivisible/HG**

Heather Gardens Indivisible meets the 2nd Friday of each month, 11:30 am – 12:50 pm, in the HG Library (Media Room). You are welcome to join us for lunch afterward at Rendezvous. PRESENTATION: Dr. Anne Keke, Aurora Public Schools Board President, will be sharing how the schools are keeping children safe, protecting immigrant privacy, with national Dept. of Education challenges. She will also let us know how we can provide support for the schools. Connected to over 1,200 groups nationwide, Heather Gardens

Indivisible is a community of neighbors who choose to make a difference in the world, addressing the many problems we see with positive, forward-thinking actions. We address issues that concern us, such as wealth inequality, racial injustice, environmental threats, women's reproductive rights, gun safety, etc., with both education and action. Although people of any political affiliation are welcome, our approach is progressive. Whether you can regularly attend the meetings or not, you are welcome to also sign up for our newsletter of information and action items. Questions? Contact Gina Abegg, facilitator, ginaabegg2020@gmail.com.

**Karaoke Club**

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

**Kiwanis Club of Aurora**

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

**Lifelong Learners**

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! You can still register for our spring classes. We have something for everyone with our eight exciting options: 1) America at a Global Crossroads; 2) Where Did I Put My Calm? Finding Peace in Everyday Moments; 3) Smartphone Basics; 4) Zoonoses: Animal to Human Disease Transmission; 5) Technology and Me: AI, Digital Afterlife, Personal Privacy; 6) Misinformation, Disinformation and Why Information is Not Knowledge; 7) How Much Water Do You Use? Water Consumption Study; 8) Medical Potpourri: outside speakers on a variety of topics, including the brain, kidney,

drugs and more. Additional details are available at the clubhouse. Our planned April bash has to be rescheduled for a later date due to scheduling conflicts. We'll see you sometime during the summer. With our continued growth, we are looking for residents to join our Steering Committee and help plan our Learning program. Contact us at: heathergardenslearners@gmail.com.

**Low Vision Support Group**

Low Vision Support Group meets on April 28 (fourth Monday of the month) in the Aspen Room, 1:30 pm. Questions? Call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224

**Meditation Club**

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

**Men with Purpose**

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

**National Federation of the Blind, Aurora Chapter**

Meet other blind and low vision at the monthly meeting held on the fourth Saturday of each month in the Mountain View room from 10:30-12:30 pm. We discuss changes in legislation and government programs such as transportation, insurance, and more that affect us and how to effect

change. Contact Peggy Chong, B220, 303-745-0473.

**Optimist Club**

The club meets on 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month for breakfast in Rendezvous Bar & Grill, 9 am. A continental breakfast buffet is served, \$10 per person. Optimist Clubs are dedicated to "bringing out the best in kids" through various service projects. We welcome anyone interested in finding out more. Contact Darlene Park, 303-798-5088, or Bob Schlageter, 303-751-2205, with questions.

**Photo Club**

We meet on the third Monday, 3-5 pm, Aspen Room. April 21 will be an important reorganization meeting for the future of the club. Please RSVP to me at rudymorris4@gmail.com

**Red Hattitudes**

Ladies, if you are looking to have lunch with a bunch of fun-loving gals at the Rendezvous Bar & Grill, join the Red Hattitudes on the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 pm. The Red Hats are a non-political, non-sectarian, group of ladies who like to wear purple outfits with a red hat or fascinator. Please call Janet Arce for more details at (720) 774-3368.

**Republican Club**

TUESDAY, APRIL 22 1 - 3:30 pm Sandberg Auditorium. GENERAL MEETING: DEAR AMERICA: WELCOME BACK! Please join us for an engaging presentation about the highlights of President's Trump's first 100 days in office. A review of "Right Side" media outlets will also be presented. Save the Date: April 15: 6:00 – 8:00 PM via Zoom. Knowing and Protecting the Constitution facilitated by Mike Thoma, HGRC Vice President. Anyone interested in participating contact Robin O'Meara at rlomeara1@gmail.com for the Zoom link to the class. We The People Book Club: Letter to the American Church by Eric Metaxas. "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us

guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.” -Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Eric Metaxas reveals the haunting similarities between today’s American Church and the German Church of the 1930s. We began the club on Wednesday, March 19 from 4:30 – 5:30 in the clubhouse Lodgepole Room, but you can still join the group. Contact Robin O’Meara at [rlomeara1@gmail.com](mailto:rlomeara1@gmail.com).

