



Heather 'n' You[®]

March 2023

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The Official Newsmagazine for HG
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A morning moon over Heather Gardens is surrounded by clouds reflecting the colors of a sun that has not emerged from the horizon.

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Janis Farrell*



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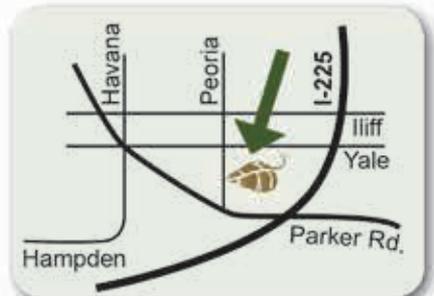
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TO HG RESIDENTS:

It is the intent of the Editors to provide information of interest to its readers, to afford persons with varying and differing views opportunity to air responsible opinions on matters of community interest and to promote community and enjoyable life pursuits.

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

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HGMD to hold May election, gardens get new sprinkler

Four directors attended the Jan. 26 meeting of the HGMD Board. Treasurer Bill Archambault was absent.

The board unanimously adopted the 2023 Election Resolution for its bi-annual May election that occurs in odd-numbered years. HGMD President David Funk noted the resolution defined elements of the election required by law, and described how HGMD complies.

Four seats will be decided on May 2, three for a four-year term, and one for a two-year term. The deadline for interested candidates to self-nominate, to serve on the coming year's HGMD Board, was Friday, Feb. 24 — too late for final candidates to be listed in this issue of *Heather 'n Yon*, which went to press on Feb. 22. The number of candidates who expressed interest in serving on the board before the deadline, however, suggested that an election will be held in May, as the candidates for office would exceed the number of open positions.

The board approved a contract with Sunlight Sprinkler and Irrigation (\$29,953), to upgrade the sprinkler system in the HG Community Garden. President David Funk, who made the motion, commented that it had been more than 30 years since the garden plots were updated. He added, he hoped the work could be completed soon, weather permitting, so as to not affect the upcoming planting season for the gardeners.

Funk also made the motion — in Archambault's absence — to carry forward \$7,237 of 2022 budgeted funds into 2023 to update the Clubhouse HVAC-system software and computer. The board approved the motion.

The board tabled discussing options for investing Foundation funds, due to Archambault's absence. Foundation Chair Eloise Laubach commented she had noticed that management fees in some accounts had been equal to the amount of interest paid. The matter was to be revisited at the February board meeting.

The board approved using Foundation funds to enable Roads & Grounds to landscape HGMD property. The funds — not to exceed \$7,000 — were itemized:

- \$500 for flowering annuals,
- \$1,200 for 14 pads to go under 14 benches along S. Heather Gardens Way and E. Marina Dr.,
- \$1,300 for a pad and bench along the Golf-Course path south of B215, and
- \$3,300 to remove weeds and add good sod to enhance the areas along Yale between South Abilene and East Marina Drive [Yale island], which would conform to Aurora's Water Wise Program.

The board approved its annual Administrative Resolution. This resolution lists where meeting and other notices will be posted, and other tasks and responsibilities regularly performed by the board.

The board approved extending the committee membership of Ray Nash, CP2, an additional year on the Joint Budget & Finance Committee. The HGA had approved extending Nash's membership on that committee into a seventh year on Jan. 17.

The board approved revisions to its bylaws. The vote triggered a discussion over merging HGMD committees — Golf, Clubhouse/Restaurant and Property Policy — into one called the Enterprise Advisory Group. [The Foundation would remain as an independent standing committee.]

The Property Policy Committee oversaw and established fees for such entities as the RV lot and the garden plots. Funk chaired this committee.

The Golf Committee hadn't met since April 2022, and had no chair — although it is not unusual for this committee to hold no meetings during winter months. Since the committee had not met last summer, it had no input over golf fees and other items integrated into the 2023 budget.

The Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee met regularly during that same period, but working on Clubhouse fees and schedules for 2023 never appeared on any meeting agenda.

Rich Richardson, CP3, remarked, "It sounds as though you're cutting out opportunities for comments by citizens."

Funk disagreed, saying, "There will be lots of opportunity for comment [under the Enterprise Advisory Group model]." He added that a work session on Jan. 30 would iron out the Procedure Memorandum (PM) for the group, and everyone was welcome to attend — although he admitted he hadn't intended to hold the work session over Zoom. [It subsequently was on Zoom.]

Funk explained the committee restructuring was undertaken to make the resulting advisory group more efficient.

"We don't need a committee to tell us when to put fertilizer on the Golf Course. There is less need for committees to advise the board. We have a professional staff to do that."

He added, "We're looking for people who want to work on a positive, constructive organization for the entire community, not just one entity." Funk noted he expected very little is changing, except the committee name.

Other audience members offered comments indicating some in the community felt left out of the decision

See HGMD...page 11

Once again, the scheduled Feb. 23 meeting of the HGMD Board occurred too late to be covered in the March issue of *Heather 'n Yon*. A summary of the meeting is expected to appear in the April issue.

Extra! Extra! Information for you –

50th Anniversary update



The 50th Anniversary Committee Co-Chair Debbie Recob, B236, thanks everyone for making the 50th Anniversary Kickoff Event the talk of the HG community! Many residents appreciated getting to “meet” the nine original owners, who sat on stage and so graciously allowed me to tell their stories.

I'd like to thank HGA Board President Jill Bacon, B244, for serving as the master of ceremonies, and CEO Jon Rea for his delightful review of HG's community history.

Area Representative Organization (ARO) President Betty Bergeron, B236, provided the cookies at the Kickoff. The 50th Anniversary Committee thanks her. As ARO President, Betty is responsible for communicating information between residents and the boards or management. If you have not noticed, she volunteers to do much more than that.

Betty also put together the yummy Feb. 13 bake sale, with proceeds going to help with other 50th anniversary activities. The committee appreciated all the volunteer bakers who helped with the sale and provided many wonderful donations of baked goods! There were at least 14 donors who provided a variety of breads, cookies, caramels and fudge!

I thank Bruce and Nancy Henson, STH, for bringing the ensemble

of students from Grandview High School Jazz Choir. They demonstrated their wonderful vocal skills! Everyone at the 50th Anniversary event enjoyed their music.

Linda Hileman, chair of the Community Engagement and Communications Committee (CECC), has asked me to take the lead in organizing and preparing for some of the upcoming 50th anniversary events. The first one on my list is our 50th anniversary logo contest.

When this article went to *Heather 'n Yon*, I had four entries. The plan is to review the entries in the committee, select one, then have the winning entry profiled in the April issue of *Heather 'n Yon*. The winner will enjoy not only bragging rights, but a free t-shirt or visor with the logo on it! Thank you to all contestants who participated in this logo contest! We have many creative and clever artists in our community.

...

Many more 50th Anniversary activities are Planned!

I encourage everyone to participate in one or more of them. Save the dates for these upcoming events:

- April and ongoing: *T-shirt sales* with the new 50th anniversary logo
- April 28: *A Night at the Races*. This audience participation event

has actual races shown to recreate the atmosphere of being at the race track.

- April 28: *Silent Auction*, featuring many beautiful, donated baskets and other items available for the discriminating buyer!
- May 20: *A Fitness Fair* with a Community Walk in the morning and a resource fair focused on fitness.
- July 29 and August 19: Special 70s and 80s menus, drinks and dinners at the Rendezvous
- September 15: *The Big Event* at the Clubhouse!
- More events are being planned. Stay tuned.

...

Donors and Volunteers are Needed!

To donate or volunteer for one or more of these events, please contact me, Nancy Linsenbigler, B243, 720-932-6990, SoldSisterNancy@gmail.com

- Get in on the fun of volunteering at some or all of these events
- Donate items for the Silent Auction. Proceeds go toward funding these activities.
- Sponsor an event or be a co-sponsor.

–Nancy Linsenbigler
B243

Enterprise Advisory Group Workshops

On Jan. 30, a work session on writing a Procedure Memorandum (PM) for the new Enterprise Advisory Group (EAG) convened. HGMD President David Funk opened the session by stating, “I’ll be glad to answer all questions.” After that, no work on the PMs occurred, as Funk was peppered with questions and comments.

The EAG is an evolving entity, merging what formerly were the Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee, the Golf Committee and the Property Policy Committee (PPC). HGMD's other committee, the HG Foundation, was not

folded into the EAG.

One audience member asked, who will chair this committee [EAG]?

Funk responded, that hasn't been determined. It might be a rotating chair, or a co-chair situation.

Question: Who will approve [EAG] members?

Funk: The board is the final authority. That has always been the case. We will look for members who will have a positive approach.

