



# Heather 'n Von

September 2024

Heather Gardens Community Magazine

Vol. 38, No. 7

Gardens



OF HG





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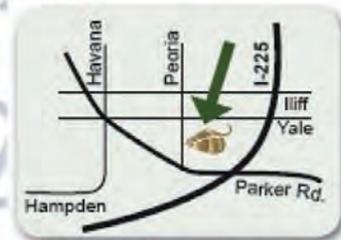
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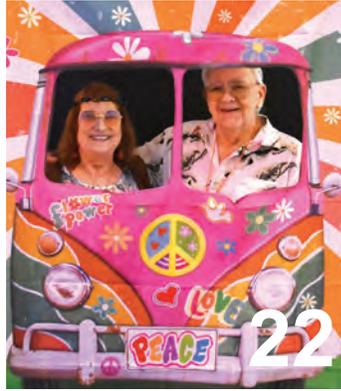


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## Meet the Candidates for 2025 HGA Board

Seven Heather Gardens residents have self-nominated for election to the 2025 HGA Board. Three will be elected, with the top two vote getters each serving a two year term and the third place candidate to serve one year.

Ballots will be mailed in October, and votes will be counted on November 25.

### The candidates are:



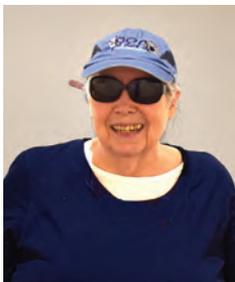
**Bradford Archer, B224:** A senior project manager for UC Health in the Facilities and Design & Construction Department with over \$500 million of budget management over his six years with the company, Bradford has degrees in engineering and construction management and an MBA. He has lived at Heather Gardens for three years.

Bradford was awarded an Excellence in Engineering Award from the American Council of Engineering Consultants (ACEC) for his work establishing the Director of Construction Office at the Virginia Military Institute. Before arrival in Colorado, he served as a quality control engineer on the Silver line in Metro Washington, DC, and served a hospital in Alaska as the director of capital projects and facility maintenance.

"I believe in serving my community," he notes, having received awards for working with high school students in Vocational and Industrial education programs, coaching youth sports and serving on a city planning commission.

In 2021, Bradford served on HG's Architectural Control Committee.

"With the age of our buildings, maintenance continues to be a challenge. I believe my experience with contract compliance, design and budget management make for a good fit for the HGA Board."



**Betty Bergeron, B236:** An elementary school teacher in New Hampshire and Colorado for 40 years, Betty moved from New Hampshire to Colorado in 1990 and to HG in 2014. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in literacy. Betty has been the Area Representative (AR) in

B236 since 2017 and Area Representative Organization (ARO) President since 2021. Additionally, she has been a member of the Community Engagement and Communication Committee and the HGA Nominating Committee.



**John Harvey, B219:** "I am running for the Board to help bring about a better community for all of the residents," explains John. He has 30+ years in banking, loans and collections, spending the last 14 years as the bankruptcy specialist with a credit union in Boulder.

Living at HG for six years, John has served as AR the last five years, on the Architectural Control Committee for four years and on the Maintenance Committee for four years. He also managed a HUD building in downtown Denver for four years.

**Linda Hileman, CP1:** She has served on the HGA Board of Directors and as chair of the Community Engagement and Communications Committee since January, 2022. "I have been the ears and voice of Heather Gardens, representing the best interests of the whole community, with a focus on fostering a strong community both now and into the future," she states.



During her seven years at HG, Linda has served as CP1's AAR with active roles on the Ad-Hoc Parking Structure Advisory, Public Relations, Golf, and Clubs & Activities Committees, and attendance at many Security, Budget & Finance, Maintenance and other committee meetings, "all of which have provided me with a comprehensive understanding of our community's governance, financial and infrastructure requirements and needs," Linda adds.

"My membership in the Billiards, Ladies Golf, and Pickleball Clubs, coupled with my regular patronage at the Rendezvous Bar and Grill reflect my deep connection to our shared interests and amenities. This commitment and extensive involvement in Heather Gardens show my dedication and passion for our community. It also equips me with the knowledge, insight and experience necessary to represent and serve the entire community effectively. I am eager to continue this journey, advocating for our collective needs and ensuring that our community remains a successful and vibrant place for all Heather Gardens residents."



**Lee Nicholson, CP3:** Coming from a strong communication skills background, Lee is trained in crisis counseling and domestic violence. Before moving to HG three years ago, she lived in another HOA community for over 15 years and was a board member at Windsor Gardens.

Lee notes that she loves to encourage others, is thorough when given a task, and will always research costs for

better products, keeping in mind residents' wallets. She adds that she has a great sense of humor and loves making things simpler for residents to understand as part of a process.

**Mike Pula, B243:** Prior to being elected to the HGA Board in 2020, Mike served on the Civic Affairs Committee (HGA) as well as the Property Policy Committee (HGMD). During his four years on the HGA Board, he has served as both chair and co-chair of the Maintenance Committee. For 2024, he also is serving as HGA Board vice president and is currently a member of the Personnel Policy Committee.



"I have chosen to run for an additional term, because I feel the past four years have given me valuable experience for helping deal with some of the challenges facing Heather Gardens at the present time and in the future. This not only includes the obvious difficulties between the HGA and HGMD Boards, but also the ongoing maintenance requirements of our 40-year-old buildings. Protecting the value of our infrastructure is of paramount concern to me," he states.

Mike and his wife, Sally, moved to HG in 2017 from Central Illinois. "We very much enjoy living in Heather Gardens and look forward to many more years here."



**Greg Winslow, B222:** A 30-year retired firefighter/paramedic, Greg owned his own auto glass company for over 27 years. He has been an HG resident for the past 10 years, in part to be close to his mother, who has lived in HG since 1982. He has served many years as the AAR and AR for B222. Greg has served on

the Security Emergency Preparedness Community Resource Committee (SEC) for close to seven years and states he has seen great improvement in our security for the community.

Additionally, Greg served on the HGA Board for one year in 2023, as well as chair of the SEC Committee for that same time.

"I have one goal, to continue to support our community and listen very carefully to the concerns of the people who live here—and then do my absolute best in making the best decisions that are good for our community."

---

## Clock Ticking on Board Recall

Setting a date for the recall election was hotly debated at the HGMD Board meeting on August 15, 2024. Designated Election Official (DEO) AJ Beckman and his legal counsel Mark Grueskin were present in the Board Room, as were all of the HGMD Directors except Craig Baldwin, who was ill.

Reading from a prepared statement, Beckman informed the Board that it is under court order to set a date for the recall election, subject to the judge's final decision on August 1, 2024. The order states that the Board must meet to select a date within 30 days of the judge's decision and that the election must be held not less than 75 days and not more than 90 days from the Board's scheduling meeting.

At issue is whether the judge's decision is final. In his President's Report, Director Daniel Taylor argued why he believes it is not final, citing two rules that allow for filing motions for relief within 14 days of the judgment and appeals within 49 days of the judgment.

"If no appeal is filed within that time, the court's order becomes final, which means that if no notice of appeal is filed, the court's order will become final on September 19, 2024," his report reads.

Mr. Grueskin, counsel for the DEO, countered Taylor's argument, citing binding case law, and again advised the Board to set a date for the recall election at today's meeting or call a special meeting before August 31, 2024, to set a date for the recall election.

"Let me be very clear: if you fail to set the election today or if you fail to set a special meeting for purposes of scheduling the election today, I will call my colleagues in my law firm, and we will be filing an emergency motion for immediate review by the district court judge," Grueskin said.

Director Eloise Laubach moved to set a recall election date of Wednesday, October 29, 2024, and hold it by mail. The motion failed for lack of a second.

"I want it on the record that I will not be held in contempt of court because I tried to schedule this," Laubach said.

In his report, Taylor proposed that the date for the recall election be set for May 6, 2025, citing statute, which reads that "if a regular special district election will be held within 180 days after the board orders the recall election, the recall election must be held as part of such regular special district election." May 6, 2025, is the next regularly scheduled election for HGMD Directors Laubach and O'Meara's seats and is 154 days from the earliest date an election can be set, assuming the judgment is considered final on September 19th.

Taylor said a motion to set the election date for May 6th will be entertained at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, assuming none of the protestors wish to file an appeal.

Mr. Grueskin again challenged this date and implored the Board to set a date consistent with the August 1st order. "We will invoke the equitable powers of the court

if this Board refuses to meet,” he said.

“Do what you need to do. We are doing what we need to do, and we’re following the law,” Taylor responded.

---

## HGA Board Meeting: Updates, Progress & Discussions

Inspections by the Aurora Fire Department in regards to extension cords in building common areas, an update on the recent Xcel outage at HG, public meetings on the 2025 Budget and discussion on the \$2 million plus contract for work on Parking Structures #2 and #4 were key issues at the regularly scheduled HGA Board meeting, August 20.

Inspections were launched because of recent examinations revealing inadvertent overloading of extension cords in building common areas.

In one case, it was reported that there were five cords in an extension cord before it was plugged in to the wall outlet. In the effort to keep buildings safe, violations have been identified and reputable electricians have rectified the situations.

For building councils that would like to have additional outlets in their common areas, electricians are at work. Additionally, it was noted that if residents would like some additional outlets in their units, they can obtain a price quote on that work.

**Xcel Energy power outage:** Continuing on the area of electrical, the recent Saturday power outage, created by a blown Xcel transformer, was discussed. HG buildings affected were the Clubhouse, plus B201 through B207.

When the power went down, the phone calls started coming in to Security from concerned residents. There were so many calls and voice mails that Security phones were overwhelmed, creating a situation where an emergency call was delayed because of the influx of calls about the power outage.

So who do you call when the power goes off?

Call Xcel Energy.

Do not call Security, as those phone lines must be kept available for emergencies and other Security-specific calls.

**Slip and fall accidents:** In an ongoing follow up to the issue discussed at the July HGA Board

meeting on assistance for residents in case of slip and fall accidents and wellness checks, it was reported that Lift Assist information is being given to Area Representatives and posted in buildings.

This was offered as an option for residents in distress when family members are not available. The Lift Assist is a resource providing an emergency phone number and an onsite emergency visit, often without having an ambulance involved.

The Budget and Finance Committee for 2025 Budget:

The committee is in planning sessions, reviewing proposals from the Capital Expenditures Committee and other entities. Residents are encouraged to attend Budget Workshops to keep up to date with planning and offer their input and concerns. Public meetings will be held the third week of September for resident review and comment.

**Maintenance Committee:** Based on the recommendation of the Maintenance Committee, a motion was presented to approve the contract with Structural Preservation Systems to perform the specified work at Parking Structure #2 and Parking Structure #4 as stated in repair/design documents dated March 27.

A budgeted expenditure for 2024, the contract amount is \$2,034,581, with a change order of \$493,639 for a total cost of \$2,528,220.

Because of the large size of the contract, there was considerable discussion among board members and residents in attendance. While the contractor is a vendor that HG has worked with for at least eight years, there are questions regarding the addition of a Performance Bond to the contract as a means of protecting the interests of HG in case of failure of the vendor. While the Performance Bond would add approximately \$25,000 to the cost, the consensus was for HG to engage management and legal counsel in inspecting this option.

**Updated Volunteer Code of Conduct:** The document presented is near completion, pending minor changes suggested at the Board meeting. Final changes are in progress.

**HGA Elections:** With nominations now complete for the HGA election, the effort now moves from the Nominating Committee to the Civic Affairs Committee for conducting the election. Meet the Candidate events are slated for Friday, September 6, 6-8 p.m., and Saturday, September 7, 10 a.m.-noon at the Clubhouse Sandberg Auditorium. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Committee openings: If you would like to step up and help make Heather Gardens the best ever place to live but aren't ready for a term on the Board, there are openings on most committees.

For more information, visit the Heather Gardens website, [www.HeatherGardens.org](http://www.HeatherGardens.org) and contact the chair of the committee where you have interest. Or call the Management Office at 303-755-0652.

The next HGA Board meeting is slated for Tuesday, September 17.

## HGMD Prepares for New Management Model

It was a busy month for Heather Gardens Metropolitan District (HGMD), which continued to prepare for the end of the management agreement with Heather Gardens Association (HGA).