Conservative Conversations: April 10, 5–7 pm, THE GARDENS AT THE RENDEZVOUS BAR & GRILL. RSVP ONLY: Email Robin O’Meara at [rlomeara1@gmail.com](mailto:rlomeara1@gmail.com) \$20 per person collected at the door for speaker fee, taco bar and beverage. Annual Membership is \$20. Guests are always welcome.

### **Residents for Responsible Leadership (RRL)**

This organization grew out of the Residents for Renewed Leadership, which was in action during the recall event in our community. Our mission is to instill unity in the community. This organization will continue to meet to encourage residents to become involved and knowledgeable by attending board meetings, both of the Heather Gardens Association Board and the Heather Gardens Metro District Board. These meetings can be attended by Zoom or in person. Times for meetings can be found on Heather Gardens website. Monthly meetings will include guests to speak on or answer questions about issues that are pertinent to the time. It will also be a place for safe discussion, questions and comments among those attending. Meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month in the Blue Spruce room. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Nonean Price at [nonean1127@hotmail.com](mailto:nonean1127@hotmail.com) or Nora Tracy at [lenorat@comcast.net](mailto:lenorat@comcast.net)

### **RV Lot Club**

Welcome all campers, and day trippers, any size rig, tent, van. We would like to invite you all to check us out each month on the 2nd Thursday, Aspen Room, 5-6

pm. Thinking of getting an RV? Join us and see what activities we can plan for this year- Group camp outs, lunches or dinners at great local restaurants, hiking trips while camping, let’s talk about it. Learn how you can get the most from your RV experience. Contact- Lee Nicholson ([gdsflight123@gmail.com](mailto:gdsflight123@gmail.com)) for details of upcoming events, voice your concerns, get updates.

### **Saturday Afternoon LIVE Social (Formerly Wine & Cheese Social Club)**

Meets every 3rd Saturday in Aspen/ Blue Spruce Room from 3 to 5 pm. Listen and or dance to the sounds of our wonderful Final Approach Band while enjoying your own beverage of choice and everyone can bring a snack to share. Free fun event. Bring your friends and make new ones! Any questions call Mary 303-909-3988

### **Sevillians**

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

### **Singles Club/OPOCS**

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

### **Social Justice Discussion**

You are invited to participate in “Unpacking The Society In Which We Live” Social Justice roundtable discussion on Thursday, April 17 in the Blue Spruce Room of the clubhouse. The meeting is from 10 am to 12 noon. The topic is “Building Black Wealth.” Our speaker will be Tiffany Roan, the Client Success Manager for the Dearfield Fund. One of our members was the happy recipient of a grant awarded to a Black woman first time home owner

## **CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS**

for her down payment. We will learn about the Gary Community Ventures which was launched in July of 2021. -Diane Pritchard [dianekpritchard@gmail.com](mailto:dianekpritchard@gmail.com) and Bernie Hupperts [marlynber@gmail.com](mailto:marlynber@gmail.com)

### **Spanish Club (Club en Español)**

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

### **SRA**

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

### **TOPS**

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

### **Voice For Residents Forum**

Fostering community engagement and communications with our HGA and HGMD boards, we invite you to attend our next forum on Saturday, April 12, 3-4:30 pm. Please Note: The Forum plans to move to the Aspen Room. At the time of this printing, we are not sure this move will be in April. Signs will be posted at the entrance to the

auditorium on the day of the event indicating the location. The April Forum topic will include a Follow the Money report, Updates on the Leadership Study Sessions, and the Result of HGMD board election, and what that means going forward. Any questions or comments/suggestions? Please contact Vickie Hoffman or Marilyn Macdonald, email [TheVoiceForResidentsForum@gmail.com](mailto:TheVoiceForResidentsForum@gmail.com)

**Wine & Cheese Social Club:** see "Saturday Afternoon LIVE Social"

### **Woodshop Club**

The Woodshop Club promotes use of the woodshop and better care of the equipment, focuses on safety within the woodshop, and helps develop new woodworking classes, fellowship, and training. Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, 1 pm, Skyview Room. Member experience varies from beginner level to experienced woodworking individuals. You are invited to join this great energetic club, and have an opportunity to share your ideas and initiatives relating to woodworking. Come learn why the members all love working with wood — from designing writing pens to wall hangings and furniture. Direct questions to President Dave Woods,

[heathergardenswoodshopclub@gmail.com](mailto:heathergardenswoodshopclub@gmail.com).