See EAG Workshop...page 46

HG snags bargains on equipment, end of chair-rail project in sight

All members were present at the February 21 meeting of the HGA Board of Directors.

Maintenance Committee Chair Mike Pula presented three motions to purchase large equipment for the Roads & Grounds Department. The board approved buying a Little Wonder debris loader from LL Johnson, for \$10,800. The item was unbudgeted; however, HG got a deal on the \$15,000 piece of equipment, when the party who ordered it failed to accept delivery from LL Johnson. LL Johnson contacted HG staff to ask if they were interested. Because HG's existing debris loader was nearing the end of its useful life, Roads & Grounds Manager Matt Martella accepted it at the reduced price although replacing it was not budgeted. The contingency budget will be charged for the purchase.

The board also approved replacing four stands-on Toro mowers with Scag Mowers (\$40,750) — two 36-inch and two 48-inch. Purchased from LL Johnson and budgeted for 2023 (\$48,000). Delivery of the mowers is expected to take six months, due to supply-chain issues. Two of the new mowers are larger than the ones they will replace, to cut down on mowing time.

The board also approved replacing the zero-turn riding mower with a Scag Cheetah 11 61-inch ZTR mower (\$14,778 — more than \$3,000 under budget), from LL Johnson. HGA President Jill Bacon noted that purchasing all six items of heavy equipment represented an overall savings for HG.

The board approved \$86,940, for doing chair rails in the hallways of B221, B222 and B250. Pula explained that much of the work on the project is performed in-house. Once the three buildings are completed, the community-wide project of installing chair rails will be done. HG has worked on this project for the past decade.

Pula told the board that the elevator in B241 had needed emergency repairs, replacing the elevator motor and pump (\$14,057). CEO **Elevators** Jon Rea reported that the supply line for the equipment needed was not a problem this time although the work took a week to complete.

Maintenance Facilities Engineer Jon Howell told the Maintenance Committee at its last meeting (Feb. 14) that he is concerned about elevator parts not being in stock and delayed due to supply chain issues. He has asked that HG's contracted elevator maintenance company, Custom Contracts Elevator, always keep a motor and its hydraulic oil pump in stock, despite the fact that not all HG elevators use the same motor and pump. For B241, the company had the correct pump on hand.

The board approved allocating \$238,050, for a variety of projects that require cement or handrails on stairs that need repair or to be replaced throughout the com-

munity, for 2023. HG staff members will determine which projects will be completed.

The board approved \$24,840, for the hot-water-recirculation project in B217. Pula noted that the work will be performed in house. As a check, HG had solicited **Hot water recirculation** an earlier bid to have an outside contractor perform the project. The bid price (\$50,000) had doubled the estimate for HG employees to do the project, which had guided the budget allocated for the work.

The board approved extending the terms of two members of the Maintenance Committee into a fifth year: Jon Fryer, B213, and Corby Kasten, B218. Pula remarked that he also had a vacancy on that committee.

Some confusion arose over an agenda item and document, entitled Discuss Insurance Guidelines for HGA. No one on the board appeared to know what the topic's purpose was or who put it forward. Rea finally deduced that the recommendation came from HG's legal team in which various issues regarding insurance of condos and who is responsible is described as a resolution to the Declaration of Condominium. Bacon asked Treasurer Terry Hostetler to refer the topic back to the Insurance Subcommittee of Budget & Finance, for study and review.

Rea added, "I think this document has been in the works for five or six years."

During the resident comment section, Peter Cukale, B206, asked the board to contact the city of Aurora, over the poor job of plowing snow that the Public Works Department has performed on HG's city streets. Saying he had sent the city an email, Cukale noted that no one except the HGA president and the CEO can officially speak for HG. **Snow removal**

Cukale remarked that HG's staff members have done a superb job of trying to re-clear the streets, after Public Works had left them a challenge with which to deal.

"They [Public Works] need to reenact their street clearing that was done last year," he concluded.

Director David Baxter commented that nothing prohibited residents from complaining directly to the city, even if their comments don't represent official speech. He suggested a high volume of complaints might elicit a better response.

Pula noted that Aurora had announced recently that it was constrained from increasing efforts to clear non-primary streets after a heavy snow storm because the city was short on staff. It has openings for 15 drivers of snow plows.

After the regular meeting, the board adjourned into executive session to discuss collections.

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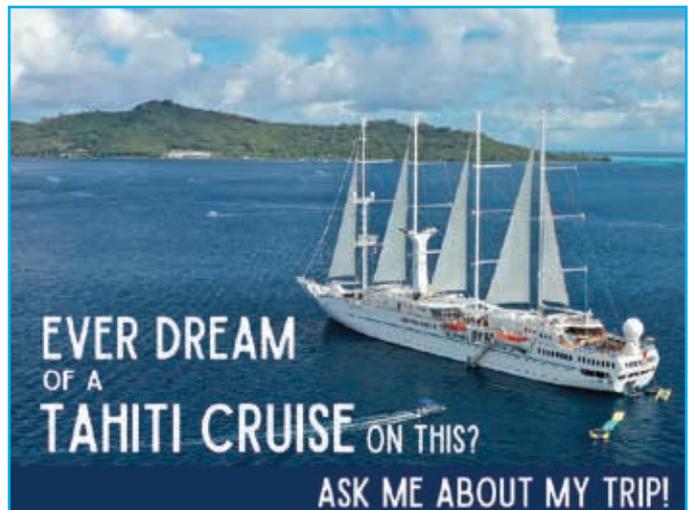
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The consolidation of HGMD committees

On January 26, 2023, the HGMD Board voted unanimously to collapse all HGMD committees, except the Foundation Committee, into one Enterprise Advisory Group. Bill Archambault was not present. This motion was first discussed in February 2022, and had no public discussion on the issue prior to Thursday's special meeting, called by the HGMD Board with just a short 24 hours public notice.

Previously, each HGMD standing committee monitored a cost center: Golf and Clubhouse/Restaurant (which were separate at one time). The members of the committee had or developed expertise in that cost center. The committee reviewed HGMD policies and fees, evaluated how those policies affected operations, and then made informed recommendations to the board. The board decided whether to take action based on those recommendations, after getting legal advice and community input.

During 2022, the Property Policy Committee never met. The Golf Committee met twice during that year, as did the Long Range Planning Committee. The Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee met three times.

These committees provided broad-based advice and recommendations to HGMD from residents who cared about the cost center. HGMD could take advantage of the knowledge, skill, and hard work of the committee members.

The HGMD Board is a representative, elected body. Their actions should reflect the will of the community. During the Jan. 26 meeting, a member of the Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee asked if this change meant her committee "wouldn't exist?" She later pushed again for an answer by asking if her committee was "going away?"

HGMD President David Funk answered, "Only in name." He repeatedly stated that the change was structural only, as if nothing would change.

A resident asked the board to delay the vote to amend the bylaws that consolidated the committees until the Procedure Memorandum (PM) was made public, so residents would know how the new committee would function.

President David Funk said that it would be decided by those involved at the Jan. 30 Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee workshop. No specifics on the PM were discussed at the workshop. In fact, the issue became more convoluted.

President David Funk said that the board would select committee members who were positive, had no personal agendas, and that he wouldn't have any "grouchy old people" on the committee. Clearly, this process would not result in members willing to question the status quo or bring forth new ideas. It should be noted that no repre-

sentative of the Golf Committee, Long Range Planning or Property Policy Committee was present at this meeting.

A current committee member asked if they needed to apply to be on the newly formed committee? President David Funk said, "Yes, yes, do...but not necessarily." That committee member said they couldn't understand how one committee could be better than the existing system.

President David Funk said, "Maybe it won't be better. We may go back to when there were no committees at all."

Committees serve a valuable and essential purpose. All residents should encourage, respect, and value their input.

On Feb. 13, HGMD held a workshop to discuss the draft PM for the Enterprise Advisory Group (EAG). Maria Mines was the only HGMD Director present. Despite the short notice, the now defunct committees were well represented. Director Maria Mines announced that the limitation to the maximum number of nine resident members for the new EAG was being removed. HGMD had already realized that the existing committees with a maximum of 21 members could not be adequately represented by a maximum of nine members. The number of members was changed to "as needed."

It appears that the new EAG will become too large and unwieldy before it even gets started.

The HGMD Board is legally responsible for the management of its properties (Clubhouse, Golf Course, Restaurant, RV Lot, gardens for residents). Having a competent "professional manager" is an expectation, but it does not supplant the board's responsibility.