At a special meeting on August 1, 2024, Director Daniel Taylor reported that HGA denied HGMD's formal request to work directly with the acting clubhouse manager and access the scheduling software for classes and events because their attorney advised them that doing so would violate the management agreement. HGMD has requested that HGA re-evaluate this decision, per Taylor.

Also, at the August 1, 2024, meeting, the Board unanimously approved a Recreation Fee Contract with HGA. The contract stipulates that in 2025, HGMD will provide recreational use of its properties to HGA members in exchange for a fee no more than in 2024. According to the motion's rationale, the contract addresses HGA's concerns about HGMD's ability to fund its business without raising fees and provides certainty to the community.

At their regularly scheduled meeting on August 15, 2024, the Board approved a motion to engage a new accounting firm. Community Resource Services of Colorado was selected from the three proposals received (including a proposal from HGA) and will begin working immediately to assist with the budget process. Director Rita Effler noted that CRS does most of its business with special districts, so they are savvy to the needs of HGMD. The motion passed with a majority. Director Eloise Laubach voted no. Director Craig Baldwin was absent from the meeting.

The Board also approved a motion to hire a forensic auditor. According to Director Taylor, the former auditing firm unexpectedly terminated its contract for unknown reasons, and the audit stalled because HGA will only turn over documents once a new auditor has been retained. The new auditor, Doug Cash with Eide Bailly, LLP, will ensure the numbers are clean, and then he will send his report to a CPA for approval before the audit is filed with the State of Colorado, Taylor said. The motion

passed with a majority. Laubach abstained and Baldwin was absent.

In other news, HGMD is tightening up its volunteer procedures in response to HGA's concerns about the legality of volunteer use. At the August 1st meeting, Director Taylor said the volunteer application had been amended to include an acknowledgment that they would not be compensated for their work. Taylor confirmed that volunteers could not be compensated in any way, including free admission to or participation in events.

At the August 15th meeting, the Board approved the purchase of T-shirts and nametags to identify and recognize volunteers working at events. Director Robin O'Meara reported that volunteer training will be held on August 20, 2024, and the Clubhouse Committee is working on a volunteer handbook.

Following up on old business from prior meetings, on August 15th, the Board approved Arapahoe County's use of the Clubhouse library as a Voter Service and Polling Center. The library will be in use from October 30, 2024, when the equipment is delivered, until November 6, 2024, when it is picked up. The Board also approved the updated Clubhouse Facility Rental and Event Policy, which was discussed last month.

Other actions taken by the Board this month:

- Approved the purchase of two metal panels to cover the gate operator chains in the RV lot
- Approved the purchase of six solar lights and a solar trail camera for security purposes in the RV lot
- Approved the purchase of a disc sander for the Woodshop Club
- Approved the contract for clubhouse telephone lines (for fire alarms, elevator alarm, and gas meter) with Epic 10, the company HGA is using for residential phone services
- Approved the annual contract with Streamline for the HGMD website, including an almost \$1,000 increase to bring the site into compliance with new accessibility legislation
- Approved the Garden Club Procedure Memorandum



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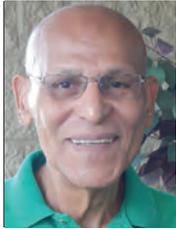
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## HGA Board President Reports

Larry Dávila

September already! Most of us have a favorite season or favorite month. Mine is autumn, especially from mid-September when the days may be hot, but the nights are cool and pleasant. I'd like to think most of us are living in the autumn of our years; our winter may not be too far ahead, but I choose to live in the moment and feel thankful for the kind of life I'm leading in Heather Gardens.

Do you like history? I do. Can you think of a historical figure who met with one hundred percent approval for his/her actions? No? Neither can I. Nevertheless, I'm thankful for the lives of leaders who didn't let criticism prevent them from passing on to us their contribution so that we could have a better society. In my last column, I invited you to see how positive or negative are the letters to the editor. What do you think? Are we better at building up or at tearing down? No, I am not saying there's no room for criticism, but there's an art in letting your words elicit the end you'd like to see accomplished. To that end, let me quote Sam Rayburn who wrote: "Any jackass can kick a barn down, but it takes a good carpenter to build one." There's an art in knowing how to criticize. Some people may tell you to go to hell, but they do it in such a way that you can hardly wait to go there.

Along this line, I'd like to borrow a line from our ARO president who wrote: "Our positions are positions of service, not positions of power. Unfortunately, even some of the past and present board directors have not internalized that concept. They look at their positions as positions of power and have voted to satisfy their own interests, not the interests of the residents." Those are hard words, but they remind us that good leadership is best when the selfish "I" pronoun takes a back seat and listens to other ideas so that we do what is best for the residents who elected us to serve.

The secret of success is in the people who contribute to the betterment of the community. Thanks to dozens and dozens of volunteers who unselfishly contribute so that Heather Gardens continues to provide us with a lifestyle with which we can be satisfied. Some of them are members of boards and committees; others work individually "behind the scenes." To all of them, we owe a word of gratitude.

Join me in giving a word of thanks to the Nominating Committee, especially Janet Arce, who secured seven candidates for the upcoming HGA board election. It is a good slate and I urge you to attend either or both of the two "Meet the Candidates" meetings this month. This is the time when you may ask questions and ascertain where the candidates stand on the issues that affect our lives in Heather Gardens.

The other big happening this month is when the Budget and Finance Committee gathers for usually three days to consider the budget for the coming year. You are welcome to attend, ask questions, express your opinion, etc. At the end of these meetings a motion is made to recommend the adoption of the budget, and, for every practical purpose, the budget is set. The first meeting is Sept. 23; see you there.

### Meet the HGA Candidates:

Heather Gardens will hold two in-person meetings (as well as via Zoom) to allow the community to meet the candidates who are running for the HGA Board. The two sessions will be held on **Friday, September 6th from 6 to 8 p.m.**, and on **Saturday, September 7th from 10 a.m. to noon** in the **Sandberg Auditorium**.

The forums will each begin with a statement from each candidate (in random order) for up to 3 minutes. They will speak about themselves and their goals for the position they are seeking, as well as what they hope to accomplish as a director.

After all candidates have had their turn, we will invite written questions from the audience. Each question should include a name and building number, and whether the question is for all candidates or a specific one. Those questions

addressed to all candidates will be answered in the same order established at the beginning. Responses will be kept brief, a minute or two if possible. If there are phone-in attendees, their questions will be accommodated likewise, alternating with zoom chat questions.

Gary Ford will moderate the meeting, Bill Gold will be keeping track of the chat questions as they come in, Eileen Hogan will remind the candidates when their time is up and direct the next candidate to respond in turn. We will try to accommodate any candidate who has a comment/answer about a question not directed to them as time permits.

*Both sessions will be recorded and made available following the forums on the HG website.*

Janet Arce, Nominating Committee  
720.774.3368



## HGMD Board President Reports

Daniel Taylor

As most of you are aware, petitions to recall the four HGMD directors elected last year were filed.

HGMD scheduled a public meeting for August 22nd, to set the date for the recall election for November 6, 2024. The Designated Election Official filed an emergency motion with the court, and a status conference was set for Monday, August 26th.

Therefore, the August 22nd meeting was postponed pending the court's order on August 26th.

HGMD responded to the court's order to the DEO and Martha Karnapp, the attorney for the recall committee, explaining that August 22nd was the last day to set the recall election to occur this year.

The call for nominations must be published in the newspaper by August 23rd or 75 days before the election. The paperwork for the call for nominations, election resolution, and proposed ballot had been sent to the DEO with notice of the August 22nd meeting and instruction that if the board set the recall election for November 6th, the notice must be published on August 23rd to meet the deadline. The law prohibits two elections within 6 months as a cost-savings provision. Therefore, when I spoke to the Colorado Dept. of Local Governments on August 19th, I was told that the recall election had to be held on November 6th or the election would, by law, be required to be held as part of HGMD's regular election on May 6, 2025.

The benefit is that HGMD will save approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000 by avoiding paying for two elections, which is the purpose of the statute. The downside is that the recall issue will not be decided for 6 additional months.

HGMD allows electioneering within 45 days of an election date. This policy parallels and conforms with the state statute. We intend to enforce this policy going forward. We cannot allow the current disruptions to continue through next year. HGMD will develop a recall election plan well before any election activities begin. We will develop the plan after public input, but will at minimum schedule at least two public meetings for those opposed to recall and for those supporting the recall. We will allow tables in the clubhouse house lobby for 45 days prior to the election in which supporters and opponents of the recall can provide flyers and talk with residents.

The recall ballot will state the grounds given by the recall committee for the directors' recall. The director subject to recall will have a 300-word statement for retention. The ballot will question whether a director should be recalled, yes or no. Only if the majority of votes cast are yes, to recall that director, would the candidate with the majority of votes who ran to replace that director be elected.

Therefore, prior to the election, HGMD will also have a public meeting for the candidates to address why they are seeking to replace the director and for the director to respond.

HGMD will respond to inaccurate assertions regarding the operation of the District or directed to the District. But directors have not and will not respond to allegations that would constitute electioneering until an election date has been set.

Our civic responsibility requires us to be critical thinkers, ask questions, and verify information. I know in my building, for example, not one of the people who signed the recall petition has ever spoken to me about what the board is doing or why. Most rarely attend meetings. I am constantly amazed at the outlandish rumors that some believe so vehemently.

HGMD's specific, detailed election plan will ensure that residents receive all the information they want, with each side having an equal opportunity to present their views, in a manner which will not disrupt the functioning of the District properties. But until that time, the electioneering procedure memorandum will be enforced.

## HGMD Foundation

---

The Foundation Committee did not meet in June or July because Committee members were on vacation and we have not received any new funding requests.

The Committee met August 14th. We discussed combining Foundation categories. Beginning January 2025 we will combine Roads and Grounds, Clubhouse and golf into Community Enhancement and combine trees and landscaping with an emphasis on "Water Wise" projects.

Matt Martella reported he will plant the \$5,000 funded for trees when the weather is cooler and require less water. At the September meeting Matt will bring the Committee options for upgrading and/or supplementing our holiday lighting options as well as a golf course landscaping project that includes shrubs, flowering plants and trees.

Next Foundation meeting will be September 11 at 1:00.

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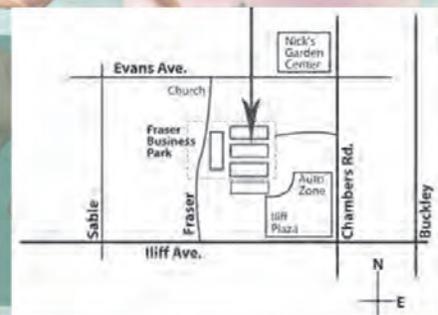
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**Under Contract – 13890 E. Marina Dr. #512 - \$220,000**

**Under Contract – 3282 S. Heather Gardens Way - \$375,000**

**SOLD – 13961 E. Marina Dr. #313**

**SOLD – 13800 E. Marina Dr. #604**



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## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello  
Heather Gardens!



When I think of autumn, I think of opening the windows and letting fresh air in.

Although I love every season, fall in Colorado is my favorite. The crisp, cooler days, yummy stews in the crock pot, football, and of course the lovely, golden Aspens and other colorful foliage that blankets the landscape.

Each changing season brings new possibilities, new memories to make and teaches us to embrace what is and letting go of what used to be.

There are so many things to look forward to and celebrate.

Happy September and Happy Fall!

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

First day  
of Fall   
September 22

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

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I am sorry to advise you that Holly Shearer and Laura Talamantes have departed taking new job opportunities and have moved on to their next adventure.

Holly has been our human resource manager since 2019 having worked with three general managers, four controllers, three boards turnovers and a multitude of employees.

Holly said she will miss her relationship with board members, managers and employees and especially the residents. Holly's office door was open to assist our employees with any work and sometimes family matters.

Laura Talamantes handled Accounts Receivable since she started at HG in 1996. Laura left in 2017 and returned in April 2021. I asked Laura what she will miss most. Without hesitation she said helping with residents striving to make things work right. Laura said that Heather Gardens has amazing residents and she loved hearing their amazing stories. Laura also said she is going to miss Fish Taco Fridays.