### **Writers Club**

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

## SPORTS & RECREATION

### **Billiard Club**

The Billiard Club meets for Co-ed 8-Ball at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays. Check in BEFORE 6:10 pm in order to play. Men's 9-Ball is at 7 pm on Thursdays. Annual dues of \$12 are payable on Jan. 1 of each year. All new players are welcome. Questions? Call Connie Burns 303-695-0766 or Judy Brehmer 303-369-6258. 8 BALL WINNERS 2/20/25 – 3/13/25

*Feb. 25:*

1st Bob Woods/Judy Brehmer  
2nd Brian Bucenec/Connie Burns  
3rd Don Gunnarson/Margie Sloan

*Mar. 4:*

1st Jack Doherty/Sharon Weiss  
2nd Shannon Boyd/Gil Lochhead  
3rd Lindy Davenport/Judy Brehmer

*Mar. 11:*

1st Otis Lawson/Mike Franzen  
2nd Brian Bucenec/Sharon Weiss  
3rd Dee Moore/Don Gunnarson  
9 BALL WINNERS 2/20/25 – 3/13/25

*Feb. 20:*

1st Darrel Schultz  
2nd Brian Bucenec  
3rd Ditto Schultz

*Feb. 27:*

1st Greg Kachadoorian  
2nd Ditto Schultz

3rd John Manzanares

*Mar. 6:*

1st Brian Bucenec  
2nd John Manzanares

*Mar. 13:*

1st Jack Doherty  
2nd Scott Crowls  
3rd Steve Hesser

### **Bowling League**

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

### **Bridge/Men's Monday**

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

### **Bridge/Social**

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

### **Bunko**

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

### **Cribbage/Afternoon**

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

### **Duplicate Bridge/ACBL**

We play at 1 pm Wednesdays in the Blue Spruce Room. For partnership information, or with questions, call Linda Harder, 303-369-2032, or [meek045@outlook.com](mailto:meek045@outlook.com). – Linda Harder, Director

### **Fun Gals Golf**

You can join us at any time and there are no fees beyond those for regular play. Fun Gals Golf will begin on Thursday, April 3 with WEEKLY tee times at 9 and 9:12 am. We promise lots of laughs, no handicaps and you keep score for yourself if you want to. To ask questions, contact Sharon Westmoreland, [sharonwestmoreland@me.com](mailto:sharonwestmoreland@me.com)/ or

303.882-2929 (Text). Each time you plan to play, call the pro shop and sign up for a tee time (9 am or 9:12 am)

### **Golf Club/Ladies**

After a long winter, the golf season has finally arrived for the Heather Gardens Ladies Golf Club.

Weather permitting, preseason play will begin on April 2 along with a full calendar of social events. Some dates to add to your calendar include:

April 2: Preseason play commences; starting tee times for April are 9 a.m. No payouts during April.

April 16: Spring Luncheon

May 7: League play begins. May's starting tee times are 8:30 am.

September 3 & 10 Club championship

In June, July and August starting tee times are 6:30 am. As dates for other activities as well as any outside tournaments are added, they will be published in Heather n' Yon and posted on the club's website. All women, regardless of skill level, who are interested in league play are invited to join HGLGC. Learn more about the club and get a membership application at the Heather Gardens Pro Shop and on our website, [www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com](http://www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com). The next HGLGC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 30 at 1 pm in the boardroom. All members are encouraged to attend. Minutes from all board meetings are posted on the website. - Suzi Stolte, Publicity Chair

### **Golf/Men's**

The Heather Gardens Men's Golf Club (HGMGC) has started, but there's still time to submit your application to play in the upcoming season. We play every Friday (except July 4th this year). In addition to regular tournaments, we also have fun events like Blue, White Red days, Best Ball, 2-man and 4-man scrambles, and this year we're gonna try "greensomes." We will have the occasional shotgun start and we'll

even provide food every now and then. We also have a Fall Banquet to close it out.

Pick up your application at the Golf Pro Shop. You may also download the application from Golf League Tracker (GLT) at [www.golfleaguetracker.com/glthome/league](http://www.golfleaguetracker.com/glthome/league). Send an email to [jon.freyer54@gmail.com](mailto:jon.freyer54@gmail.com) for login instructions. The application fee is \$50 and all applications must be turned into the Golf Pro Shop. If you have any questions, please contact the Golf Pro Shop, (303) 751-2390.

### **Hand (Knee) and Foot**

Also known as Tripleplay, this is a variation of Canasta. Fun and easy to learn. We meet every Tuesday, noon–4 pm (starts 12:15 pm), Mountain View Room. Call Linda Serio, 303-396-2218, or just show up.