The committees were a necessary check and balance. Consolidating the existing committees effectively concentrates HGMD's power at the top. Directors may become too reliant on the reports of the professional managers or their own opinions and knowledge, excluding the recommendations and expertise of residents who worked on the committees. There is an immense knowledge base in our residents, many with varied experiences and others who diligently research relevant issues.

Maybe HGMD should structure its committees after HGA, where the president appoints the committee chair. The committee chair then appoints the committee members. This prevents one person from controlling the entire committee system. HGMD could go further and adopt a system to objectively evaluate applicants based on their knowledge, expertise and interest in the cost center, their history of volunteering, and their willingness to serve the HG community.

– Daniel Taylor
B217



HGA Board President Reports

By Jill Bacon

Here we are in the third month of the year already. The Super Bowl is already over, as is Valentine's day.

A word about the Super Bowl this year. Aside from being one of the best football games I have ever watched, I thought it was one of the most sportsmanlike games I have seen. The men were all "gentlemen" throughout the game — if you can call a football game that. I did not see any unsportsmanlike conduct at any time during the game. I must say, I was impressed by the civility shown both before and after the game.

...

Now on to HG business. In Colorado, we are beginning to see some signs of Spring. Yes, there is still snow around. There may be more before the season is over. However, due to the state's extreme need for water, we cannot afford to complain.

Regarding the water shortage, I have begun to look for small places where I can personally "save" water in my own life. HG is working to save water in the Roads &

Grounds Department. What can residents do personally to help this effort in their daily use of water?

While celebrating HG's 50th anniversary year, perhaps you and I can think of ways to conserve water so that those who follow us can have what they need.

Perhaps when I drink all that I want from that glass of water and move to pour it down the sink, I can water my house plant that is sitting on the windowsill with the left-over water in the glass. Or, instead of letting the water run while brushing my teeth, I can turn the water off. When done brushing, I can turn it on to rinse, thus saving water.

Have you ever heard of a "military shower?" As I did not have a father or brother who was in the military, I learned of it while camping from a friend. If you don't know what one is — ask a friend who was in the service! Just kidding, however, it is a great way to conserve water!

I will not belabor the point further. As Colorado and its neighboring states face a crisis in water, everyone needs to think about where to save this precious resource.

During March, think of ways that you can conserve your use of water. Sometime this Spring, I believe that Roads and Grounds Manager Matt Martella is going to have a person from the Aurora Water Department come to give HG residents an in-service discussion on ways to conserve water in your homes.

Perhaps we can get one step ahead of that presentation by having some ideas of our own to share at that meeting. Have a great month. I am anxious to hear of many wonderful water saving ideas!

HGMD...from page 5

process, or marginalized when they tried to offer opposing views.

Funk held his ground. He stated that the structure of the Enterprise Advisory Group was still being developed, and the Jan. 30 work session would offer more clarity. "I think some of these comments are premature," he said.

Director Mitch Albert noted that a drafted PM for the new advisory group was a missing element.

Funk replied, "It was a work in process. It needed preparatory time and comments from board members."

Despite several requests by audience members to table the motion until further details could be defined, the board voted 4-0 to adopt the new bylaws.

Enterprise Advisory Group: Heather Gardens Metropolitan District's committee structure has changed. Committees formerly known as Clubhouse/Restaurant, Golf, and Property Policy are now part of the Enterprise Advisory Group (EAG). The broader scope of the EAG will bring an element of efficiency as well as involve a wider constituency to consider important issues for the [HG] Metropolitan District. The EAG is intended to consider the enterprises (businesses) of the district as a whole and not as individual parts. (From the HG website, [www.heathergardens.org/Resource tab/Enterprise Advisory Group folder](http://www.heathergardens.org/Resource%20tab/Enterprise%20Advisory%20Group%20folder))

First day of Spring
Monday, March 20

Welcome Spring



Sunday, March 12
Daylight Savings Time
Begins



SPRING
FORWARD

IN MEMORIAM

- Patrick Achutz (215)
- Penny Cutler (215)
- Mary Dixon (218)
- Carolyn Dunlap (234)
- Jason Frank (219)
- Esther Jivan (236)
- Rosemarie Kelley (231)
- Karen Kerlin (215)
- Chuck Larson (218)
- Gene Lester (231)
- Mary Anne Mitchell (231)
- Marcia Patullo (218)
- Pat Reichert (former 218)
- Glenda Sandoval (232)
- Robert Sims (214)
- LeAnna Skogen (215)
- Judy Shormann (235)
- Cathy Starr (220)
- Earlyna Winters (220)

HGMD Candidates for Change!

HGMD has seen one or two directors at a time trying to improve the efficiency of the District management, only to be frustrated by those wishing to maintain the status quo. District amenities increase the value of our property, but our ever-escalating annual budget is threatening Heather Gardens' reputation as a high-end, affordable retirement community. HGMD must minimize the subsidies paid for the HGMD cost centers by reducing inefficiencies.

This year four of the five seats on the HGMD Board of Directors are available. This is an opportunity for real, substantive change. This coalition of HGMD Candidates for Change is committed to make HGMD more efficient and responsive. They will restore and improve the District's committee structure, and encourage community involvement. These are the candidates who want to work

Craig Baldwin. Goal: Accountability & Representative Governance. Craig has served as HGMD President and HGA Director. He has served on most HGMD and HGA committees. Craig will focus on ensuring the HGMD Board has oversight and input over District funds and expenditures. Craig understands that directors represent the people who vote for them, and do not impose their personal beliefs upon the community. He is an adamant supporter of committees and their work.

Rita Effler. Goal: Audit & Budget Transparency. Rita has vast experience within Heather Gardens governance including serving on the HGMD Board, Chairing the Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee, and Chairing the HGA Audit Subcommittee. Rita has devoted many hours to the PSAC's legal group. Rita will focus on financial transparency, include the cost center managers in the budget process, and establish sound procedures to comply with state law by segregating District and Association assets and expenditures.

Robin O'Meara. Goal: Management & Economy. Robin was an AR, and Vice-President and Secretary for ARO. Her background is in education administration with a Masters of Science degree. Robin also has restaurant management experience and will work to identify inefficiencies, and ensure that District facilities are economically operated. With our annual dues rising each year unabated, we need to minimize the cost center subsidies while improving service to the community.

Daniel Taylor. Goal: Legal Compliance. Daniel is a practicing attorney, member of the CO, federal, and U.S. Tax Court bars. His background is in law enforcement, accounting, and tax law. Regular Board meetings are required by law, and must be scheduled in January for the year. Yet in 2022, regular HGMD Board meetings were cancelled 50% of the time. Special meetings only require 24 hours-notice which significantly reduces community participation. Heather Gardens is at its best when it solicits input from the broad and varied experiences of its residents. Daniel has unique qualifications in understanding the quasi-government statutes that the District must follow. This coalition will commit to providing residents with the information they need, in enough time to allow them to participate in a meaningful way at public meetings.

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Publisher's Corner

U.S. Census Bureau History: Franklin D. Roosevelt's First Fireside Chat

by Lynn Donaldson, Editor of Heather 'n Yon

Current economic conditions worry many folks — inflation has increased the cost for many items used frequently like gas and food. Stock prices are down. I thought it might be a good time to review a much more dire time in U.S. history — 90 years ago. Thanks to the U.S. Census Bureau and its historical archive of stories and data, I can remind many of you of a time that few of us experienced directly but have certainly heard about.

...

"March 12 marks the anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1933 fireside chat — On the Banking Crisis — the first of 30 chats that he hosted on topics that included banking, the dust bowl, economic conditions, and World War 2. The speech was broadcast by radio as the nation's banking system teetered on the brink of collapse and nervous Americans looked to their new president for a solution.

"The years following the 1929 stock market crash were difficult times for the United States marked by the extreme economic hardships faced by businesses, farms, and families. At this time, bank deposits were not insured — the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) would not be established until June 1933 — so a bank's failure meant depositors lost their savings.

"By 1933, an increasing number of nervous bank customers withdrew their money. In Detroit, Michigan, depositors panicked after learning the city's largest banks could not cover the growing number of withdrawals and Henry Ford threatened to withdraw his money. Michigan's governor was forced to declare a bank holiday on February 14, 1933.

"Similar events occurred nationwide so that by Roosevelt's March 4, 1933, inauguration, 37 states had declared bank holidays.

"Roosevelt's Sunday evening



broadcast 'On the Banking Crisis' summarized the events leading up to the suspension of all banking transactions and actions the federal government was taking to strengthen the nation's banks. Under the direction of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks, additional currency was distributed, more liberal provisions were enacted for healthy banks to borrow money, and troubled banks were reorganized during the bank holiday. As a result of Roosevelt's emergency measures, banks controlling 90 percent of the country's assets reopened by March 15, and deposits soon exceeded withdrawals.