Holly and Laura were integral members of our team who are going to be greatly missed. We are actively recruiting for persons to replace these positions.

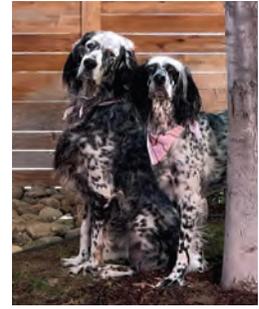


I would like to introduce Melissa Haegele who handles Accounts Payable. Melissa is a welcome

*Welcome Melissa!*

addition to our team.

It is said that a dog is man's (person's) best friend. Jennifer and I have two dogs, Harper, the most loving dog you will ever meet, and Rielly who ate our couch – several times – but is afraid of her own shadow. Any loud noise like thunder will send her hiding.



It is mostly likely the dog owners' fault for violating Heather Gardens ordinances. The ordinance does not permit residents to allow their dog to excessively bark. Residents are not allowed to let their dogs to run without a leash or be unattended on a leash. Residents must pick up the treats dogs leave on their walks. There is a reason why we walk behind the dog. Resident violation of the ordinance is subject to fines.

Fines for Discrete Violations	Fine Amount
First violation (first Notice of Violation)	\$50.00
Second violation (second Notice of Violation)	\$200.00
Third violation (third Notice of Violation)	\$250.00

A resident has 30 days to cure the first violation. If a resident fails to cure the First Notice of Violation during the first 30-day cure period, that resident is subject to a fine. If not cured a second citation will be issued which if not cured during the second notice period fine will be issued.

If not cured before the end of the Second Notice of Violation Period a second fine will be issued in accordance with the fine schedule above and the matter referred to legal counsel for enforcement. The resident will be charged for all costs and fees incurred due to this referral.

After the conclusion of the Second Notice of Violation Period, if the violation is still not cured the Association will continue to assess fines on a weekly basis.

Please be respectful to dogs and the other residences.

A final note, \$250,000 has been spent on legal fees, if the lawsuit continues to trial, we can expect the amount spent to double. We have roofs to fix, boilers to replace and parking lots to repair.

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# THE WORLD TRAVELERS AMONG US

It's not apparent when we see one another across a card table, or in the mailroom of our building, or at a dance concert at the Rendezvous, but there are world travelers among us.

And not just those of us who have vacationed at popular resorts or visited famous landmarks. Some of our Heather Gardens neighbors have lived for months or even years in places where modern conveniences were luxuries, or where English was rarely spoken. The residents below have multitudes of memories they could recount about those times, but for this story they've selected certain mementos from their travels that evoke clear memories of a different time and place.

## Peggy and Dick Clark

Peggy and Dick live in Seville. Decades ago, they met at a guest house in Kenya that Peggy helped run. At that time both were widowed. They speak fondly of their first spouses and of the circumstances that brought them together.



Dick and Peggy Clark display mementos on their living room table

On their living room table, they display a decorated walking stick from Congo and a Russian nesting doll.

**Peggy's Congo village walking stick.** Years ago, Peggy did missionary work

among the pygmies living in the Ituri rainforest, in what was then the African country of Zaire (now "Democratic Republic of the Congo"). To accompany her story, Peggy shows some photographs from a thick picture book of the pygmy tribes that a friend, Bill Wheeler, assembled around that time.



One day a village chief gave Peggy a tree sapling to use as a walking stick on the tricky jungle paths. The stick, which Peggy has had for 30 years, displays the name of a village, Dui, and some custom designs. Peggy remembers well the story behind the walking stick.

"In the Ituri forest is where we lived," Peggy recalls. "They came and told us about a place named Dui.

'We want you to come and tell these people that live in Dui all about God and about Jesus.' And so we said we'll do it. I was 55 years old at the time. And it was the

hardest physical work I have ever done. And that was to walk for three days from morning till night, in the forest.

"And in the forest, if you want to say something, you stop and you look. You don't walk and look. Because the forest has all kinds of vines and things that you put one foot on top, and the other foot underneath, and guess what? You fall. Well, I wore a jean skirt and the jean skirt had a big ruffle on the bottom, and, of course, it was long.

"And it rained and I got soaked, and my skirt got soaked, and it got heavier and heavier as I went. And I fell five times in the forest. And then the chief came to me. He asked, 'Madam, why didn't you wear pantaloons?' Here Peggy laughs, and gestures with the walking stick.

"And this is what he cut down. It was a tree sapling. He said 'Madam, this is your third leg.' That was my third leg and I was to use it. And one of the elders from the church that we were in said, 'Let me put some decoration on this.' So, this was his idea of decoration.

"I used it. I sure did," Peggy recalls. "I noticed there's a crack in it even now, but it actually is 30 years old and so who cares? I kept it all this time as a reminder. I can pray for those people. Have no idea where they are, but we can pray for them."

**Dick's Russian nesting doll.** Dick's work on behalf of a missionary outreach group took him to a number of countries in Asia and Africa. At the living room table, he displays a wooden nesting doll (also called a "matryoshka" doll). Dick bought it at a shop in Moscow. Hand-painted on the doll is Boris Yeltsin, president of Russia immediately after the dissolution of the U.S.S.R. It's a striking likeness.



Dick opens the Yeltsin doll to reveal Gorbachev. Inside Gorbachev is Brezhnev, and soon a succession of hand-painted Russian leaders emerges. The nesting doll sparks Dick's recollections. But his memories of Russia, while vivid, aren't particularly uplifting.

"The church organization that I was associated with was international teams. A couple of us went to Moscow, just to see what opportunities might be opening up," Dick recalls. "And at that time, they were very happy to get American dollars. And very see page 19

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happy to have tourists coming to spend money there.

"But at that time, Russia was a very depressing place. I remember . . . the stations in the Moscow subway system. And they're beautiful. Each station would be like a museum, with artwork on the walls. You can see these beautiful chandeliers and in these little niches along the walls, there would be beautiful statuary and paintings. But when I was there, it was all dirty. It wasn't graffiti. But it wasn't clean.

"They were cleaning the streets. Old ladies. With a wooden handled broom . . . and all they were doing was sweeping the dirt from one pile to another. And you'd go to these public places like these stations and there'd be other little old ladies mopping the floor and it was just swishing mud around from one point to another.

"And the people: Russia was a mighty country, as far as their army went, and their military, but the people—ordinary people—lived very poorly.

"You'd go to an apartment building," Dick continued. "It would be big, 20-story, gray concrete, ugly looking apartment buildings for block after block. The elevator might work some of the time. So these people were walking up and down 18 or 20 flights of stairs. The hallway between the apartments wasn't as wide as Heather Gardens hallways . . . everything was very cramped. Everywhere smelled like the cooking from the last 20 years was in these hallways. So it was very depressing.

"And you go down the main boulevards, or into the parks. And it was an endless flea market. And people would be selling their China, whatever they could sell. Their heirlooms," Dick remembers. "A lot of them weren't worth buying."

The lineup of Russian leaders grew ever smaller as they went back in time from Yeltsin to the czars. His story done, Dick reassembles the doll.

### Jane and Don Henninger



Don and Jane Henninger pose with their art pieces.

Jane was an Army brat, so she grew up in different countries. She then joined the Army herself and continued residency overseas. Don spent some years in the military too, and was stationed in Germany for about three years (he proudly reports that a brewery nearby has his last name). When Don and Jane met and married, they shared a love of travel, and now each has visited more than 70 countries on seven continents.

Their wanderlust has not stopped; recently the couple returned to Heather Gardens from a year-long trip around the world.

Jane and Don are still in the midst of unpacking, but they've located three items from their travels to talk about.

**"Red plum tree" painting from China.** Don and Jane unfurl a scroll to reveal a small, elegant ink painting with subdued shading and color. Jane describes how they secured the piece.



"We went on a familiarization trip to China," Jane recalls, adding later that the couple also made stops in Xi'an—famous for its terracotta warriors—and Shanghai. "One of our stops was in the old city in Beijing, and we stopped at an artist's house."

"There was at least three generations there," adds Don. "She had her studio there," Jane says. "So we bought this from the artist."

"They had several fruit nut trees in the atrium, in the center of the house square," Don says. "So this is her rendition, inspired by her own fruit trees."



**Embroidered illustration from Vietnam.** When Jane first displays the embroidered fabric, you see a scene where the red dusk of the setting sun has made silhouettes of jutting rocks and a small boat. One's first thought is what a

pretty photo of a coastal sunset!

But it's not a photo. "This is from Hanoi," Jane says. "We went to Ha Long Bay. And this is stitched."

see page 46

### IN MEMORIAM



Mark Collins B234  
William Cox B234  
Don Cox, former CP1  
Thelma Kreeger, B241  
Florence "Flo" Lesser, B215



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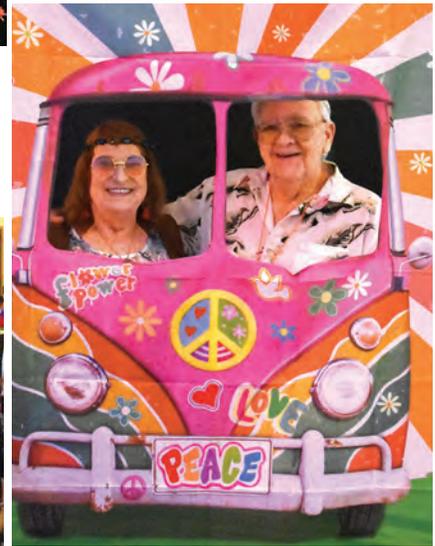
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# Hippy DANCE



Photos by Janis Farrell

## BAT HOUSE UPDATE

Over a year after they were erected, the four bat houses on East Marina Drive stand tall and proud. Looking at them close up—or as close as one can get, given their elevation—it’s clear that the houses have easily withstood many months of snow and rain and sun and wind. Mitch Albert, who constructed the bat houses and ensured that each was placed with a sturdy foundation, built them to last “10 to 20 years.”

But it’s natural to wonder: Are bats actually living inside? Albert says that question isn’t so easy to answer.

“Bats come [home to roost] around dawn and leave at dusk, so unless they come out in a swarm, it would be hard to notice them,” he says. “There are plenty of people who claim that they’ve seen them, and there are plenty who say ‘oh, we don’t have mosquitoes anymore.’”

“There have been reporting sightings’ is a good way to put it,” Albert laughs.

He adds that studies of other bat houses indicate that bats can take “from six months to two years” to roost in a new house.

“If you’ve done everything right, you just have to wait,” says Albert.