### **Mah Jongg/Monday**

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

### **Mah Jongg/Tuesday**

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

### **Mexican Train Dominoes**

We play noon–3 or 4 pm, every Saturday, Arts & Crafts Room. It's a game for everyone. – Mara Goskirk 510-333-9951.

### **Pickleball**

Our play schedule starts at 9 am primarily on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Please visit <https://www.hgpickle.org> for the latest schedule changes and to find many informative pickleball links. We offer fun experiences for players of all skill levels including open play, drills and instruction as well as ladder and round robin mixers throughout the month. Please contact Jan Belt at 303-514-8526 or Ron Hileman at 720-256-7477 if you have any questions. If you would like to be added to our weekly email updates, let Ron know at [ronhileman@gmail.com](mailto:ronhileman@gmail.com). We provide paddles and pickleballs for new players and offer beginner instruction. Lesson and drill information will be posted on the website as well as in our weekly email updates. Generally, we begin play when the temperature reaches 40 and the winds are less than 15 miles per hour. Come and enjoy America's fastest growing sport with us.

### **Ping Pong**

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

### **Poker/Men's & Texas Hold 'em**

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

### Rummikub

A rummy-like tile game that is played in tables of four. Easy to learn, fun to play. Lodgepole Lounge on Wednesdays, 1-3 pm. -Rosemarie Kessler, 303-337-7005.

### Square Dance

Heather Twirlers invites all square dancers to join us every first and third Wednesday 7-9 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. The cost is \$7. If you are an experienced dancer, a newer dancer or feeling a little rusty in your dancing, it is an excellent chance to both experience the joy of dancing and improve your skills, while meeting new and old friends. You meet other dancers, have a lot of fun and get your exercise. Any questions call Beverly Nelson at 303-750-6632.

### Tai Chi

Experience the ancient art of Tai Chi, a graceful form of exercise that integrates mind, body, and spirit. With slow, controlled movements, Tai Chi promotes relaxation, balance, and flexibility, while reducing stress and improving overall well-being. One of the best ways to learn Tai Chi is the step-by-step approach used by the Heather Gardens Tai Chi Club. Although you can join and start learning at any time during the year, starting at the beginning of the spring season facilitates this step-by-step learning method. The club meets on Thursday mornings on the clubhouse tennis courts. Please contact Dean Uyeno via email at dean.uyeno@live.com prior to your first meeting for information that will help make your first experience enjoyable and productive.

### Tennis Club

The Tennis Club is looking for more players to join us on the courts throughout the week. Come Saturday, April 26, to the Picnic Pavilion from 9-11 am for breakfast of delicious croissants, Danish, tea and coffee before heading to the courts. Here's your chance to meet our members and learn about the club. You will have the opportunity to challenge the ball machine, take a short lesson or play several

games. Shake the cobwebs off your racket and enjoy some easy fun. Call (303)587-9797 with questions. W. Pfaffhausen

### Time4Tap Dance Group

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

**Clubs/Organizations & Sports/Recreation  
SUBMISSIONS**

**Email:**  
Gloria Leshner:  
[gjlesher@gmail.com](mailto:gjlesher@gmail.com)

**\*Monthly Deadline is listed on p. 30**  
300 word limit

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



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### FOR SALE – 13890 E. Marina Dr. #612 - \$263,000

2 bed / 1 bath 952 sq. ft. Seville K – Stunning remodeled top floor end unit overlooks Seville pond, pool & pickleball courts. Luxury vinyl plank floors. Fresh paint. Remodeled kitchen w/Quartz counters, painted cabinets & breakfast bar.



### FOR SALE – 14001 E. Marina Dr. #404 - \$265,000

2 bed / 2 bath 1200 sq. ft. Somerset A – Quiet location w/golf course views. Upgraded barn doors separate living room and 2<sup>nd</sup> bed/den. Remodeled kitchen w/updated cabinets, Quartz counters, tile backsplash & stainless appliances.



### FOR SALE – 14390 E. Marina Dr. #104 - \$354,000

2 bed / 2 bath 1380 sq. ft. Somerset C – Ground floor remodel w/custom doors & baseboards throughout. Built-in hutch in living room. Remodeled kitchen w/Oak cabinets, tile backsplash & tile floors. Remodeled hall bath w/walk-in shower.



### FOR SALE – 13661 E. Marina Dr. #605 - \$389,000

2 bed / 2 bath 1560 sq. ft. Somerset F – Spacious penthouse w/stunning views of the mountains & golf course & lake. Updated paint & carpet, plus new Renewal by Andersen windows. Luxury vinyl plank floors in entry & kitchen. Updated baths.