"...The data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and other federal statistical agencies illustrate the severity of the economic hardship American's faced in the 1930s. The examples below are just a few ways statistics help us understand the Great Depression and allow us to make comparisons to more recent economic booms and busts.

"In 1930, the U.S. resident population was 123,202,624 — a 16.2 percent increase from 1920. By 1940, the population was 132,164,569 — the slowest population growth rate (7.2 percent) recorded by the census in U.S. history.

"The 1933 banking crisis was a consequence of a worldwide economic depression that affected nearly every American family. In 1929, 3.2 percent of America's civilian labor force was unemployed.

Unemployment rose to 8.7 percent in 1930, and by 1933, the rate had risen to 24.9 percent. In comparison, data from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey shows that unemployment peaked at 10 percent during the 2007 to 2009 Great Recession.

"When Roosevelt's first fireside chat was broadcast on March 12, 1933, approximately 19.3 million households owned a radio and the nation was home to 598 standard broadcast (AM) radio stations. By the time of his final chat on June 12, 1944 — Opening Fifth War Loan Drive — 32.5 million households owned a radio and 976 commercial radio stations operated in the United States.

"In 1933, 4,004 banks holding more than \$3.6 billion in deposits suspended operations temporarily or permanently due to financial difficulties. Thanks to the Roosevelt Administration's banking reforms, including the Banking Act of 1933 (which established the FDIC), the number of banks suspended between 1934 and 1940 dropped to 448, and just 49 between 1941 and 1946.

"According to the FDIC, the non-farm foreclosure rate in metropolitan communities rose from 3.6 per 1,000 dwellings in 1926 to 13.3 in 1933. In 2009, 5.4 percent of all mortgage loans entered the foreclosure process.

"The 1930s dust bowl contributed to the nation's economic woes as farmers were helpless to prevent the topsoil from their drought-stricken farms from blowing away during wind storms. Between 1930 and 1940, the hard hit states of Oklahoma and Kansas saw their populations decrease from 2,396,00 to 2,336,000 and 1,881,000 to 1,801,000, respectively.

"In contrast, California's population surged from 5,677,000 to 6,907,000 as impoverished farm families sought new lives and jobs in the state."

[www.census.gov/history/www/homepage_archive/2015/march_2015.html; Photo credit: www.si.edu/object/franklin-d-roosevelt:npg_S_NPG.78.158]



Management

Practical uniforms based on the work of different departments

By Jon Rea
Chief Executive Officer

Over the course of the last handful of years, HG Association Departments have ordered and worn quite a few different shirts, jackets, and uniforms. This has made it difficult for residents to easily identify employees. In the climate that we are currently living in, easily identifiable employees is paramount for your safety and security throughout the property.

Uniforms provide a quick way to determine whether someone should or should not be on property versus outsiders. Many department staff interact individually with residents for in-home and building services. Various teams even come out to the property during evening and night hours to perform emergency services. Safety is a #1 priority for residents and employees.

In addition to safety, uniforms also impact the department and employees directly. In most settings, a uniform promotes a sense of team and belonging. It also promotes brand awareness and a consistent image for HG

and those that work here.

In the last few months, the management team has reviewed each individual department (with manager input) to determine what would make the most sense for uniforms to promote safety, identification, and functionality. It's been an interesting process. Working through the details, and moving forward, I ultimately want to implement a program that will be a major step for everyone affected.

Each department will have a distinct uniform color. Not only is the employee identifiable, but those who observe them can identify in which department the employee works.

For example, Roads & Grounds will be wearing high visibility safety green ANSI reflective type clothing. They work throughout the property, often on roads — it makes sense to have this highly-visible uniform. Motorists coming through the property will be able to spot them. It will ensure that employees are always visible when performing their duties.

Another great piece to this program is that employees working at HG will be able to order only approved clothing specific to their department. This removes the need for managers to micromanage the ordering process for all employees.

As the uniform program is solidified, I will certainly communicate more information to everyone in the community. I am excited that we will be able to implement the uniform program very soon!

HGMD Treasurer's Report

Highlights of HGMD Operations:

For month ended December 2022

	Budget	Actual
Clubhouse Subsidy	(\$49,040)	(\$55,808)
Golf Subsidy	(\$36,833)	(\$32,328)
Restaurant Subsidy	(\$6,552)	(\$18,222)

Year to date through December 2022

	Budget	Actual
Clubhouse Subsidy	(\$638,226)	(\$594,134)
Golf Subsidy	(\$261,734)	(\$210,682)
Restaurant Subsidy	(\$88,196)	(\$111,408)

Enterprise Fund

Enterprise Fund revenue through December was \$2,707,446, which is \$17,723 less than budgeted. Enterprise expenses were \$2,389,999, which is \$475,970 less than budgeted. Recreation Fee income of \$1,497,128 is as expected. Golf revenue is \$25,840 more than budgeted. Golf expenses are \$25,572 less than budgeted. Clubhouse revenue is \$2,235 less than budgeted and Clubhouse expenses are \$46,327 less than budgeted. Restaurant revenue is \$46,736 less budgeted and expenses including the cost of goods sold were \$23,528 less than budgeted. Capital Expenditures of \$174,913

have been recorded including \$92,758 from 2021 projects completed in this year.

Restricted Funds

• **Conservation Trust Fund (Lottery).** In December, HGMD received a quarterly distribution from the Colorado Lottery of \$5,393. For the year, HGMD received \$20,182 from the Lottery which was about \$1,200 more than anticipated. Year-to-date revenue was \$20,316 including interest earned. Lottery funds of \$23,369 have been used to fund HGMD recreation projects. At Dec. 31, there was \$149,823 in the Lottery bank account.

• **Foundation Fund.** The Foundation Fund has received \$4,723 in donations and interest income through December and \$6,466 has been spent. The Foundation bank account has a balance of \$40,018 and investments amounting to \$150,000 at maturity.

• **Debt Service Fund.** Property tax collection for the year was \$500,753. Specific ownership tax revenue for the year was \$32,060. The Debt Service bank account has a balance of \$127,813 at the end of the month. A bond principal payment of \$280,000 and bond interest payment of \$153,700 was paid on Dec. 1, 2022.

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Harrowing experience when skiing Colorado mountain

If you pose the question to a group of people, "What have you done that is unique," be prepared for some astounding answers.

Cynthia Hilgers, CP6, uses this icebreaker tactic in her line of work as lay minister and liturgist. Her own life is rich with stories of loss, survival, and self-mastery.

Cynthia had two young sons and a baby daughter when she became a widow at age 29. The following year she lost her daughter to encephalitis. Out of necessity, she marshaled her skills and acumen and stepped out on faith to bring up her sons as a single parent.

She worked her way through college at Loretto Heights and Metro State University, earning a degree in Recreation, with an emphasis in Performing and Cultural Arts. Practicing her profession in several Denver area churches, she created programs and texts for pastors. She focused on ministry to youth and physically or mentally challenged adults.

She formed a mime troupe: "Silent Word," at her church. Her youth classes staged puppet shows and performed dance and theatrical productions. With a friend, she founded an acting troupe: "Cain and Abel," for adult students.

Set-design was her specialty; she built the first flown set at Arvada Center for the Performing Arts. (Flown scenery are pieces of the set that are "flown" in by attached wires run through eye-hooks screwed into the individual pieces. It is usually done in order to execute an especially rapid scene change.)

Together with her son Roland, she gave ski lessons to blind and physically disabled persons at Winter Park Resort.

Seated in her living room among displays of art and mementos of her theatrical activities, she laughs as she recalls a mountain ordeal that

made her a stronger, more confident person. Her voice is soft and rich as she tells her unique story.

Lars started to follow a little trail until it dead-ended. Going back to the clearing they'd just left, Lars decided



Above: Cynthia Hilgers, CP6, in her HG condo. Right: The Hilgers family enjoyed skiing in Colorado.

It began as a ski trip with her elder son, Roland, then 17. A co-worker, Lars, asked to come along. He picked up Cynthia at a car-pool parking lot and the two drove to Lake Eldora Ski Resort where they met up with Roland and his girlfriend. By mid-morning snow began to fall. Roland and his girl split off from the foursome to ski back to the clubhouse for lunch. Lars urged Cynthia to take one last run from the top with him before eating.

Snow thickened to white-out conditions as they descended. Lars decided to take a shortcut to the clubhouse and shot off past an out-of-bounds sign. Cynthia worried that he would find himself in trouble. Despite her better judgment, she followed Lars and skied down; finding a wondrous woodlands that was quiet and serene, devoid of human traces.