-Bill Kaluza, B232



Join The Green Team on **Saturday, September 7** at **4pm** for the **Bat House Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** on E. Marina Drive

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# AURORA EVENTS



## Agriculture Festival

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## First Fridays at Stanley Marketplace

Friday, September 6

6-9pm

2501 Dallas St

Aurora, CO 80010

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## FREE Days in September

### Denver Art Museum

**Friday, September 7 & Tuesday, September 10**

720-865-5000, 10am-9pm

[www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org)

100 W 14th Ave Pkwy

### Denver Museum of Nature and Science

**Monday, September 30th (day hours)**

**Tuesday, September 10th: (FREE EVENING: 5-9pm)**

303-370-6000, 9am-5pm

<https://www.dmns.org>

2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver

### Four Mile Historic Park

**Friday, September 27**

720-865-0800, 10am-4pm

[www.fourmilepark.org](http://www.fourmilepark.org)

715 S. Forest St. Denver

### Longmont Museum

**Saturday, September 14**

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

### National Parks

**Saturday, September 28**

**National Public Lands Day**

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



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# SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

<b>Sun 1</b>	Social Bridge (every Sunday)	Skyview Room	1-3:30pm
<b>Mon 2</b>	Men's Bridge Book Club Spanish Club (every Mon) Texas Hold'em Mah Jongg (every Mon) Game Night (every Mon)	Skyview Room Mountain View Room Aspen Room Aspen Room Blue Spruce Room Arts & Crafts Room	10am-2pm 10:30am & 1pm 11am-12pm 12:30-5pm 1-4pm 4-6pm
<b>Tue 3</b>	Mah Jongg (every Tues) Hand (Knee) and Foot (every Tues) Ping Pong (every Tues) Billards Club (every Tues)	Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room Game Room Billiards Room	1-4pm 12:30-4pm 2pm 6:30pm
<b>Wed 4</b>	Cribbage (every Wed) Men's Poker (every Wed) Duplicate Bridge/ACBL (every Wed) Woodshop Club Rummikub (every Wed) Square Dance (1st & 3rd Wed)	Sunburst Café Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room Lodgepole Lounge Sandberg Auditorium	12:30-3pm 12:30-5pm 1pm 1pm 1-3pm 7-9pm
<b>Thur 5</b>	Tai Chi (every Thurs) TOPS (every Thurs) Fun Gals Golf (every Thurs) Optimist Club (1st & 3rd Thurs) Bowling League (every Thurs) Time4Tap Dance (every Thurs) Bunko (1st & 3rd Thurs) Social Bridge (every Thurs) Writers Club (every Thurs) Ping Pong (every Thurs) Kiwanas Club of Aurora Men's 9-Ball	Tennis Courts Blue Spruce Room Golf Course Rendezvous Bar & Grill Arapahoe Bowl Sandberg Auditorium Blue Spruce Room SkyviewRoom Skyview Room Skyview Room Game Room Billiards Room	8-11am 8:30-9:30am 9am 9am 10am 11am-12pm 1-3:30pm 1-3:30pm 1-4pm 2pm 6pm 7pm
<b>Fri 6</b>	Men with Purpose (1st & 3rd Fri) Texas Hold'em The Green Team: Bat Program Meet the HGA Candidates	Skyview Room Mountain View Room Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium	10-11am 12:30-5pm 3pm 6-8pm
<b>Sat 7</b>	Meet the HGA Candidates Mexican Train Dominoes (every Saturday) Ping Pong (every Saturday) Karaoke Club <b>Bat House Ribbon Cutting</b>	Sandberg Auditorium Arts & Crafts Room Game Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Room <b>E. Marina Dr.</b>	10am-12pm 12-3pm 2pm 3-5pm <b>4pm</b>



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<b>Mon 9</b>	Texas Hold'em (2nd, 3rd & 4th Mon)	Mountain View Room	12:30-5pm
<b>Tue 10</b>	The Green Team Heroes Remembrance	Blue Spruce Sandberg Auditorium	12pm 6:30pm
<b>Wed 11</b>	B201 & B202 CP1	TBA TBA	4:30pm TBA
<b>Fri 13</b>	Premiere Local Juried Artist's Sale HG Indivisible	Mountain View Room Skyview Room	9am-12pm 11:30am
<b>Sat 14</b>	The Breakfast Club <b>Active Minds: Wildfires</b> Frolics Club: Acting and Improv Workshop Tennis Club Fall Picnic and Officer Election	Rendezvous Bar & Grill <b>Sandberg Auditorium</b> Sandberg Auditorium Picnic Pavillion	8:30am <b>2-3pm</b> 2-4pm 12pm
<b>Mon 16</b>	Photo Club	Aspen Room	3-5pm
<b>Tue 17</b>	Caregivers Support Group	Aspen Room	2-4pm
<b>Thu 19</b>	Bus Trip Optimist Club Social Justice Discussion <b>Kathleen Arnold: William Randolph Hearst</b>	Pikes Peak Cog Railway Rendezvous Bar & Grill Blue Spruce Room <b>Sandberg Auditorium</b>	9am-6:30pm 9am 10am-12pm <b>1-2pm</b>
<b>Sat 21</b>	Voice for Residents Club Wine & Cheese Club	Sandberg Auditorium Aspen/Blue Spruce Room	3-4:30pm 3-5pm
<b>Sept 23</b>	<b>FBI: Elder Fraud presentation</b> Low Vision Support Group Happy Days Sock Hop	<b>Sandberg Auditorium</b> Aspen Room Sandberg Auditorium	<b>10-11am</b> 1:30pm 6:30-8:30pm
<b>Tue 24</b>	HG Republicans <b>Mountain Man Nut and Fruit Co.</b> Sevillians HG Democrats	Sandberg Auditorium <b>Clubhouse Lobby</b> Rendezvous Bar & Grill Sandberg Auditorium	1:30pm <b>2:15-3:15pm</b> 4:30-6pm 6:30pm
<b>Thu 26</b>	<b>Colorado Rockies Senior Day Trip</b>	<b>Coors Field</b>	<b>11:15am-5:15pm</b>
<b>Sat 28</b>	National Federation of the Blind	Mountain View Room	10:30-12:30pm

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

### Advertised Activities and Seminars

Sun, Sept 8 Renewal by Anderson FREE Lunch & Learn, Rendezvous, 11am (see ad p. 9)  
 Mon, Sept 9 Bayer Ear Clinic (every Monday by appt.), Arts & Crafts Room, 9am-12pm (see ad p. 55)  
 Thur, Sept 26 Truth about Brain Disease Seminar, Garden Plaza of Aurora, 11am (see ad p. 24)

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## Boards and Committees Monthly Meetings

CECC (BR/Zoom) – 11 am Tue, Sept 3  
 Clubhouse (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Sept 3  
 Joint Long Range Plan (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, Sept 4  
 Maintenance (Zoom) – 1 pm Wed, Sept 4  
 RV Lot (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, Sept 9  
 SEC (BR/Zoom) – 4 pm Mon, Sept 9

Personnel Policy (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Fri, Sept 13

**HGA Board (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Sept 17**

Open Forum (BR/Zoom) - 3pm Wed, Sept 18

HGMD Foundation Committee (BR/Zoom) - 1pm - Wed, Sept 11

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

ACC (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, Sept 19

**HGMD Board (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Thu, Sept 19**

Capital Program (BR/Zoom) - 1pm Fri, Sept 20

Budget & Finance Workshops (BR/Zoom) – 9am, Sept 23-26

Golf (BR/Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, Sept 24

Resident Orientation (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Wed, Sept 25

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

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

## Heather 'n Yon Deadline: 9/17

Please submit to:  
[bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com](mailto:bluefishpublishingco@gmail.com)  
 please note: publications

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

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

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

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

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

## Replacing the Golf Course Pump



Photos by Janis Farrell

# Letters

## **Heather 'n Yon,**

In his letter to the editor in the July issue of HnY, Forrest McClure was correct when he wrote that the ARO is a non-partisan and politically neutral organization. If he had read the print in italics below the signatures, he would have read that the initials after any of the names indicated experience in Heather Gardens. In no way did it suggest that any of the organizations endorse the recall. Unless, of course, Forrest is also indicating that the Restaurant and Clubhouse Committees, the Golf organizations, and HGMD were endorsing the recall and are now partisan organizations.

Experience represented: CA-Civic Affairs, CC-Clubhouse Cttee, CTC-Campus Technology Cttee, MC-Maintenance Cttee, RC-Restaurant Cttee, Golf-Mens/Ladies Golf, ARO-Area Representative Organization, Board-Director emeritus for HGA or HGMD. The residents who signed the letter have the right to express their personal views.

In the interest of full disclosure, the club Forrest helped found should really be named Voice for the Residents Opposed To the Recall. Their meetings give a one-sided, often misrepresented view of the issues plaguing Heather Gardens. Their view is neither politically neutral nor factual. Daniel Taylor was so dismayed that ARs are choosing not to post the notices for the club that he has now added their report to the HGMD monthly agenda.

The ARs are required to post only the notices stamped Please Post. Notices with that stamp have been approved by HGA. ARs may not post any literature for or against the recall or of a political nature in common areas.

HGA has never endorsed the recall nor been a part of the committees. It was formed by residents concerned with the toxic environment created by the HGMD 4, especially with the way they treated HGA staff. And HGA does not own HnY. Fact checking before

writing is highly recommended.  
-Betty Bergeron, B236

## **Heather 'n Yon,**

The ringing in the ears of Heather Gardens residents is not tinnitus: they are alarm bells! They warn of a serious situation which far too many residents are unaware of, are ignoring or couldn't care less! The last issue of Heather and Yon contained an insert covering two issues which are tremendously important.

One side details the impact of what the HGMD is trying to do and how it affects property values. Since HGMD filed the lawsuit, the number of HG homes for sale has soared. The median number of days that properties are on the market has increased dramatically! Potential home buyers in HG are no longer funded by VA, FHA and reverse mortgage! (statistics from Colo/Denver MLS.) The reverse side of the insert explains:

**\*\*The current Board is ignoring who "owns" District property!  
WE RESIDENTS WHO OWN PROPERTY IN HEATHER GARDENS, PAY BACK A PORTION OF THE BONDS EACH YEAR THROUGH TAXES. EACH HGMD BOARD MEMBER PAYS ONLY THE SAME AMOUNT EACH YEAR THAT EACH OF US PAYS.**

**\*\*HGA and HGMD WORKING TOGETHER, giving HGA responsibility for managing District property subject to policies established by the district, has worked for over 40 years with few problems and has proven successful and satisfactory to the majority of the community . The District has filed a lawsuit to terminate this agreement! They have amassed nearly \$300,000 in legal fees to date! Should this continue, the amount could increase to \$400,000 to \$500,000 dollars! WE WILL PAY FOR THIS ADDITIONAL AMOUNT IN 2025 HOA FEES.**

HGMD wants to lease offices and maintenance facilities back to HGA! A TOTAL WASTE OF MONEY!!  
A recall vote has been blocked by

4 HGMD board members. When we are finally allowed to vote for recall, PLEASE vote to restore sanity and common sense to HG!  
-Denise McCammon, B242

## **Heather 'n Yon,**

It's fascinating how the existing conflict between the HGA Board and the HGMD Board seems to be a microcosm of the conflicts between the Democrats and the Republicans in this country. In my opinion there is absolutely no mistake about that.

My advice to my neighbors is to read all of these communications very carefully to understand the hidden agenda of the writers. I will always look with trust at those who speak directly about their truth, harsh as it may be, and look askance at those who hide their true intentions behind kind and silvery words. As an actor in 1947 often said, "They speak with forked tongue!"

-Laura Chapman, B216

## **Heather 'n Yon,**

We are so fortunate to live in a community with the amazing amenities that are available to all the residents of Heather Gardens, the clubhouse, restaurant and the golf course. This letter is to express some observations about the golf course. We are very privileged to have the cart paths to walk on and enjoy the outdoors. Cart paths are exactly that, paths for the golf carts.

As a golfer, part of a league, as  
see p. 33

*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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## Letters continued

well as playing for fun, I know I am not alone in having observed people walking along the golf cart paths and, on the course, while people are playing golf. As a walker, it is our responsibility to be observant of the golfers on the course, to not disturb the golfer in the middle of a swing, as well as for your own safety.

Any golfer can hit an errant ball and possibly hit a walker that is not paying attention. It is also important not to walk across any fairway when there are golfers getting ready to tee off.

Many golf courses do not allow walkers on the course (which includes the cart paths) while the course is open. We are very lucky that Heather Gardens Golf course does not enforce that rule, but it is important to be aware of your surroundings and respect the rights of the golfers. Please do not be offended if a golfer is unhappy when this happens.

Basic manners include, facing the tee box and stopping to observe the flight of a golf ball, stop talking when someone is teeing off or attempting a putt, and do not walk across a fairway while golfers are playing. Thank you for your cooperation.

-Lisa Matthews, B244

### **Heather 'n Yon,**

Two flyers have been prominently posted touting revenue increases for which the HGMD Board is taking credit. Here are some facts, available on their website:

While it is true that "revenues" have been increased by \$117,841 for the first 6 months of 2024, it is important to look at other important aspects of the operating Profit and Loss statements, which the HGMD either chooses to ignore or does not comprehend.

- Revenues did increase by \$117,841, in the first 6 months of the year.
- During the same six months, operating expenses increased by \$195,546.
- Operating losses increased by \$77,705.
- Restaurant operating

losses during the 6 months were \$134,357, an increase of \$81,926 over 2023.

- The \$134,357 loss through June exceeds the \$123,414 loss incurred for the full year in 2023.