**SOLD** – 13850 E. Marina Dr. #406

**SOLD** – 13661 E. Marina Dr. #511



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# HG Clubhouse Events

## Clubhouse Hours

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

Phone 303-751-1811, x5

Acting Clubhouse Manager Julie Racich

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

### Active Minds: Georgia O’Keeffe

Wednesday, April 9

2pm

Sandberg Auditorium

Born in Wisconsin in 1884, Georgia O’Keeffe would emerge at a young age as a promising artist. Eventually she would come to be renowned for her abstraction of natural forms such as flowers, clouds and, perhaps most famously, desert spaces of the American Southwest. Join Active Minds as we trace the outlines of one of the most prominent figures in 20th Century modern art.

### Strum Therapy

Friday, April 11

Sandberg Auditorium

6pm

\$10, purchase your ticket at the Activities Desk. This acoustic trio offers a happy blend of harmonies and hilarities. They perform all the tunes we love from the 60s and 70s. If you like James Taylor, the Carpenters, Stephen Stills, or the like, you’ll enjoy this group. The more the merrier; bring your friends.

### AARP Smart Driver Class

Thursday, April 17

12:45pm – 5 pm

Clubhouse

Cost: \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members, cash or check only. Payment accepted at time of the class. Please pre-register for the class by calling the Clubhouse at 303-755-0652 x5.

Are you a driver aged 50 and over? Would you like to receive a discount on your auto insurance? Learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques, and how to operate your vehicle more safely. Consider attending this AARP Smart Driver class at Heather Gardens. Pre-registration is required.

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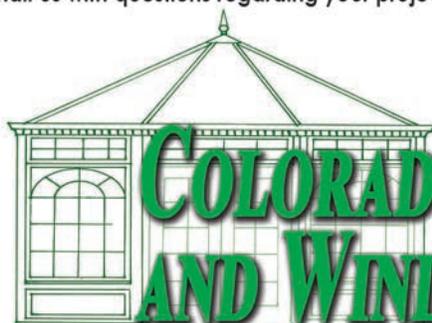


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# COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

## Insight into our Capital Reserves

### Upgrade of Parking Structure 2 is underway!

Big changes are happening in Heather Gardens. The Parking Structure 2 upgrade is underway. When you walk or drive past PS 2 on S. Heather Gardens Way, you can see a lot of construction activity. All of this is part of the Parking Structure Maintenance Project. When completed, the lifespan of all four open parking structures will be extended. Parking Structure 2 is one of four parking structures used by our residents in the Alpha buildings #201-212. All four parking structures were in bad shape. In the period from 2020 to 2022, there was a lot of research, discussion, planning and budgeting that resulted in a sound multiyear project plan to rehabilitate the four parking structures. The chosen approach is to extend the life cycle of the four parking structures by structurally rehabilitating them over a period of eight years.

#### Capital Reserves – 101

The PS 2 maintenance project is paid out of our Heather Gardens Association (HGA) Capital Reserves. Capital Reserves Funds can be considered as our savings account, used for major capital expenses. With healthy Capital Reserve funds in place for HGA and HGMD (Heather Gardens Metro District), the boards don't have to scramble to find money when big expensive repairs and replacement projects need to be done.

In PS 2 you can see structural repairs are in progress, such as impressive reconstruction of pillars and complicated partial replacements of post-tensioned tendons (metal cables embedded in the concrete). There are adjustments being made to the concrete of the

upper deck to keep water (rain and snow) out of the garages. In case water manages to get in, it is diverted and captured in drains to avoid it from flowing into other garages and damaging the inside walls and structures. Special coatings (multiple layers)

will be applied on the concrete decks as one of the last activities, and will defend against future penetration of water into the concrete. The lack of waterproof coating on the upper deck concrete contributed greatly to the deterioration of the four parking structures.



Deteriorated pillar (Detail)



Repaired pillar

### Why PS 2 Upgrades Matter.

The PS 2 maintenance project is another great example where you can see your money at work. With a healthy Capital Reserve Fund in place there is money set aside. What are the consequences if we were not putting money aside for capital reserve funds? Yes, your monthly dues would be less, but then you have to be prepared for hefty special assessments. Example, if we had no capital reserves and all 2025 capital reserves projects costs had to be paid out of special assessments, every owner would have received this year a couple of invoices, in total

#### Parking Structure Repairs (Source: Approved HGA Budget 2025 page 18).

2026	\$ 1,796,777
2027	\$ 653,660
2028	\$ 730,730
2029	\$ 951,309

of on average \$2,400. It's also important to realize that no or low capital reserves funds scare away potential buyers.