They were lost.

The trails were darkening when

to ski upslope to where they'd left the in-bounds trail. Cynthia thought it better they continue downhill until they found a road but agreed that it was best to stay together. She began side-stepping back upslope. With each step she avowed, "stupid, Stupid, STUPID!"

By nightfall, they started to freeze.

"Lets build a snow cave," she said. They dug a hole and placed their skis on top but their shivering increased. Cynthia worried her teen-aged sons would be orphans.

"This isn't working, Lars. By morning we'll be dead. I think we've got to go downhill and try to find a trail."

Lars, too, was beginning to worry about his mortality. A full moon rose. They found a "kind of a trail" with a snow-covered sign: "Dead Man's Gulch."

At that point Lars had lost his hat and Cynthia's fingers were balled

See *Hilgers...*page 27

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Chocolates and denial — crossing the Rubicon

When does one cross the Rubicon and arrive at “old”? There is no manual — no demarcated crossing point — but myriad tactics to avoid crossing at all. Eat yogurt. Fast 12 hours a day. Invest in Botox. Exercise vigorously. Hang out with younger persons. Dye your hair. Avoid stress. Don’t dress “old,” etc.

I unwillingly crossed the Rubicon in November 2022. I was not prepared for the journey.

My self-image had been one of vitality and youthfulness. I swam, exercised, flexed my body, and seemed to have adequate energy and strength.

Wham! Image smashed. A bout of unrelenting pain sent me to the ER in November 2022. A series of X-rays, blood tests and CAT scans ensued. Each one was Pandora’s box — only

the mortal curses were mine alone. It was like a Cape Canaveral lift-off. All systems check: Cardio. Check. Digestive. Check. Circulatory. Check. Endocrine. BEEP. Respiratory. BEEP. Osteo. BEEP.

Blood tests revealed abnormally high gamma proteins. The X-ray showed a compression fracture. Abnormal opaqueness in my lungs and spinal degeneration were evident in the CAT-scan images.

Osteoporosis, an old person’s disease, was appended to my record, plus cataracts. More scans and follow-up appointments were recommended. My medication list changed overnight from one to five.

I sat in my doctor’s office and cried. How could I cross over so quickly? I had arrived at the shores of decrepitude, over-medicated geri-

atric elders. I did not want to be on this side of the river. My doctor, although empathetic, seemed to be nonplussed. What did I expect? I was aging.

How does one cope? Chocolates — lots of them — and *denial*. And avoiding all mourners of my lost youth.

So where does that leave me? My physical body shows signs of aging, but I am determined to stay mentally young. I may not be able to downhill ski or compete in an Ironman triathlon. I may want an afternoon nap, but, by golly, I will stay young.

Give me back the oars. I can pilot this boat. I am reversing my course on the Rubicon.

**Barbara Creswell
CP4**

Riding RTD’s senior “Shopper Special” bus

There are a handful of residents at Heather Gardens (HG) who ride RTD’s “Shopper Special” bus for seniors every Friday. I personally enjoy this bus more than using a car! Getting on and off the bus’s ramp with my little wheeled cart is a breeze.

The RTD website says: “SeniorShopper provides shopping transportation for seniors who would otherwise have difficulty riding fixed route service or driving. This service picks up groups of 10 or more at senior housing complexes and community centers, but passengers of any age can use the service.”

The Shopper Special picks up HG residents at individual HG bus stops (there are six RTD bus stops in HG), takes us to the King Soopers at 3050 South Peoria Street,

and drops us off at about 9:20 am. The bus then picks us back up at 10:30 am for our return to HG.



Discount fares apply to seniors 65+, individuals with disabilities, and Medicare recipients. A local, limited 3-hour pass for seniors is \$1.50. The driver will not make change, so you must pay with exact change. Have your bus ticket or money ready before you board. Insert your ticket or money into the fare box next to the driver as you board.

A 10-Ride ticket book saves you money by offering a discount for buying 10 rides at a time. Each ticket book contains 10 individual tickets valid for 3-hour travel on Local or Regional bus or train service. You can buy these ticket books at King Soopers.

For more information, contact RTD at 303-299-6503 or email senior.ride@rtd-denver.com.

**– Gloria Leshner
B212**



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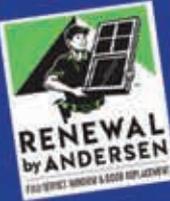
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The Month (February)

Maintenance Manager Manny Duraes told the Maintenance Committee on Feb. 14 that at the start of 2023, he had adjusted some staff shifts to cover the evening hours until 10 pm. This allowed his people to be more responsive to emergency requests without having to come back to the property and incurring overtime hours. It has proven to be beneficial so far.

...

Roads and Grounds Manager Matt Martella told the Maintenance Committee on Feb. 14 that his team has been catching up on some leaf cleanup that was been delayed by the record December snowfalls. He is planning some work with the HG Foundation that includes putting bench pads under benches located throughout the property and some other landscaping for HG.

...

U.S. Space Force Col. Marcus Jackson, Space Base Delta 2 (SBD2) commander, gave the annual State of the Base event to Aurora Rotary Club on Jan. 25. In his review of the base, Col. Jackson noted that Team Buckley grew, contributing \$1.38 billion to the local economy. That was \$10 million over 2021. The base has jobs for 5,496 people.

Accomplishments in 2022:

- Completed the Energy Resilience Readiness Exercise that tested back-up power systems by 460th Civil Engineer squadron.

- Jackson's unit, SBD2, sent emergency management personnel to Clear Space Force Station, Alaska, for four weeks in a forward deployed exercise supporting the 2022 Clear Fire, which affected more than 72,000 acres and threatened the Clear Station.

- Opened a Large Vehicle Inspection point at the Mississippi gate.

Coming plans (2023) for Buckley:

- Transition the Army's Joint Tactical Ground Stations to the Space Force. These are satellite ground stations. Once done, all Department of Defense military satellite communication functions will be consolidated under one military branch.
- New visitor center to open at Mississippi gate.
- The Long-Range Discrimination Radar at the Clear Space Force Station (Alaska) will become fully operational in the summer. It will improve the U.S. capability to identify ballistic missiles for offense or defense.



U.S. Space Force Col. Marcus Jackson, Space Base Delta 2 (SBD2) commander, addresses Aurora Rotary on Jan. 25.

...



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That Was...

J7 Security Technology President Jarret Wischkowski was introduced by Security Manager Terrence Jones to the SEC Committee on Feb. 6. Wischkowski described what his company can offer for installing and monitoring cameras in Parking Structures 1-4. A lengthy discussion followed his presentation. A motion to recommend to the HGA Board was made by John Schuler, B218, and seconded by Rex Engel, B233, that J7 Security Technology be hired. CEO Jon Rea and HGA Board President Jill Bacon advised that a consultant be hired first to review the different programs available for camera security. After discussion, the motion was tabled pending further review.

...

Comcast update: CEO Rea reported to the Maintenance Committee on Feb. 14 that Comcast's work in the STH area was proceeding well. He hoped that unit installations will start in subscriber's homes soon. Then Comcast and HG will decide on the next area (phase) that will be started. He reminded everyone that providing service to the parking structures and RV lot will start soon. However, since cables for PS3 and PS4 run under a city street, additional permitting will be necessary.

Starry update: Rea then reported that there continues to be problems with Starry entering into Phase 3, which is the service for the CPs and THs. At this point, due to internal company changes, Starry does not have the staff to perform that work. Rea has asked HGA's attorney to review the Starry contract and advise what options HG may have to conclude activity on this competitive service for wireless internet and TV service.

...

Replacing carpets in building common areas, scheduled for 2023, has been delayed because the carpet material that HG has been installing for the past three years increased in price by \$6 per yard and is expected to be phased out of production. With vendor input, Contracts Manager Don O'Gorman is looking at different options.

...

Maintenance Facilities Engineer Jon Howell told the Maintenance Committee that there continue to be sewer problems in the CP and TH areas. Currently, seven sewers are being inspected and cleaned out. One will have to be replaced, which will require digging up the unit's basement. He says that the 40-year-old cast iron sewer lines are simply showing their age.

Subscriptions: To accommodate owners, who wish to receive *Heather 'n Yon* while away, the publisher has a subscription policy. Provide a forwarding address, plus a check for \$3 (payable to *Heather 'n Yon*) for each issue desired. Annual subscription is \$36. You may drop off your check with address information and what month the subscription should start at the HG Management Office. Alternatively, mail to *Heather 'n Yon*, c/o Lynn Donaldson, 13731 East Hamilton Dr, Aurora, CO 80014. Past issues (2008-21) are available on www.heathergardens.org/Resource Center.