These numbers of course do not include the significant "capital" expenditures that HGMD has either spent or committed to for 2024, which are substantial. Some of these are necessary and even unavoidable, but they certainly impact the financial health of the district.

Who do you think is going to end up paying for all of this? You and I. Are you going to allow this type of "leadership" to continue?  
-Nonean Price, B217

### **Heather 'n Yon,**

Larry Davila, current president of HGA, has been a voice for reason, decency, and compromise at Heather Gardens for 27 years. Larry moved to HG in 1997 and served on the HGA Board from 2003 to 2015 (elected 4 times for 3 year terms - no term limit then). Elected again in 2021 and 2023, he became president in January, 2024. He was chosen as president four times, vice president, secretary, and chair of 5 HGA committees and several Ad Hoc Committees. Larry has donated countless volunteer hours to our community. Residents attest to his character, concern for and knowledge of HG management and history. He interacts respectfully with staff.

Mr. Davila has never spoken ill of HGMD Board members, valuing civil discourse.

Under Mr. Davila's leadership and others like him, HGA has managed HG in a fiscally responsible manner for 50 years. Legal and other actions by HGMD pose a serious challenge to financial and managerial stability.

Addressing misleading information:

- HGA Board/Larry Davila have no authority to shut down/stall HGMD actions.
- Intent of HGMD lawsuit: break, at great extra expense, management agreement between Boards in

September. Contract would expire in December, anyway!

- Pitera open to both boards for factual information. No opinions/ editorializing allowed
- HGA didn't allow ARO to post recall bulletins. Those postings were taken down. Some ARs choose not to post Voice of the Residents meeting information because it presents one-sided viewpoint.
- Increase in employees because some part-time.
- HGA directors: can serve short term plus 2 full terms, (maximum 8 consecutive years). HGMD directors: can serve short term plus two 4 year terms - (max 10 years.)
- HGA Board/Larry Davila: nothing to do with Recall Committee or Residents for Renewed Leadership
- GM Lary Herkal, hired by committee including District member, works for both boards.
- Peg Baukema, B216, Linda Savage, #243, Peggy Scott #216, Judie Hinton, #243, Jim Vogel, #216 Barbara Ruppe #215 Clint Landry, #216, Maria Landry, #216, Lela Coleman, #216

### **Heather 'n Yon,**

Our community seems somewhat like Jekyll and Hyde.

A large number of residents complained about high HOA fees and how their dues were being spent. They asked for more understanding and transparency, asking why we are spending so much on employee salaries and benefits. Along comes the "Candidates 4 change," saying we want to know the same thing.

They are embraced and the community votes them in by a large majority. They start making plans for improvement, oversight and transparency. The HGA says "No, we won't cooperate with HGMD." Both boards interpret the Management Agreement differently. That turns into a huge conflict that is now up for legal interpretation.

In walk three people that think they can control the entire situation by mudding the waters with a recall. So now we have 2 boards in a legal battle over the Management  
see p. 51

# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

## **Aviation Club**

The Sept. meeting of the HG Aviation Club will be held in coordination with the 9/11 Heroes Remembrance & Tribute on Tuesday Sept. 10th in the Sandberg Auditorium at 6:30pm.

## **Book Club**

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

## **B201 and B202**

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

## **The Breakfast Club**

The Breakfast Club (TBC) for Singles 50 Plus meets at 8:30 am on the second Saturday in Rendezvous Restaurant for breakfast. Call 303-794-3332 to make your reservation. Cost is \$20.

TBC has grown in the past 20 years — it has three other chapters along the Front Range. We have ongoing activities, such as bowling, the Birthday Bash, eating at a new restaurant, and Happy Hour.

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

## **CP1**

For September only, our happy hour is being moved to the second Wednesday of the month. The Hotdog/Hamburger Potluck will be on September 11. More

details TBA. — Susan Osman, susanosman21@gmail.com.

## **CP2**

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

## **CP4**

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

## **Caregivers Support Group**

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

## **Democrats/HG**

The Heather Gardens Democratic Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, in the auditorium. Our September 24 meeting, 6:30 to 9 pm (note different time), will be a candidate forum, with presentations by the candidates on our ballots in November (minus presidential candidates), and presentations on some or all of the ballot issues.

The purpose of the club is to support the Constitution of the United States, the rule of law, and good government. We educate ourselves, our candidates, our elected officials, and the public about current issues. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. They are free, and you don't have to live in HG or be registered as a Democrat. — Martha Karnopp

## **Frolics Club**

We are proud to announce the new 2024-25 Board of Directors: President, Susie Hayes; Vice President, Arlene Krell; Business Manager, Wayne Wharton; Assistant Business Manager, Cecilia Williams; Treasurer, Carol Kirk; and Secretary, Maria Mines. Our leadership team is looking forward to serving our members and the Heather Gardens community, as our club continues to provide entertainment and social events, including much fun, frolicking, and frivolity.

Register for our Encore Acting/Improv Workshop, Saturday, September 14, 2-4 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. Contact Arlene Krell, 720-284-9774. — Maria Mines

## **The Green Team**

Have your kids said you are driving them batty? Or do you think you have powers like Batman?

We have two events that would be perfect for you to attend. Mark your calendar for Friday, Sept. 6, 3 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. Joy Thompson, senior environment & outreach Specialist from the City of Aurora, will be presenting a program on bats. She will answer all your questions regarding these little critters. Refreshments will be available.

Once you have attended this, you should take part in our official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony the next day at 4 pm, Saturday, Sept. 7. Located on E. Marina Dr., just north of the Seville entrance, we have erected bat houses on tall metal posts. Each house can accommodate 300 females and babies. Giveaways and handouts will be available. Please join us in welcoming these new residents, and know that each can eat 1,200 insects every night, which means fewer mosquito bites on us.

The Green Team meets monthly every second Tuesday at noon,

Blue Spruce Room. – Wendy Pfaffhausen

**Indivisible/HG**

Friday, Sept. 13, Skyview Room, 11:30 am-1 pm. You are welcome to join us for lunch afterward.

Topic: Engaging and Educating Voters. We will share different vehicles for candidate and issue support, including texting, calling, mailing letters and postcards, and relationship building, through Neighbor2Neighbor and meaningful conversations.

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

Whether you can regularly attend the meetings or not, you are welcome to also sign up for our newsletter of information and action items. Questions? Contact Gina Abegg, facilitator, ginaabegg2020@gmail.com. Receive regular mailings? Contact C. C. Carson, membership, cccarson287@gmail.com.

**Karaoke Club**

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

**Kiwanis Club of Aurora**

Kiwanis meets on the first

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

**Lifelong Learners**

Do you support our goal of providing informative classes for Heather Gardens residents? We could use your help!

The Lifelong Learners group has experienced remarkable success, and we plan to continue growing and expanding our program. In addition to identifying more facilitators, we are looking for people to join us, to assist with the future development, promotion and organization of our events. Plus, we need help from those who have technical skills to coach/troubleshoot some problems for new facilitators in setting up their audio/video presentations. This would be for just once or twice per class per term.

We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month to review our progress, plan next terms, and update our policies. If you are interested or have questions, contact: heathergardenslearners@gmail.com.

**Men with Purpose**

A group of men, with diversified backgrounds, gather to discuss timely topics regarding healthy aging and purposeful retirement. Books and articles relating to these topics are discussed by group members.

Leadership is shared. Men With Purpose meets the first and third Fridays of each month, 10–11 am, Skyview Room. For information, contact Gene Dawson, 720-535-9672.

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

Meet other blind and low-vision people at the monthly meeting, held on the fourth Saturday of each month, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, Mountain View Room. We discuss new medical options, accessible

games, transportation, and idea-sharing. Contact Dale Holden, B213, 303-905-9738.

**Optimist Club**

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

**Photo Club**

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

We meet on the third Monday, 3–5 pm, Aspen Room. The next meeting will be September 16. Contact Rudy Morris, 303-506-8070, rudymorris4@gmail.com.

**Republican Club**

Tuesday, September 24: Grandparents for Kids, Linda White, President from 1:30-3 pm Sandberg Auditorium.

Grandparents for Kids founder and president, Linda White, will present information about this organization that she founded. She will share how grandparents can “leave them a legacy of academic focused learning and a love for our country.” More information can be found at www.grandparents4kids.org. Please join us.

Membership Information. We welcome new members. Dues are \$20 for the year. Our dues support candidate events, caucus, county, district and state assemblies, postage, advertising and other administrative costs for the club. Guests also are welcome to attend

all of our meetings and events. Please feel free to contact President Robin O'Meara, for more information: 303-949-4916, rlomeara1@gmail.com.

### Important Dates

- Tuesday, October 8 – 2024 Ballot Measures Workshop, 10-11:30 am, Aspen/Blue Spruce Room
- Friday, October 11 – First day that mail ballots for the 2024 General Election may be mailed to voters, except for UOCAVA. “UOCAVA” voters are U.S. citizens who are active members of the Uniformed Services, the Merchant Marine, and the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, their eligible family members, and U.S. citizens residing outside the United States. This Act provides the legal basis for these citizens’ absentee voting requirements for federal offices.

### Sevillians

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

### Singers/Mixed Chorus

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

### Singles Club/OPOCS

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

### Social Justice Discussion

You are invited to attend the

roundtable-discussion group “Unpacking the Society in Which We Live,” Thursday, Sept. 19, Blue Spruce Room, 10 am–noon. Our speaker will be Jason Janz, CEO of CrossPurpose, a non-profit organization abolishing relational, economic, and spiritual poverty through career and community development. There are four locations in the metro area serving 800 families a year. They are building a large complex in Aurora. You are invited to come learn about this very successful program. – Bernie Hupperts, marlynber@gmail.com, and Diane Pritchard, dianekritchard@gmail.com

### Spanish Club (Club en Español)

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

### SRA

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

### TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets 8:30–9:30 am every Thursday, Blue Spruce Room. With a sense of teamwork, we encourage each other to eat healthy, lose the unwanted pounds and have fun along the way.

TOPS Chapter 0366 in HG Clubhouse has celebrated 45 years of providing members with information and support in making healthy eating choices. TOPS is an International diet club. We have many success stories to share. Please visit us during one of our meetings to see what we are about. Guests are always welcome. Real People. Real Weight Loss.

Men and women are welcome. For information, contact Lisa Jackson, 469-323-5434 or mljackson81@gmail.com.

### Voice For Residents Club

From our last meeting on the 17th of August, the residents who attended the meeting expressed much concern about the upcoming recall.

The Colorado Revised Statutes Article XXI Section 1 states in summary: You, as the voter, are the sole judge of the legality, reasonableness and sufficiency of the grounds stated to recall of a ‘Director’. There is no statute that requires the Recall Committee to prove the foundation for the recall.

At our next meeting, we will address some of the impact the recall outcomes may have our Heather Gardens community. Our next meeting is Saturday, September 21st at 3:00 – 4:30 pm in the auditorium.

The topic will be: ‘What the results of Recall Election mean to you the HG community?’

### Wine & Cheese Social Club

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

### Woodshop Club

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

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

heathergardenswoodshopclub@gmail.com.

**Writers Club**

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

On September 23 (fourth Monday), the Low Vision Support Group will meet in the Aspen Room, 1:30 pm. Questions? Call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224.

On September 23 (fourth Monday), the **Low Vision Support Group** will meet in the Aspen Room, 1:30 pm. Questions? Call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224

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# SPORTS & RECREATION

## Billiard Club

The club meets for Co-ed 8-Ball at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays. Check in before 6:10 pm to play. Men's 9-Ball is at 7 pm on Thursdays.

Annual dues of \$12 are payable on January 1 of each year. All new players are welcome. Questions? Call Connie Burns, 303-693-0766, or Judy Brehmer, 303-369-6258.