### Upgrade of the aesthetic view of HG

Most of the major structural repair being done on PS 2 will not be visible after completion. What will stand out for passersby after all the work is completed are the renovated garages on the upper decks, the new railings, new stairs and replaced drainage pipes. You can see the improved aesthetic view of HG by looking at the garages of PS 3. The improved view of PS 2 is next.

### Next steps

Since this is a multiyear project, future budgets have already been projected. This year the budget for the PS Maintenance Project is \$2,527,192, which is a "carry-over" of 2024 (repairs planned and budgeted for 2024 but not completed for various reasons). For the planned costs for the upcoming four years:

There is still a lot of work to be done. The residents in the Alpha buildings will have to deal with the inconvenience which comes from this project for the next five years. But every completed step in the

project will extend the foreseeable life of the four parking structures, improve the aesthetics of HG and improve the value of our property.

-Community Engagement and Communications Committee/Project Insight

# At 90, an Active Ron Hileman is Still Holding Court

If you've lived in Colorado for any length of time, you know that winter weather here is variable. A snowy week of sub-zero cold might be followed by a week of sunny days, with highs in the 60s. So nobody who knows Ron Hileman is surprised to see him, sometimes all by himself, shoveling snow from the pickleball courts on a frigid day. After all, the coming week might bring ideal pickleball weather!



Ron clearing snow from pickleball courts

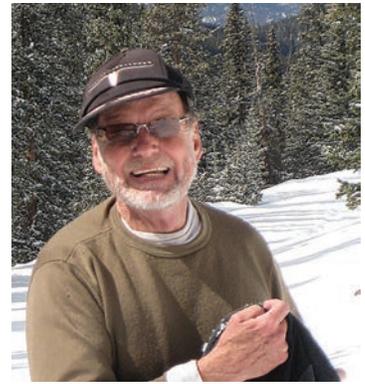
Ron Hileman is an accomplished pickleballer—a PB buddy, Mark Holland, calls him “probably the best 90-year-old player in the state” — but he’s also a tireless advocate for the game at Heather Gardens. For years, Ron served as the Treasurer of the Heather Gardens Pickleball Club. He started the website for the Club (<https://www.hgpickle.org/>), and led efforts to get new court lines laid out and nets repaired.

Phil Hughes, Club President, reports that Ron “is now working to [set up] a camera that will give both tennis and pickleball players a view of the courts without having to come out to see who’s playing.” This particular project, Phil says, has been a long-term one, and “it illustrates [Ron’s] commitment to working through a job to its completion, even if it takes years.”

Many of us at Heather Gardens know Ron from his pickleball pursuits. Those who know him well happily provide more dimensions to the man.

**An outdoorsy guy.** Practical projects aside, Ron is a patient pickleball teacher (which my wife and I know first-hand). He also greatly loves the great outdoors. In the early 1970s Ron and his family lived in Boulder. The Hilemans quickly learned to embrace a myriad of outdoor activities. In subsequent years the family lived elsewhere — during this period, Ron pursued various business ventures related to his expertise in designing advanced medical devices — but Ron and wife Holly returned to Colorado in 2007, where he could better indulge his adventurous spirit.

Ron has always shared his enthusiasm for an active life. He respects the way nature can both challenge us and nurture us. “From skiing and snowshoeing to kayaking and hang-gliding,” daughter Linda says, “Dad embraced it all.” Ron took his kids, and later his grandkids, on outdoor adventures.



As Ron’s neighbor Sarah Strandjord retells the tale, Ron and a grandson once slept overnight outside, in troughs they’d dug in the snow. Soon after she moved to Heather Gardens, Sarah recalls, Ron taught her to snowshoe. He also recruited her to join the Colorado Mountain Club for strenuous hiking trips. (As recently as last June, daughter Linda Hileman reports, Ron contributed to CMC trail-building efforts.)

A joyful Ron in the great outdoors

**A brainy guy.** In 1957, Ron graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He married fellow MSU student Holly later that year. The couple moved to Buffalo, New York, where Ron began his career with Sylvania. At Sylvania he worked long hours on multiple projects, some of which earned U.S. patents.

In 1969, Ron and his young family — wife Holly, daughter Linda, and sons Doug and Gregg — moved to Boulder, where Ron earned a PhD in Biomedical Engineering. After getting his doctorate, Ron spent years designing diagnostic ultrasound equipment and transducers. In the late 1970s, he and his family moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. There Ron founded his own company, which specialized in making ultrasound equipment for prostate scanning.