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Rendezvous held a Super Bowl Party on Sunday, Feb. 12



Football fans gathered to watch the Super Bowl 57 between the Kansas City Chiefs and Philadelphia Eagles on the big screen TVs in Rendezvous. Joining a crowd and enjoying the food provided made it an event for residents, even if their team was not playing.

Kansas City Chiefs won on a last second field goal, 38-35.



Photos by Anita Huddleston



50th Anniversary Committee had its second event on Monday, Feb. 13 — a Bake Sale in the HG Clubhouse. Donations by HG bakers helped net \$611 in about two hours for committee activities this year. It was so popular that another one is planned for April or May.



Photos by Anita Huddleston and Nancy Linsenbigler, B243

At a Valentine's Dance on Feb. 18 in Sandberg Auditorium, the Terry Norona Titans played music that spanned the 1940s–1970s for the dancing couples.



*Photos
by Anita
Huddleston*

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UC-Seville A **Move-in Ready** **\$322,500**
Beautifully Updated! 2 bed 2 ba 1092 sq ft. Updtd kit w/ breakfast bar, Lrg Mstr, updtd baths, Plantation shutters, SS appl, nwer windows, AC, encl lanai, gar prkg

SOLD*- Atrium L **Rare Split Floor Plan** **\$379,000**
Stunning Remodel in the Atrium! Quality updgades. Contemporary Kitchen w/ 42" maple cabs, quartz cntrs, glass backsplash, SS appl, cook top, breakfast bar, Remod baths, new electrical panel, strg lkers & gar prkg.
** Agent brought Buyer*

SOLD-Somerset A **Golf Course View** **\$310,000**
Gorgeous Renovation! 2 bed 2 ba 1200 sq ft end unit. Sharp updates. Updatd kit & ba cabs, new carpet/ plank flrs/pt, SS appl, w/d, encl lanai, 2 strg lockrs, gar prkg sp

SOLD-TH **Prime Golf Course Location** **\$410,000**
Beautiful 3 bd 3 ba TH. Lrg updtd eat-in kit, New plank flrs/crpt, blinds, frpl, gl encl lanai, fin bsmt. Att 2 car gar.

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- KW-America's Best Customer Service 2021 (Newsweek)
- KW-Top Companies in Real Estate 2022 (LinkedIn)

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SOLD-Top \$\$ TH **Looking 2nd Fairway** **\$475,000**
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Highest TH Price Ever!!

SOLD- Top \$\$ TH **Beautifully Remodeled** **\$450,000**
 3 bed 3 bath TH. Remod kit w/ granite, SS appl, D baths, new pt/plank flrs; gas fr
2022 Record Price!!

SOLD- TOP \$\$ **Golf Course Patio Home** **\$499,900**
 Just steps to CH. Beautiful updtd. Remod kit w/Island, granite, SS appl, gas frpl Mstr suite, fin bsmt, 2 car gar

SOLD- TOP \$\$ **New Home Sale Home** **\$838,000***
 2 Homes in 1. Gorgeous 5,900 sq ft 5 bd 5 ba, 2 Mstrs, 2100 sq ft bsmt, Mother-in law w/ sep entrance & Gar.

SOLD- TOP \$\$ **Ranch Villa w/In-Law Suite** **\$615,000**
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 Elegant grey tones. Gourmet kit, fin t
Record Price!!

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Hilgers...from page 17

into cold fists; her ski poles dangled from her wrists. She knew she was getting hypothermia when she hallucinated shadowed people among the trees. Descending, they saw lights and heard trail grooming equipment working at the closed resort. Cutting toward the sound, Lars removed his skis and stepped into soft snow. And sank. Deep.

Skiing on, they spied a hut. Lars wanted to break a window.

"No, the cold would get in." Cynthia urged he kick the door instead. It gave. They built a fire, melted snow for water, found walnuts and huddled at the fireplace. The effects of hunger, dehydration, exhaustion and hypothermia permeated their every cell. Lars' stiff-frozen down jacket sat upright, as though it were a headless, legless person next to them. It reeked. To this day she can't shake the memory of the stench.

In morning's light, they found the owner's name and phone num-

ber along with a map of the greater ski area. The cabin was alongside a cross country trail.

Skiing down, they met a party coming up, who reported, "Lost? The parking lot is just ahead."

Lars was impatient to hop in the car and leave. Cynthia wanted to phone her family from the clubhouse. She managed one call before Lars revved up. His fast driving alarmed her.

At home, her sons chided her for following Lars. She learned that her dad, who hadn't known she'd car-pooled, had alerted highway patrol to look for her car.

The cabin's owner, where they had spent some of the night, appreciated her call. He wasn't concerned about payment. People had died of exposure in those woods.

Cynthia has always been a survivor. Through this experience, she's a stronger, wiser person. She follows her own judgment.

"I wouldn't put up with that kind of stuff now."

After living all her life in west



Above: Cynthia points to a collection of family photos.

metro-Denver, Cynthia downsized to Heather Gardens in 2019.

Her sons are successful in their careers. Younger son Russell is an international teacher. Cynthia has traveled to numerous countries on several continents with him. The family are contemplating future trips together.

"I've made it through everything," she muses.

"Mom, you have nine lives," Russell told her.

— Dala Giffin

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"If I can make their life even one day better with a smile, a touch, a song ... that could be my purpose."

— Annetta W.,

CNA, Naya caregiver, Watermark

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MARCH CALENDAR

Wed 1	Constitution Alive Seminar (every Wednesday) Cribbage (every Wednesday) Rummikub (every Wednesday) HG ACBL Duplicate Bridge (every Wednesday) Pinochle (every Wednesday) Men's Poker_Reddy or Hill (every Wednesday) Men's Poker CP1 Social HG Men's Golf Club Square Dancing Club (every 1st and 3rd Wednesday)	Skyview Room Clubhouse Lobby Library Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room Skyview Room Game Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Mountain View Room Sandberg Auditorium	9–11 am 12:30–3 pm 1–3 pm 1–4:45 pm 1:30–4 pm 12:30–5 pm 3:30 pm 530 pm 6:30–8:30 pm 7–9 pm
Thu 2	Tai Chi (every Thursday) TOPS (every Thursday) HG Optimist Club Time4Tap Dance Group (every Thursday) Clubhouse Event: AARP Driver's Safety Course Bunko (1st and 3rd Thursday) Social Bridge (every Thursday, Joanne Turner) HG Writers Club (every Thursday) Ping Pong (every Thursday) Meditation Club (every Thursday) CP4 Social Kiwanis Club of Aurora Business Meeting 9-Ball Men's Billiards (every Thursday)	Tennis Courts Blue Spruce Room Rendezvous Restaurant Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Mountain View Room Game Room Blue Spruce Room Rendezvous Skyview Room Billiards Room	8–11 am 8:30–9:30 am 9:30 am 11 am–noon 12:45–5 pm 1–3:30 pm 1–3:30 pm 1–4 pm 2–3 pm 4–5 pm 5 pm 6 pm 7–9 pm
Fri 3	Men with Purpose (1st and 3rd Friday) Texas Hold 'em Poker_Reddy or Hill (every Friday) Friday Bridge (every Friday) Social Bridge (every Friday, Joanne Turner) Muu Muu Hula Group (every Friday)	Skyview Room Mountain View Room Skyview Room Library Arts & Crafts Room	10–11 am 12:30–5 pm 1–5 pm 1–3:30 pm 1:30–3 pm
Sat 4	Mexican Train Dominoes (every Saturday) Ping Pong (every Saturday) Karaoke Club	Arts & Crafts Room Game Room Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	noon–4 pm 2–3 pm 3–5 pm
Sun 5	Frolics Club Rehearsals (every Sunday)	Sandberg Auditorium	2 pm
Mon 6	VNA Senior Wellness Clinics Men's Bridge (every Monday) HG Women's Book Club (Arce) Spanish Club (every Monday) Texas Hold 'em Poker_Reddy or Hill (1st Monday)	Aspen/Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room Mountain View Room Aspen Room Aspen Room	9 am–1 pm 10 am–3 pm 10:30 am–12:30 pm 11 am–noon 12:30–5 pm

Advertised Activities and Seminars

Mon, March 6 Bayer Ear Clinic (every Monday, by appointment), Arts & Crafts Room, 9 am–noon (see ad, p. 55)

Tue, March 14 Humana Lunch and Learn, Rendezvous Restaurant, 12–2 pm (see insert)

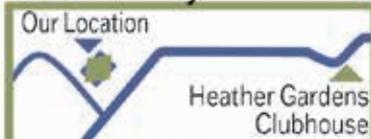
Sat, March 18 Krayton: Small Ship Cruising Expo, Lowry Conference Ctr, 1601 Akron Wy, 10 am–4 pm (see ad, p. 4)