### 8-Ball

#### July 16

1st Jack Doherty, Shannon Boyd  
2nd Otis Lawson, Dee Moore  
3rd Don Gunnarson, Gil Lochhead

#### July 23

1st Dee Moore, Bob Schlageter  
2nd Brian Bucenec, Shannon Boyd  
3rd Michael Greene, Steve Olsen

#### July 30

1st Dee Moore, Otis Lawson  
2nd Roger Goldstein, Sharon Weiss

3rd Scott Crowl, Judy Brehmer

#### August 6

1st Doug Miller, Sharon Weiss  
2nd Dee Moore, Michael Greene  
3rd Gil Lochhead Team

### 9-Ball Results

#### July 18

1st Scott Crowl  
2nd Otis Lawson  
3rd Doug Miller

#### July 25

1st Otis Lawson  
2nd Steve Hesser

#### August 1

1st Brian Bucenec  
2nd Steve Hesser

#### August 8

1st Brian Bucenec  
2nd John Manzanares

## Bowling League

Our Bowling season has started, but it's not too late to join us. We bowl at Arapahoe Bowl, 6850 S Dayton, at 10 am every Thursday. All levels are welcome, so come and have a great time with us each week. If you are interested, contact me, Mary Jo Prichard, mjpinsurance@hotmail.com. – Mary Jo Prichardt

## Bridge/Men's Monday

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

## Bridge/Social

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

## Bunko

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

## Cribbage/Afternoon

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

## Duplicate Bridge/ACBL

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

## Games Galore!

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

## Golf/Fun Gals

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

Fun Gals Golf is played on Thursday mornings, with the first of three tee times starting at 9. To participate, call the HG Pro Shop, at 303-751-2390; when the message starts – press 1. When they answer, specify you want to play "Fun Gals Golf," and reserve your tee time. – Linda Hileman, 303-514-5379.

## Golf Club/Ladies

As we enter the final month of league play, members are reflecting on what a successful year the club has had. We have 101 members, have welcomed 12 new players and have a waiting list of 29. Each week, members have been able to enjoy a special lunch at the Rendezvous following tournament play.

Later this month, members will participate in the annual Chicks and Hens event, where those under 75 challenge the club's more seasoned players. Last year, the Hens were the winners, but the Chicks are hoping to mount a comeback at the September 25 event.

## Election of Officers

On August 28, the club held its annual picnic and election of executive board officers. Printing deadlines preclude publishing election results in this issue of *Heather n' Yon*. Watch for a complete reporting along with a picnic recap in October.

## Tournament of Champions – September 4 and 11

The club's annual tournament of champions will be held September 4 and 11.

To be eligible to play in the event, a member must:

1) have an established handicap, and 2) have played in five regular Wednesday tournaments.

This year, the Tournament of Champions is a low-gross only event, and there will be payouts for the top four places in each

flight. New this year: the club is offering regular low-net tournament play on September 4 and 11, for those not wanting to compete in the championship event.

Tournament of Championship results will be published in the October issue of *Heather n' Yon*.

#### *Battle of the Gardens*

The league is proud to announce that, thanks to the stellar play of 20 club members, Heather Gardens retained the trophy in the annual Battle of the Gardens event. While the players from Windsor Gardens were worthy opponents, the Heather Gardens team prevailed, 79.5 points to 64.5 points.

*Thanks to the following league members for participating:*

Karin Bentley  
Lisa Matthews  
Connie Burns  
Joan McGary  
Judy Brehmer  
Bev Nelson  
Susan Brennan  
Glenda Pitts  
Susan Craig  
Nancy Reid  
Vicky Goodspeed  
Sue Robertson  
Linda Jeannelle  
Liz Sanchez  
Marilyn Kaub  
Ginger Smith  
Jeanine Kilde  
Sharon Weiss  
Cindy Koch  
Nancy Wilson  
Florence Madonna

Club Website

Don't forget to check out the club's website, [www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com](http://www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com), for valuable information including weekly tee times, handicaps, and the club's membership roster.

The site also includes Golf Tip Videos from club pro Greg Kohr and minutes from the board of directors' meetings. Visit the site regularly to keep up to date on club news.

Calendar of Events

Please add these important dates to your calendar.

September 4 & 11: Club Championship

September 25: 2nd Annual Chicks and Hens Event

October 2: Shamble Scramble

October 16: Fall Luncheon

October 19: Las Vegas Scramble

All women interested in league play are invited to join HGLGC, regardless of skill level. Learn more about the club and get a membership application at the Heather Gardens Pro Shop and our website, [www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com](http://www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com).

The next HGLGC board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1 pm in the Board Room. All members are encouraged to attend. Minutes from all board meetings are posted on the club's website.

#### *Tournament Results July 17*

##### *Flight A*

1st Judy Phillips, Nancy Wilson  
3rd Joyce Laffea, Mary Kay Rohrer

##### *Flight B*

1st Susan Brennan, Betty Parko  
3rd Florence Madonna

##### *Flight C*

1st Carol Anne Mayne, Mavis Richardson  
3rd Barb McShane

4th Vicky Goodspeed, Bev Nelson

##### *Flight D*

1st Sandy Costello  
2nd Lisa Matthews, Sharon Weiss  
4th Maureen McBride

##### *Low Gross Awards*

*Flight A* – Sara Stoner

*Flight B* – Cindy Koch

*Flight C* – Judy Brehmer, Linda

Hileman, JoAnn Sterling

*Flight D* – Susan Craig

##### *July 24*

##### *Flight A*

1st Glenda Pitts  
2nd JoAnn Fitch, Linda Jeannelle  
4th Judy Nelson, Mary Kay Rohrer, Nancy Wilson

##### *Flight B*

1st Nancy Reid  
2nd Karin Bentley, Sharon Rademacher  
4th Carol Gilbert, Bonnie Soman

##### *Flight C*

1st Mavis Richardson  
2nd JoAnn Sterling  
3rd Bev Nelson

4th Vicky Goodspeed, Chris

Rothwell

##### *Flight D*

1st Maurine McBride

2nd Joan McGary

3rd Susan Craig

4th Sharon Weiss

##### *Low Gross Awards*

*Flight A* – Beulah Gould

*Flight B* – Sandra Sweeney

*Flight C* – Dee Moore

*Flight D* – Carl Gumpert

##### *July 31*

##### *Flight A*

1st Kathy Stebbins

2nd Glenda Pitts

3rd Liz Sanchez, Nancy Wilson

##### *Flight B*

1st Sharon Rademacher, Carol

Strickland, Marsha Swink

4th Susan Brennan, Linda Savage

##### *Flight C*

1st Myra Lansky

2nd Dee Moore

3rd Judy Brehmer, Suzi Stolte

##### *Flight D*

1st Lisa Matthews, Kathy Shields

3rd Sharon Weiss

4th Joan McGary

##### *Low Gross Awards*

*Flight A* – JoAnn Fitch

*Flight B* – Mary Kay Mauro, Betty

##### *Parko*

*Flight C* – Mary Jo Prichard

*Flight D* – Carol Gumpert, Maureen McBride

##### *August 7*

##### *Flight A*

1st Nancy Wilson

2nd Glenda Pitts

3rd Deb Madril

4th JoAnn Fitch

##### *Flight B*

1st Bonnie Soman

2nd Nancy Reid

3rd Betty Parko, Marsha Swink

##### *Flight C*

1st Carol Gumpert

2nd Barb Gierscher, Dee Moore

4th Linda Hileman

##### *Flight D*

1st Sally Kopek

2nd Judy Brehmer

3rd Lisa Matthews, Joan McGary

##### *Low Gross Awards*

*Flight A* – Sara Stoner

*Flight B* – Mary Jo Prichard

*Flight C* – Bev Nelson

*Flight D* – Sharon Weiss

– Suzi Stolte, Publicity Chair

**Golf/Men's***Tournament Play, July 19**Flight E*

- 1st Richard Ferguson  
 2nd Mike Guise  
 3rd Mark Giarratano  
 4th Kenny Duncan, Ray Binder

*Flight D*

- 1st Bill DeSonier  
 2nd John McMullen, David Krell  
 3rd Jeff Nelson, Steve Galambos

*Flight C*

- 1st Jay Hoyle, Matt Dunne  
 2nd Paul Zipps  
 3rd Fred Skirde, Nick Streno,  
 Jim Jensen

*Flight B*

- 1st Jon Freyer  
 2nd Mark Blagen, Vern Thompson  
 3rd Mark Ruhl

*Flight A*

- 1st John Bender  
 2nd Phil Marquis  
 3rd Bill Schmit, Eli Henrie, Gene  
 Barth, Dave Bushman

*July 26**Flight E*

- 1st Glenn Riggs  
 2nd Kenny Duncan  
 3rd Joe Robinson, Paul Spoutz,  
 Ray Binder

*Flight D*

- 1st James Busby  
 2nd Steve Galambos  
 3rd Bill DeSonier  
 4th Bob Streno

*Flight C*

- 1st Tim Bessey  
 2nd Paul Zipps  
 3rd Don Schultz  
 4th Tim Mullin

*Flight B*

- 1st Jim Mathews, Jon Freyer  
 2nd Mark Blagen  
 3rd Mike Meagher  
 4th Raj Agrawal, Mike Steffens

*Flight A*

- 1st Steve Hesser, Gene Barth  
 2nd Bill Schmit  
 3rd Bob Bengen, Frank Leydens  
 4th Casey Williams, Jake Flint

*August 2**Flight E*

- 1st Richard Ferguson  
 2nd Joe Robinson, Rich  
 Richardson  
 3rd Richard Apt

*Flight D*

- 1st James Busby  
 2nd Glenn Riggs

- 3rd Bob Streno, Joe DeCristofaro

- 4th David Krell, Bill DeSonier

*Flight C*

- 1st Reg Craig  
 2nd David Croak  
 3rd Don Schultz, Nick Streno,  
 Vinny Rozanskas

*Flight B*

- 1st Jon Freyer  
 2nd Rob Ledford  
 3rd Jess Deal, Mark Blagen, Mike  
 Benowitz

*Flight A*

- 1st Eli Henrie, Don Daily  
 2nd Dave Schmit  
 3rd Chris Hughes  
 4th Butch Shoup, Bill Schmit, Jake  
 Flint

*Championship Round 1*

- 1st Don Daily, 39  
 2nd Phil Marquis, 40  
 3rd Chris Hughes, Pete Profera,  
 Butch Shoup, 41  
 4th John Bender, Dave Schmit, 42  
 5th Steve Hesser, Bill Schmit, 43  
 6th Jim Mathews, John Good, 49.

*Round 2*

- 1st Phil Marquis, 34  
 2nd Don Daily, 38  
 3rd Chris Hughes, 41  
 4th Bill Schmit, 41  
 5th John Bender, 44  
 6th Pete Profera, 40  
 7th Dave Schmit, 42  
 8th Butch Shoup, 46  
 9th Steve Hesser, 46  
 10th John Good, 40  
 11th Jim Mathews, 46

*Round 3*

- 1st Phil Marquis, 38  
 2nd Chris Hughes, 36  
 3rd Don Daily, 38  
 4th Bill Schmit, 39  
 5th John Bender, 39  
 6th Dave Schmit, 42  
 7th Steve Hesser, 42  
 8th Pete Profera, 44  
 9th Butch Shoup, 44  
 10th John Good, 49

*Round 4*

- 1st Phil Marquis, 38/150 total  
 2nd Chris Hughes, 37/155  
 3rd Don Daily, 43/158  
 4th John Bender, 41/166  
 5th Dave Schmit, 42/168  
 6th Pete Profera, 46/171  
 7th Steve Hesser, 41/172  
 8th Bill Schmit, 50/173  
 9th Butch Shoup, 46/177

- 10th John Good, 49/187

- 11th Jim Mathews, 49/190

*B Flight*

- 1st Gary Kessler, 84/66 net  
 2nd Mike Steffens, 87/67  
 3rd Martin Menard, 89/71  
 4th Eric Neel, 92/72

- 5th Mike Meagher, 91/73

- 6th Mark Blagen, 93/73

*C Flight*

- 1st Nick Streno, 87/61  
 2nd Calvin Green, 87/63  
 3rd Don Schultz, 87/65  
 4th Matt Dunne, 88/66

- 5th Mark Ethridge, 91/67

- 6th Paul Zipps, 90/68

*D Flight*

- 1st James Busby, 93/65  
 2nd John McMullen, 93/67  
 3rd Joe DeCristofaro, 102/72  
 4th Dave Walstrom, 105/73

- 5th Cliff Cresswell, 98/74

- 6th Bill DeSonier, Joe Rook, 103/75

*E Flight*

- 1st Paul Spoutz, 101/65  
 2nd Kenny Duncan, 101/65  
 3rd John Guise, 101/69  
 4th Mark Giarratano, 106/68

- 5th Mike Guise, 101/69

- 6th George Madonna, 101/71

*Match Play Final Results*

Don Schultz def. Steve Hesser in  
 final match.