Ron and daughter Linda on the pickleball court

After he retired, daughter Linda says, Ron “dabbled in a few biomedical engineering ventures.” None was wildly successful, but these “get rich slow” schemes, as Linda describes them, kept his engineer’s analytical brain engaged.

Has Ron, now in his ninth decade, left his quantifying capacities behind? Nope. Ron keeps track of his many outdoor exploits. He tallies his nights camping and the number of miles he hikes or

bikes. Linda shares a Facebook post from Ron, which references a recent seven-mile hike. The entry goes on to state that "I hiked 408 miles last year, gaining 40,808 feet and camping out 11 times to keep my mountain man certification up to date!"

**A genuine guy.** When Ron's friends are asked to describe his character, the words come easily:

"He's a kind and gracious man," says Phil Hughes.  
 "Creative and caring," Jan Belt says.  
 "He'll do anything for anybody."  
 "He's a wonderful person and I'm very glad to have him as a friend," says Sarah Strandjord.  
 Mark Holland puts it succinctly: "Great guy with a passion for life."

His friends speak openly and warmly of Ron. It's clear that the man embodies another prized quality: He's genuine. He lives his life with authenticity. And that's an inspiration to us all.

\* \* \* \* \*  
*Ron Hileman turned 90 years young on April 1. Many thanks to those who contributed to this story, with special thanks to Linda Hileman for sharing background information and photos.*

-Bill Kaluza, B232

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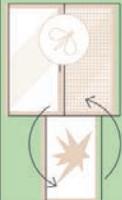
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**Mary Hafka**

Over the past couple of years, I've lost some older pets. Little by little, young cats and a dog moved in to replace them.

My pets tend to live a long time. The last cat I lost reached the exalted age of 26 human years. Perhaps that should read, the exhausted age, as he finally ran out of steam.

So it's understandable that I had forgotten how different it is to have young animals careening around the house. My present menagerie is reminding me, however, and as I grow older, the challenges seem greater.

Usually I enjoy walking my dog, but when the weather dropped below zero, in January, the pleasure evaporated. Because the new puppy, Poppy, wasn't exactly house trained, I found myself walking her four times a day. In frigid weather, this meant having to put boots on her dainty feet four times a day. Followed by having to put boots on me four times a day.

After installing four boots on four paws, with much difficulty – because the dog likes wearing boots about as much as a person would expect – we were unlikely to make it through a single walk without one or more falling off in the snow. The dog usually arrived home wearing two boots, with me carrying the other two.

Then, there was the matter of feline introductions. My male cats really didn't care much for this new dog. It's understandable, because all she wanted to do was play. The cats, no doubt, looked to Poppy like furry chew toys, and she behaved accordingly.

Poppy, a cattle dog, likes to herd things. She's apparently never heard about the futility of trying to herd cats, because she persists in this endeavor. They are not amused.

The other day, Poppy tried to herd a fellow "working dog," a sheltie who lives nearby. The sheltie emphatically was not on board with the activity. Who knew tiny shelties have such big teeth? Her fang baring would have made a shark envious.

When I decided I was ready, about six months ago, to adopt a new dog, a neighbor offered to go with me on the outing. Her job was to keep me from getting carried away with selecting an inappropriate pooch, such as the Norwegian Elkhound I saw at one shelter, and instantly coveted (I love big dogs!).

These days, I stick with dogs of a certain size. Medium-small suits me fine.

But a trip to the Dumb Friends League (DFL) – now called Humane Colorado – demonstrated to me that small dogs are the most in demand. On that day, the shelter essentially didn't have any.

DFL is more than 100 years old. For the past 40 years, I've used them as my go-to resource for house pets. This time, my luck ran out.

The DFL advised me to come back the next day – early – and try again. But anyone who knows me can confirm the following immutable truth: I don't do early. I get indignant when anyone makes me attend an 11 a.m. meeting. What are these early-bird people? Savages?

And who wants a worm? I only wanted a small dog.

Instead, my faithful adoption companion and I journeyed on to the Aurora Animal Shelter (AAS). There, we learned that the AAS had exactly one smallish dog available for adoption. And that dog was out being walked by a shelter volunteer. So we waited. And waited.

When we finally spied the volunteer walking the dog, in the distance, we noted he showed no signs of coming back to the building. We, therefore, converged onto the street, to head off the enthusiastic dog walker and make the puppy's acquaintance.

And we learned that good things come to those who wait. Miss Poppy was the perfect pup in a compact package.