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Mon 6 (cont'd)	Time4Tap Dance Novice Group (every Monday) HG Women's Book Club (Urias) Social Bridge (every Monday, Joanne Turner) Mah Jongg (every Monday)	Sandberg Auditorium Mountain View Room Library Blue Spruce Room	1-2 pm 1-3 pm 1-3:30 pm 1-4 pm
Tue 7	Hand and Foot (every Tuesday) NoteAbles Mixed Chorus (every Tuesday) Mah Jongg (every Tuesday) Ping Pong (every Tuesday) Grief Support (every Tuesday) Tennis Club CP2 Happy Hour Billiard Club Co-ed 8-Ball (every Tuesday)	Mountain View Room Skyview Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Skyview Room Rendezvous Restaurant Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms Billiard Room	12:30-4 pm noon-2 pm 1-4 pm 2-3 pm 4:30-6:30 pm 5 pm 5-8:30 pm 6:30 pm
Wed 8	HG Ladies Golf Club Clubhouse Event: The Great Depression Aviation Club	Aspen/Blue Spruce Room Sandberg Auditorium Aspen Room	10:30 am 2 pm 6:30 pm
Thu 9	Clubhouse Event: Mobile Food Pantry HG Ladies Golf Club - new members Green Team Men's Poker (Jess Deal; 2nd and 4th Thursday) RV Lot Club	B243/B244 Parking Lot Mountain View Room Blue Spruce Room Game Room Aspen Room	10 am 10:30 am noon-2 pm 3:30-7:30 pm 5-6 pm
Fri 10	Birding and Nature Club HG Indivisible Clubhouse Movie: Joe Bell	Lodgepole Lounge Rendezvous Restaurant Sandberg Auditorium	10 am 1 pm 2 pm
Sat 11	The Breakfast Club	Rendezvous Restaurant	8:30 am
Mon 13	Bridge (second Monday) Texas Hold 'em Poker_Reddy or Hill (2nd-4th Monday)	Aspen Room Mountain View Room	noon-4 pm 12:30-5 pm
Tue 14	Clubhouse Event: Humana with Ben Torres Clubhouse Event: Mountain Man Fruit and Nut Co. Men's Bridge (second Tuesday) Men's Book Club	Rendezvous Restaurant Clubhouse Lobby Blue Spruce Room Mountain View Room	12-2 pm 2:15-3:15 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm
Wed 15	Square Dancing Club (every 1st and 3rd Wednesday)	Sandberg Auditorium	7-9 pm
Thu 16	HG Optimist Club Clubhouse Event: And the Oscar goes to...! Bunko Kiwanis Club of Aurora - Guest Speaker	Rendezvous Restaurant Sandberg Auditorium Blue Spruce Room Skyview Room	9:30 am 1-2 pm 1-3:30 pm 6 pm
Fri 17	Men with Purpose (1st and 3rd Friday) Clubhouse Event: St. Patrick's Day Bingo	Skyview Room Sandberg Auditorium	10 am 1-3 pm
Sat 18	Wine and Cheese Social Club	Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms	3-5 pm
Mon 20	VNA Senior Wellness Clinics HG Photo Club Game Night (McClaury)	Blue Spruce Room Aspen Room Aspen Room	9 am-1 pm 3 pm 5:30-7:30 pm
Tue 21	Clubhouse Event: Senior Safety Seminar	Sandberg Auditorium	9-11:30 am

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Thu 21 (cont'd)	Caregiver's Support Group B201 and B202 Monthly Social	Aspen Room Rendezvous Restaurant	2-4 pm 4:30 pm
Wed 22	Resident Orientation	Board Room/Zoom	10 am
Fri 24	Clubhouse Event: Craft Fair	multiple Clubhouse rooms	9 am-3 pm
Sat 25	Clubhouse Event: Craft Fair National Federation of the Blind, Aurora Chapter	multiple Clubhouse rooms Mountain View Room	9 am-3 pm 10:30 am-12 pm
Mon 27	Low Vision Support Group	Aspen Room	1:30-3 pm
Tue 28	Men's Bridge (fourth Tuesday) HG Republican Club HG Democratic Club Sevillians Monthly Dinner	Blue Spruce Room Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium Rendezvous Restaurant	5:30 pm 1-2:30 pm 4-5:30 pm 4:30-6 pm

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

Join a lovely group of caring women dedicated to the study of the word of God. Enjoy the fellowship. We welcome everyone. No sign up required, just show up. Call Joyce Smith, 918-586-2954. Hope to see you soon.

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

Six Stone Jars Catholic Bible Study. For information, call Eric Cline, 720-839-4289, or email clinecellars57@yahoo.com.

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

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

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

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

FYI

VNA Senior Wellness Clinics

Charges: Toenail Cutting (includes blood pressure) \$60 (1st visit, 1 hour), \$55 (returning client); Fingernail trim \$25. If you cannot keep your appointment, please cancel or you will be charged \$5. Have exact cash amount, credit card, or checks made out to "VNA." The clinic has no change.

Call VNA, 845-418-4006

- Monday, Feb. 6, 8:30 am-1 pm, Blue Spruce Room
- Monday, Feb. 20, 8:30 am-1 pm, Blue Spruce Room

Alliant Hospice

Volunteers are needed. If you have any interest in being a volunteer, please call Alliant hospice, 720-315-4140.

Heather 'n Yon Deadline - 3/17

• Monthly Meetings • Boards and Committees

Listed meetings will be in the Board Room or Zoom.

- SEC (Zoom) – 1 pm Mon, March 6
- CECC (Zoom) – 10 am Tue, March 7
- Foundation (Zoom) – 1 pm Wed, March 8
- Joint Long Range Plan (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, March 9
- Personnel Policy (Zoom) – 10 am Fri, March 10
- Civic Affairs (Zoom) – 2:30 pm Fri, March 10
- Enterprise Advisory Grp (Zoom) – 10 am Mon, March 13
- Maintenance (Zoom) – 10 am Tue, March 14
- Resident Open Forum (Zoom) – 3 pm Wed, March 15
- ACC (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, March 16
- Budget & Finance (BR/Zoom) – 10 am Mon, March 20
- HGA Board (Zoom) – 1 pm Tue, March 21**
- Resident Orientation (Zoom) – 10 am Wed, March 22
- Joint Long Range Plan (Zoom) – 10 am Thu, March 23
- HGMD Board (Zoom) – 1 pm Thu, March 23**

Attention Master Masons

An appendant High Twelve Club will have an open meeting at 11 am Wednesday, March 22; 11 am Wednesday, April 26; and 11 am Wednesday, May 24, in Rendezvous Restaurant. It is a casual informative luncheon. Guests are invited. Guest speaker in March is Dr. Karl Specter, retired Neurosurgeon and a friend to Dr. Ben Carson. Call Walter Martin, 303-841-5234, for information.



Aurora Golf Course Advisory Committee

The city of Aurora is accepting applications now for vacancies on the Golf Course Advisory Committee. Volunteering for a board or commission is one way for residents to get engaged in local government. To apply or find out more, visit AuroraGov.org/Boards or call 303.739.7094.

Golf Course Advisory Committee: Serves as a voice of the public and advises the City Council and the department staff on such matters as shall pertain to the planning, budgeting, regulation and use of the

See FYI...page 51

Letters

Heather 'n Yon

Thank you Heather Gardens (HG) Metropolitan District Board, David Funk and Heather Gardens management for recommending and approving improvements to the HG community garden. The new water distribution system will substantially improve safety in the garden. It will also enhance the convenience and aesthetics of our garden.

Wasted water from old leaky pipes and faucets will no longer be a problem. The improvements to the common area will provide a larger and more pleasant atmosphere for gardeners to relax and enjoy.

The thoughtfulness and commitment towards the betterment of our community is truly commendable and deserves all residents' gratitude.

**Bob Gullion
B217**

Heather 'n Yon

On May 2 of this year, Heather Gardens Metropolitan District (HGMD) will hold its election for the Board of Directors. This year there are four openings.

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

Letters may be edited for clarity.

The HGA Board requires that letters do not exceed 300 words.

Letters will not be run from the same individual in successive months. Writers may publish only four letters per year, but not in consecutive months.

I have teamed up with three community leaders to serve you in these positions. Please see our full-page ad — *Candidates 4 Change* — to learn who we are and what our goals will be when we become directors.

I would like to express my concern regarding these two "Cs": Communication and Committees.