Steve Hesser def. Raj Agrawal  
 in semis. Don Schultz def. Phil  
 Corliss.

**Hand (Knee) and Foot**

Also known as Tripleplay, this is a  
 variation of Canasta. Fun and easy  
 to learn. We meet every Tuesday,  
 12:30–4 pm, Mountain View  
 Room. Call Linda Serio, 303-396-  
 2218, or just show up.

**Mah Jongg/Monday**

We meet 1–4 pm every Monday,  
 Blue Spruce Room. If that room is  
 not available, ask at the Activities  
 Desk for our location. We play for  
 a maximum of \$3, so bring your  
 coins.

All players are welcome, but  
 you must have the latest Mah  
 Jongg League card. If you are  
 just curious about the game, feel  
 free to drop by to observe. For  
 information: Bobbie Klapp, 720-  
 708-6738.

**Mah Jongg/Tuesday**

We meet 1–4 pm every Tuesday, Blue Spruce Room. All players are welcome. Please have the latest Mah Jongg League card. Social game: we do not play for money, only glory.

Never played Mah Jongg? Come and observe, to see if you wish to learn. Free lessons can be arranged. Call Laurie, 720-210-8033, or Bobbie, 520-743-6849, for information.

**Mexican Train Dominoes**

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

**Pickleball**

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

We do not play when the courts are wet, or the wind gusts are over 20 MPH. We often add Ladder or Round Robin play on Saturday or Sunday. We are now separating play into four groups, based on ability and desired pace plus intensity of play. Visit our club's website (above) for wind speed plus updated schedule information. Contact Phil Hughes, 303-503-7633, or Ron Hileman, 720-256-7477, with your questions or to schedule a free orientation or lesson.

**Ping Pong**

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

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

On Mondays, we play Texas Hold 'em (12:30–5 pm) in the Mountain View Room, except on the first Monday of the month, when we play in the Aspen Room. On Wednesdays, we play Men's Poker (12:30–5 pm) in the Skyview Room. On Fridays, we play Texas Hold 'em (12:30–5 pm) in the Mountain View Room.

Our Texas Hold 'em games are open to the ladies. Our men-only poker games consist of a variety of dealers' choice games. For information please call Paul Reddy, 303-750-0442, or Larry Hill, 720-272-7765.

**Rummikub**

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

**Square Dance**

Heather Twirlers invites all square dancers to join us every first and third Wednesday, 7–9 pm, Sandburg Auditorium. The cost is \$7. If you are an experienced dancer, or a newer dancer, it is an excellent chance to experience the joy of dancing while meeting new and old friends. If you would like to learn, lessons start Thursday, Oct. 3, 2:30-4:30 pm, Sandberg Auditorium. Text Todd Albright, 720-257-8122, or email [albright798@q.com](mailto:albright798@q.com).

**Tai Chi**

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

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

Because we meet outside, the start time is weather dependent.

Interested? For information about or to sign up, contact Dean Uyeno, [dean.uyeno@live.com](mailto:dean.uyeno@live.com), before attending.

**Tennis Club**

Our annual Fall Picnic and Election of Officers will be on Saturday, September 14 in the Picnic Pavilion. We will start the festivities at noon, the buffet at 12:30, the mind challenge at 1:15 and the voting at 2 pm. Prizes will be given to the winners of the challenge. Members should RSVP at 303-587-9797. All spouses/significant others are welcome, as are past members. When calling, please indicate what food item you will be bringing. We look forward to seeing you there! – Wendy Pfaffhausen

**Time4Tap Dance Group**

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

# 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*

### **Bat Houses Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Saturday, September 7th at 4:00 pm,  
East Marina Drive

This is an open invitation to all Heather Gardens residents. Please join the Green Team on Saturday, September 7th at 4:00 p.m. on East Marina Drive at the newly erected bat houses for our ribbon cutting ceremony. There are four of them along the fence across from Buildings 223 and 224 just northeast of Seville. This will be our official “The bat houses are open for business” celebration. It’s been more than a year-long construction process and we are hoping many bats will soon be in residence. Join us, please.

### **Active Minds: Wildfires**

Wednesday, September 14, 2-3 pm, Sandberg Auditorium

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

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.

### **Xfinity/Comcast Bill Review**

Wednesday, September 18, 9-noon, Library

Sign-up sheets are now available. There are 10, 20 minutes slots.

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

### **Kathleen Arnold: William Randolph Hearst**

Thursday, September 19, 1-2pm, Sandberg Auditorium

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

American businessman, newspaperman, and politician, used the power of his newspapers to influence politics and shape the outcome of America’s future. His life was both fascinating and controversial; hated by most, loved by few.

### **FBI: Elder Fraud presentation**

Monday, September 23, 10-11am, Sandberg Auditorium

More information to come.

### **Mountain Man Nut & Fruit Co.**

Tuesday, September 24, 2:15 – 3:15 pm, Clubhouse Lobby

They will be selling Nuts, Seeds, Snacks, Candies,

Dried Fruits, and Trail Mix

### **Upcoming Trip:**

### **Colorado Rockies Senior Day Trip**

Thursday, September 26

Cost: \$38 Includes seat and chartered bus to Coors Field and back

Time: Bus leaves HG at 11:15 am

Reservations: Register at the clubhouse or call 303-751-1811 ext 5

We are heading to Coors Field to watch the Rockies beat the St Louis Cardinals!

Bus will pick up residents in the parking lot between buildings 244 and 243, at 13931 E Marina Drive at 11:15 am and return to Heather Gardens around 5:15 pm.

## **TOWN HALL MEETING With Angela Lawson**

**Ward V, Aurora City Council  
Saturday, Sept 21**

**10-11:30am, Aspen/Blue Spruce**

Visit [AuroraGov.org/TownMeetings](https://AuroraGov.org/TownMeetings) to find links for joining virtual meetings and to confirm meeting dates and location

# COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

## Insight in our Capital Reserves

In a series of “Insight articles” you will gain insight about the status of our Capital Reserve Funds and will be updated about the progress of current Capital Expenditures projects and the planning process of the projects in 2025. The goal is to “show your money at work.”

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

### Country Place Pillar Fencing project

In this article we will give you insight in one of the potential Capital Reserve projects in 2025, the Country Place Pillar Fencing project and insight in the way the Joint Capital Programs Subcommittee evaluates every potential project.



Country Place homes have these white fencing and pillar structures.

### “Postpone - Repair - Replace Methodology”

This potential 2025 project, the Country Place (CP) Pillar Fencing project, like most others are still studied by the Joint Capital Programs Subcommittee together with our professional maintenance and contract experts of the HGA staff. Currently the projected cost for the project are about \$707K in 2025 and another \$106K in 2026. But as you can witness, when you join the committee meetings, every effort is made to save money and to spend your money well. Typically, the subcommittee spends a lot of time on finding out first if the project can be postponed for those pillars and fences which don’t need any repair or replacement since they are still in good shape. Next the committee tries to find out what can be repaired. Only when postponing or repairing are not an option, they will look into replacement. That’s in a nutshell the “Postpone-Repair-Replace Methodology.” Regarding the replacement option there is always research done into finding more economical alternative solutions. The main goal of the subcommittee is to solve the current issues and to prevent future issues in such a way that the value of, in this case, the Country Places property, is protected.

### Capital Reserves - 101

The CP Fencing and Pillar project will be paid out of our Heather Gardens Association (HGA) Capital Reserves. Capital Reserve Funds can be considered as our savings account, which is used for major capital expenses. With a healthy Capital Reserve Fund in place, we avoid the boards having to scramble to find the money when the big expensive repairs and replacement projects need to be done. A healthy Capital Reserve protects the value of your property since we are budgeting and saving for these future major repairs or replacements, and major upgrades or improvements.

### A Little Bit of History

In the insert on this page, you can find a short introduction about Capital Reserves. Unfortunately, like many homeowner associations and metro districts, HGA and HGMD (Heather Gardens Metro District) had underfunded Capital Reserve Funds for our first 40 years of existence. In 2016 these bad practices were replaced by best practices when a Reserve Study was done to plan for our future expenses. That same year the board decided to introduce the Capital Reserves category in our monthly HGA dues. Over the last couple of years this category has increased several times to make up for the bad practices of the first 40 years, to better protect the value of our property by planning and funding major expenditures in advance.

### How much money do we need in our Capital Reserves?

In the financial world of homeowner associations, experts use the Full Funded Percentage (FFP) indicator to measure the financial health of an association. By calculating the percentage of the Capital Expenditures which are covered by the available Capital Reserve Fund you get the FFP. When all projected Capital Expenditures are completely covered by available Capital Reserve Funds, we have a FFP of 100%. To be more accurate, an item’s lifespan must be taken into consideration. For example, take the replacement of 12 roofs on the 6-story Somerset buildings which cost a total of about \$5.5 million and which each have a projected 30-year lifespan. In this example, when we are in the 15th year of the lifespan of the 12 roofs, an FFP indicator of 100% means that we should have half of the projected funds needed or \$2.25 million in the Capital Reserve Fund for the replacements of the roofs.

**Current Status**

At the beginning of 2024 the FFP indicator for HGA was about 24% and for HGMD this indicator was about 11%. To be financially healthy, our Joint Capital Programs Subcommittee recommends that over a 10-year period the FFP indicator for HGA and HGMD reach at least 70%. With an FFP indicator of 70%, both Boards will be able to protect the value of our properties and will be well positioned to work towards the realization of the vision to make Heather Gardens the most desirable senior living community in the greater Denver Metro area.

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

The “2025 Budget Workshops” are scheduled Monday September 23rd through Thursday September 26th. During these work sessions considerable time will be spent on the Capital Reserves projects proposal for next year including the recommended 2025 dues for the Capital Reserves Fund category. You, as a resident, can actively participate by joining the workshops, following the discussions, asking questions and making suggestions to better protect the value of the investments you made in your property.

-Community Engagement and Communications Committee/Project Insight



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“We had a choice of two or three and this is the best one,” Don adds.

The stitching is fine and was painstakingly done. Don and Jane met the artist, who worked out of a job training center for people still affected by the dispersal of Agent Orange during the Vietnam War decades earlier. The Henningers talk about other aspects of their visit to Vietnam.

“What I found most interesting was going to the Hanoi Hilton, which was built by the French for the Vietnamese prisoners,” Jane recalls. “And they were talking about how terrible the French treated the Vietnamese in that prison, but how good the Vietnamese treated the Americans.” (Those of us familiar with late Arizona senator John McCain’s long detention in that infamous facility might take issue with that view.)



**Australian aboriginal dot painting.** The Henningers lay flat on the coffee table a squarish piece of sturdy canvas. On it is a stylized dot painting of a bird aloft. From the torso under the wing a single drop of blood falls.

“[The aborigines] were using dot art way, way back,” Don says. He adds that older dot paintings displayed only a few colors derived from ochre, a natural clay pigment, and that more modern aboriginal art uses an expanded color palette. “Basically, you put down a black base and then all the colors and whites are added on top,” explains Don.

Don and Jane speculate about the symbolism of this “wounded bird”: maybe it represents a tribal identity gravely injured when British colonialism engulfed a way of life that had been around for millennia.

Jane says that she was once told “out of 195 countries in the world now, only 26 of them had not been invaded by England.” (Whether those numbers are correct, there is good reason why English has become the de facto “international language.”)

**Catalysts for discussion**

The art pieces featured in this story – the Clarks’ Congo walking stick and Russian nesting doll, the Henningers’ Chinese and Aboriginal paintings, and the Vietnamese embroidery – identify their unique origins. But they can be catalysts for deeper discussions about political systems and colonialism and conflict. Want to explore international topics in more depth? A good place to start might be to find one of the world travelers among us.