The AAS sent me home with one young dog and a bag of doggie toys. A pumpkin-headed doll was Poppy's favorite toy, but Mr. Pumpkinhead soon died a cruel death, getting decapitated and disemboweled by its new owner.

Three pairs of my eyeglasses followed Mr. Pumpkinhead, being enthusiastically crunched up in Poppy's cheerful jaws. I got the message that chewing was her go-to game, and started hiding my shoes, purses, and any other items she might find crunchable. Soon I was trolling the Internet for Indestructible Dog Toys.

Many of my neighbors – usually after my dog has jumped on them and thoroughly cleaned their faces with her tongue – have asked if she has learned to SIT! yet? This sitting business is a complicated issue.

Her dog trainer (that would be me) is working on the SIT command, with her, but it's slow going. Sometimes, she will sit, just to get the doggie treat I dangle under her nose. Poppy doesn't really see the point of sitting, though – not when there are squirrels to chase, dewy grass to roll in and bright, spring sunshine to brighten her days.

Sitting just seems so – well – stationary. Stationary is not her default setting. If I could teach this dog to run on a large hamster wheel, I'm sure she could power the entire neighborhood.

So we've started going to the dog park, to burn off some of that boundless energy. A neighbor offered the helpful advice that my perky puppy might start to calm down when she hits age 3.

Sigh! Only 18 months to go. That's about 11 years, in cat time.

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# HG HOMES FOR SALE NOW



< **2804-A S. Heather Gardens Way** 2BR/4BA 2,504 sq.ft. Rare 2-story PH in CP1, 2BR + Loft. Spacious & bright. Main floor BR & bath updated kitchen. Close to Club! **\$445,000**



**13901 E Marina #409 Atrium F-2** 2BR/2BA 1564 sq.ft. Love Mountain Views? Pick this! Atrium end unit/double patios with open views of 4th fairway-front range to Long's Peak! New vinyl plank flooring throughout, 4 new ACs, new paint. Move-in ready! **\$407,500** >



**14152 E Linvale #605 Somerset F** 2BR/ 2BA 1,560 sq.ft. Spacious home with dining room. Remodeled with romantic archways & stone tile accents. Baths feature a large soaking tub plus expanded walk-in shower < with custom tile. Come see this cute place! **NEW PRICE! \$389,900**



**13961 E. Marina #314 Atrium A3** 2BR/2BA 1,290 sq.ft. Fully Remodeled by Expressions in Flooring! New cabinets, granite countertops, kitchen island, stainless appliances, custom tile in baths, new vanities, beautiful fixtures. Plush carpet, vinyl plank in kitchen & halls. Walk-in closet. Encl. lanai. In-unit laundry. Gorgeous! **\$357,000** >



< **13631 E Marina #105 Somerset A** 2BR/2BA 1,200 sq.ft. Stunning contemporary remodel! Updated cabinets throughout including kitchen and bathrooms, vinyl plank, stainless appliance package, quartz countertops. This unit is lacking nothing! **\$349,000**



**13992 E. Marina #109** 2BR/2BA 1,092 sq.ft. New paint, stainless steel appliances, vinyl plank flooring in living room, and new carpet in bedrooms, granite counters, updated bathroom vanities! Don't miss this 1st floor gem in Seville. Enclosed lanai. **\$299,999** >



< **3082 S. Wheeling #408 Alpha F** 2BR/2BA 1,560 sq.ft. Golf Course!! Top floor w/ vaulted ceilings, expansive living & dining area. Hard surface flooring and fresh paint throughout. Updated kitchen and appliances, lovely cabinets and granite counters. Gorgeous views to 8th green! **\$294,500**



**13901 E Marina #113 Atrium K-3** Rare: 2BR/1.5BA 1077 sq.ft. Adorable convenience! Granite counters, hard surface flooring throughout, full glass lanai. Easy access to parking, lobby. (244 is only bldg. with the additional 1/2 bath) Beautifully maintained. Cheery! **\$262,500** >



< **13626 E. Bates #207 Alpha A** 2BR/2BA 1,200 sq.ft. Lovely update with granite countertops, backsplash, and vinyl kitchen. Tons of closet space. Just steps away from the clubhouse! Close to laundry! **\$230,000**



**13800 E Marina #112 Seville K** 2BR/1BA 952 sq.ft. Convenient first floor corner unit. Full glass-enclosed lanai. Underground parking and close to exterior parking. Add your personal touches to make this your perfect home! **NEW PRICE! \$210,000** >



SEE PAGE 21  
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Coming Soon,  
Under Contract &  
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