-Bill Kaluza, B232

**BUS TRIPS**

**JOIN THE FUN!**

**Cripple Creek Fall Colors & Casino  
Thursday, October 3, 2024**

**Cost: \$38.00**

Time: 8:00 am. Bus leaves HG between buildings 243 & 244, 13631 E Marina Drive  
Departs Triple Crown Casinos at 3:00 pm arriving at HG around 6:00 pm  
Reservations: Call 303-751-1811 ext 5 to register or stop by the clubhouse  
Take time from your busy schedule and head up to Cripple Creek enjoying the great Colorado Fall Colors on the way to Triple Crown Casinos — The Brass Ass, Midnight Rose, and McGills Casinos. This is an ADA accessible bus and you may bring your lunch or purchase it in Cripple Creek.

**Pikes Peak Cog Railway  
Thursday, September 19**

**Cost: \$101.00**

Time: 9:00 am Bus leaves HG between buildings 243 & 244, 13631 E Marina Drive  
Arrives in Manitou Springs at 12:15 pm, Cog Railway leaves station at 1:20 pm  
Bus returns to HG around 6:30 pm  
Reservations: Call 303-751-1811 ext 5 to register or stop by the clubhouse  
Heather Gardens Metro District has chartered a bus to Manitou Springs which will take us to Pikes Peak Cog Railway station, we will board the Cog Railway and ride up to the top of Pikes Peak! Heather Gardens will have a coach so we can all sit together.

for questions please contact the Clubhouse – 303-751-1811

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## EMERGENCY CONTACT USE POLICY

### Use of Emergency Contact information:

*When responding to a rescue assist:*

1. If the resident is conscious, ask them if they would like you to notify their emergency contact.
2. If the resident is not conscious and, in their unit alone, notify their emergency contact.
3. If the resident is being taken to the hospital and is the caretaker for another resident or has an animal, notify their emergency contact.

*When calling an emergency contact on behalf of a resident, the only details that can be shared are:*

1. The resident is being taken to the hospital.
2. Which hospital the resident is going to.

At no time do you disclose why the resident is going to the hospital, and what condition they are in.

Example: Hello, is this Mr. Smith? Hi Mr. Smith, this is Officer Whoever with the Heather Gardens Security Department. I am calling you to inform you that your mother, Ms. Smith, was taken to Medical Center of Aurora. Unfortunately, due to HIPAA laws (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) I cannot give you any further information.

Officers are to utilize the File of Life, HG Masters or even Piler a to obtain emergency contact information.

If there is no emergency contact information to be found, note this in your report.

-Security Department and SEC Committee

## What is The Voice for Residents Forum?

The Voice for Residents Forum is established to support a strong working relationship between the HGA and HGMD boards, and the residents of Heather Gardens, by being a resource for factual information, education, and a voice for our residents. Our goal is to maintain a high quality and value for all Heather Gardens properties, by establishing accountability in the use of residential fees.

Knowledge of the layers of responsibilities and guidelines governing the actions of the HGA and HGMD boards and knowledge of both sides of any story is essential to well informed voting on any issue.

For example, did you know that the Colorado Revised Statutes Article XXI Section 1 regarding the rules for recall from office, states that the recall petition "shall contain a general statement, in not more than two hundred words, of the ground or grounds on which such recall is sought, which statement is intended for the information of the registered electors, and the registered electors shall be the sole and exclusive judges of the legality, reasonableness and sufficiency of such ground or grounds assigned for such recall, and said ground or grounds shall not be open to review"?

The cost of this recall through 6/30/2024 is \$151,728. (ref: HGmetrodistrict.org)

Do you have enough information about the facts behind the Recall of four members of the HGMD to judge the legality, reasonableness and sufficiency of such grounds, and vote accordingly?

Next meeting of the Voice for Residents Forum in the clubhouse auditorium:

**Sept. 21, 3-4:30 pm;** What the results of the Recall Election mean to you the HG community.

Questions: please email: [TheVoiceForResidents@gmail.com](mailto:TheVoiceForResidents@gmail.com).

-Marilyn Macdonald,  
Chair of the Voice for Residents Planning Committee  
-Vickie Hoffman,  
Founder of The Voice for Residents Forum.

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Agreement. Residents that signed up for the recall also signed up the entire community for out-of-pocket expenses that is in the neighborhood of \$200,000 and continues to grow daily. You have people that wanted change now deciding they don't want change. It's enough to make a person's head swim! Are we now going backwards and shooting ourselves in the foot? Do we really want to go back to HGA controlling the HGMD properties and finances with unrestricted oversight? We, "the community," need both boards functioning and working together, giving the residents a dual governing crosscheck, protecting both residential and district properties effectively and responsibly.

What was being done for years shot our HOA fees sky high. Instead of concentrating on what went wrong and how do we fix it, the entire situation seems to have turned into a personality contest. I'm now totally confused. Oh, I forgot ...the Jekyll/Hyde story.  
-Mavis Richardson, CP3

**Heather 'n Yon,**

While I have clients and good friends on both sides of this issue, it has become urgent for me to speak up. As the controversy around the litigation filed last December by HGMD against HGA has caused confusion, I offer here two facts and two opinions.

FACT: 1. I have worked helping hundreds of people buy and sell homes in HG well over 30 years. 2. HG Sellers are losing home sales: Our team of brokers has buyer case studies in hand that show this lawsuit, by itself, has caused multiple lenders to disqualify loans in this community, and has also caused multiple buyers to walk away from their possible purchase of a home here.

OPINION: 1. (Factual premise) The cost to residents for attorney fees in this internal fight has already exceeded \$250,000 and this will more than double by the end of the trial in September (citation on request). The HGMD lawsuit itself has proven to be a reckless and unnecessary exercise that continues to harm

our neighbors' ability to sell their homes at a fair market price. Aggregate damage to value of affected properties for 2024 has easily exceeded a million dollars. 2. The harmony, peace, and positivity our neighborhood is known for are under assault, and for what? No actual or proposed incremental improvement by HGMD to any part of the operation of HG can justify or offset the immense financial and reputational damage already done to our community.

Now that the court has compelled HGMD to comply and schedule a date for the Recall Election, I will be voting YES to recall and remove the 4 directors whose unwise and rash actions have caused this damage.  
-Bruce Henson, South Townhomes

**Heather 'n Yon,**

If you have not yet experienced the atmosphere at the Rendezvous Restaurant, it is highly recommended to explore their new menu and entertainment they are introducing to the community. During a recent visit on Wednesday, I was pleasantly surprised by the number of residents enjoying the patio ambiance. There is a wide array of food options available, presented by our new chef, which showcases a commitment to providing for a diverse menu selection at reasonable prices.

The patrons seemed to relish the music and cheerful atmosphere and it is right in our back yard. Credit is due to the directors of the Metropolitan District and the Restaurant Committee for their proactive changes. Last year, when HGMD assumed their roles they inherited a restaurant in need of revitalization, which they promptly addressed by enhancing the operating hours and revamping the menu.

Therefore, instead of marching to the drum of RECALL, it is prudent to acknowledge the commendable progress achieved under the stewardship of the Metropolitan District directors. Gratitude is extended to these individuals for steering the restaurant toward its current positive trajectory.

Heather Gardens residents wanted change, they voted for change and it looks like change has happened to the Rendezvous.  
-Debbie Parker, 223

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## Overhead @ HG

*Dog Days of Summer,  
Post-Operative Mode*

Mortica Hafka

Well, thanks a lot, Denver Post! You just gave my human, Mary, another excuse to slough off writing her monthly column.

The Post recently published a lifestyle article, explaining that, while most people know about the phenomenon known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), which occurs in winter, some have never heard about a similar letdown sensation that comes with summer. While not as severe as SAD, the summertime blues are a real thing, the Post said, and can be termed “reverse” SAD, where folks can find “more difficult to manage in hot and smoky summers such as the one Colorado is experiencing.”

A behavioral psychiatrist from Kaiser Permanente added that the longer days of summer can throw off people’s chemistry, making them more anxious and interfering with eating and sleeping. Excessive light seems to trigger Summer SAD, exacerbated by body-image issues (swimsuits), financial problems (vacation costs), and isolation (staying inside to avoid the smoke).

And all this, apparently, can lead to my having to write my dogging-it human’s column. She’s now claiming to have Summer SAD, while saying she is currently unable to be funny.

So it’s all on me. It is particularly unfair to stick me with this task, as I am recovering from surgery. But – typically – my human is feeling sorry for only herself.

Since giving up a few writing assignments with *Heather n Yon*, she keeps inching closer to full retirement. She expected to spend a quiet summer, engaged in lounging by the pool and other non-essential activities.

But the Fickle Finger of Fate intervened, as it often does in life, in the form of having to care for me, the dog, following my unfortunate surgical event in late July. The vet sent me home, with the instructions, Keep Her Quiet, so I wouldn’t pull my staples

out.

My human’s leisurely seasonal intentions, therefore, got dashed. She planned to do nothing more strenuous this summer than organize an HG Chapter of Childless Cat Ladies for Kamala. Instead, she found herself doing a lot of hand laundry, consisting of long-sleeved baby tee shirts. She used these to cover my sutures, and stop me from scratching them.

The mere idea that I should be “kept quiet” is sort of insulting, when you think about it. Where’s the Me, Too, movement when you need it?

Mary doggedly spent a lot of time at home, though, trying to keep me happy, despite my having to wear a cone while healing. At the same time, she was instructed by veterinary professionals to insert an astonishing number of daily pills into my unwilling mouth.

I adjusted, as intelligent little dogs do. I entertained myself by devising ever more creative ways of evading the care she tried to heap upon me. Cooperation has never been my middle name, so one could hardly expect me to change my stripes during this tedious recuperative period.

The configuration of gymnastics in which she engaged, while trying to get 13 pills a day into me, was pretty entertaining to watch. Since there were so many tablets and capsules, and since there are only so many ways a resourceful dog, such as I, can be tricked into swallowing them, she consulted the Internet for advice. The online vets recommended hiding pills in peanut butter or Cheez Whiz.

Do they even still make Cheez Whiz? None could be found at Walmart, and I quickly got sick of peanut butter, because she used it liberally during my first days of recuperation. She did locate some Taco Bell-brand cheesy stuff, and bought it – along with every other possible concoction for disguising pills known to man (or dog).

She procured a dog treat called Pill Pocket, in peanut butter, cheese and chicken flavors. A caregiver slips the capsule into the slit, then pinches the goey concoction over the pill, to seal it inside. This subterfuge only fooled

me for a short time, however, and I was soon spitting the Pill Pockets back onto the floor.

To entertain herself, while stuck at home with a recovering dog, she did a lot of online shopping, and learned there is such a thing as a Pill Plunger, a syringe used to shoot pills down a dog’s throat. The idea of plunging pills into me was clearly inhumane, so – rather than risk my reporting her to the ASPCA – she passed on Pill Plunger.

Then came the occasion when she decided she deserved a night out. I was relegated to wearing a cone while being housed in a crate for the evening. This unfair solitary confinement gave me several hours to plot a course of revenge, which I cheerfully inflicted on her in the days that followed.

I must admit it was pleasant to be fed treats non-stop, in the form of Pill Pockets, peanut butter, cheesy goop and braunschweiger balls. I grew particularly fond of braunschweiger, and hope this will become a regular part of my diet.

The downside was having to wear a cone, which the veterinary clinic, on its invoice, artfully dubbed “an Elizabethan collar.” Trust me – Queen Elizabeth I would never have been caught dead wearing a device such as this. She might have used one to torture her enemies, though.

Being confined in a crate for rest periods didn’t cut it, either. I prefer to sleep in the queen-size bed, where I can stretch out. Before very long, I was. Life is slowly returning to normal.

I must grudgingly admit it: she did a pretty good job of catering to my needs, until my stitches came out in mid-August. I fear that caring for me, as if I were a baby, only served to remind her why she came to be a Childless Cat Lady.

But here’s the column, folks. And my brothers, the cats, didn’t lift a paw to help.

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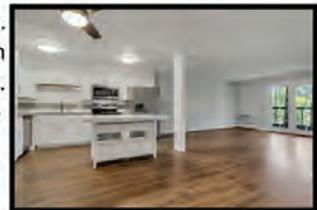
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