Communication. Each year special districts pass a Transparency Resolution describing how they will communicate with the community. This includes, but is not limited to: regular board meetings, regular reports in a community newsletter (like *Heather 'n Yon*), elected directors attending as many committee meetings as possible, and timely distribution of agendas and meeting packets. Sadly the last couple of years — all of these examples have been overlooked and, in some cases, violate state statutes.

Committees. During my three years as HGMD president, the number of standing committees increased and each had full membership capacity. Since 1983 the membership and function of these groups had been spelled out in the HGMD Bylaws. That all changed on Jan. 26 when the HGMD Board eliminated all committees except Foundation.

I have always maintained the governance of this community begins with committees whose members are knowledgeable residents. My philosophy is to govern from the bottom up instead of the top down.

The first regular board meeting of the newly-elected directors will be May 18. I promise, if I am elected, I will offer a motion to reinstate all standing committees.

With your vote for our *Candidates*

4 Change, I believe you will appreciate the goals we establish and the enhanced communications and committee functions.

**Craig Baldwin
B242**

Heather 'n Yon

I have been offered this wonderful opportunity to be part of a coalition of candidates who really want to improve HG Metropolitan District, wants to be responsive to the people, wants to cut expenses, wants to improve services, wants to involve participation.

It is a coalition of like-minded residents who care. We will not always agree on every issue. No one is a "Yes" person. But we will work together to make life in HG better for everyone.

Together these four candidates will strive to involve residents — listening to them and engaging them actively on committees. Our goals include staunching the increase in HGMD fees while maintaining and improving the amenities. We want to be approachable and accountable.

I am honored to have been recruited by HG residents to run, again, for the HGMD Board. My first stint, which was short-lived, was humiliating. I resigned after I was removed as chairman of the Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee and forbidden to talk to staff. I felt at the time that I could be more beneficial working from the outside.

Four of the five positions are open on the HGMD Board. This coalition wants to win all four seats. We will hold regular meetings. As soon as we know what is going to be discussed, you will know. Resident input

See Letters...page 33

HGMD Foundation

The HGMD Board approved the \$7,000 expenditure for a landscaping project at the January 2023 meeting.

The committee requested that HGMD management submit 2023 anticipated projects to the committee ASAP so projects can be budgeted.

Recent Donations to the General Fund 2023:

- B213 in memory of Frank Harper

- B215 in memory of Penny Cutler
- B218 in memory of Chuck Larson, Mary Dixon, Marcia Patullo
- B219 in memory of Jason Frank
- B220 in memory of Cathy Starr and Earlyna Winters
- B234 in memory of Carolyn Dunlap
- Rich and Mavis Richardson in memory of Pat Reichert (former B218)
– **Eloise Laubach, HGMD Vice President
Chair, Foundation Committee**

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-Jody H., January 2023

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Letters...from page 31

will be solicited.

We intend to be the best stewards we can, preserving our land and buildings, utilizing our facilities to their highest and best use, and doing it openly and honestly. I propose to keep in mind that residents are trusting us and counting on us.

We, *Candidates 4 Change*, care about HG residents. Please, cast a vote for each of us.

**Rita Effler
B232**

Heather 'n Yon

The Heather Gardens (HG) mail-in ballot for the budget veto vote has been confusing residents since 2019. YES means NO; NO means YES. This vote to veto the board approved budget is important. Yet the ballot, as it is currently written, may not be completely understood.

There were 588 NO votes (not to veto) for the 2023 budget. Did all 588

people deliberately/willingly vote to increase their monthly HOA fees by \$70, \$80, \$90 or more per month? I wonder.

In contrast, I recently saw a Windsor Gardens sample ballot in the January 2023 issue of *Windsor Life*. Their ballot is in a different format with the following two choices:

- Ratify the 2023 Budget (You are in favor of the approved budget)
- Veto the 2023 Budget (You are *not* in favor of the approved budget)

The minute I saw it, I thought it would be a better format for us too. No more confusion. I'm hoping that if we ask nicely, HG will agree to try this format for the 2024 budget ballot.

If you'd like to see this new format used for our ballots, let the HGA Board know. This is an easy change to make; a change that is needed and will benefit all residents in future budget votes.

**Candice Compton
B220**

Heather 'n Yon

I am disappointed and dismayed that some of the disinformation that is causing such divisiveness in our country is being spread right here in HG. The Republican Club has held three movie events in the last three months that are promoted as "documentaries" but they are not.

They are fiction dressed up to look like the truth. The lies they are spreading are dangerous to our democracy, and they give "aid and comfort" to those who are committing the crimes of violence and threats of violence against elected officials, election workers and others.

I support the freedom of speech and the right of the Republican Club to watch any movies they choose, but I feel that the notices they have posted around the Clubhouse violate our policy of civility in HG.

**Martha J. Karnopp
Chair, HG Democratic Club
B214**



Michael Peoples, B221, and his band performed in Sandberg Auditorium on Saturday, Feb 11, for his neighbors and friends. Great music, great food and great fun. – Photo by Cathy Martino, B221




MARTIN KAY
English antique dealer for over 40 years & former member of the International Society of Appraisers resident of HEB for 17 years



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



Clubs and Organizations

CP1

Happy hour is the first Wednesday of each month, 5:30 pm, Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms. On March 1, the fare will be a spaghetti dinner.

We will continue in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Rooms in April and May, then plan to begin our outdoor cul-de-sac gatherings in June. Watch for details via email. – Tammi, 303-618-5345; Carolyn, 720-290-9908.

TOPS

TOPS Chapter 0366 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.

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. Men and women are welcome. For information, contact Bonnie Meerkatz, 970-667-4839.

Optimist Club

The club meets the first and third Thursday of each month for breakfast in Rendezvous, 9:30 am. We invite current and potential members to attend. We have a delicious breakfast buffet, socialization and a speaker.

Our mission is to serve our community and focus on the youth to make a more optimistic future. We have many fun and worthwhile outreach projects. Contact Darlene Park, 303-798-5088, with questions.

HG Writers Club

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

CP4

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

Kiwanis Club of Aurora

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

Men with Purpose

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

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

Karaoke Club

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

Frolics Club

Rehearsals for the upcoming Spring Show, "Bridget Goes to Broadway," are progressing well. The cast and crew have been busy.

Tickets for the show will go on sale Monday, March 13, \$10 each. Show times are: Friday, April 21, 7 pm; Saturday, April 22, 4 pm, and Sunday, April 23, 2 pm.

HG Women's Book Club

The 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: 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.

The NoteAbles Mixed Chorus

The NoteAbles Mixed Chorus has selected a director/accompanist. Thank you to all who applied. For information, call Tom Kappel, 720-377-5756. – Valery Van Matre

Aviation Club

The club meets the second Wednesday of each month, 6:30 pm, Aspen Room. You do not have to be a veteran, a pilot, or a mechanic — just have an interest in airplanes and aviation in general.

Our March 8 program will feature a DVD of the 50th anniversary of the Oshkosh Airventure. See how Oshkosh airventure grew and evolved, along with hundreds of different aircraft: home built, general aviation, aerobatic, military, a commercial, world-record holders, historic flyovers, and much more. In this 55-minute video, you will view more different types of aircraft than you have seen in your lifetime! – Rudy Morris

The Green Team

Our annual Shred Event is Saturday, May 6, 9–10:45 am. The shred truck will be in the B250 parking lot, next to the Picnic Pavilion. Please be in line by 10:45. We don't want to turn anyone away if you are late.

How many boxes filled with old personal papers do you have hidden away in a closet, file cabinet or basement? Stop procrastinating, no more excuse — this is the time to unload all of it. You will be able to shred two standard-size file boxes for \$5 (of course, you can bring more.)

If you haven't checked inside those boxes for awhile, please do before bringing them for shredding. We are unable to take any plastic or metal spiral bindings, or bound books. No metal clips.

If you are in need of boxes, get them from a local market, liquor store or restaurant. Please do not bring your papers in plastic bags.

If you are pressed for time, feel free to go through the Drop & Go line. Or, if you would like to keep your box-

es, use the Stay & Watch line.

Need more information? Call 303-587-9797. – Wendy Pfaffhausen

RV Lot Club

Our club is open to all who RV, not just those who rent space in the HG RV Storage Lot. At our meetings, we share information and experience about RV-ing. We lobby to improve conditions in the storage lot. We also anticipate having social, travel and camping activities.

We meet the second Thursday of each month, 5–6 pm, Aspen Room. For additional information, please contact Forrest McClure, 720-472-9250. Happy trails and safe travels!

Birding and Nature Club

The HG Birding and Nature Club meets at 10 am, on the second Friday of each month in the Lodgepole Lounge.

HG Indivisible

The HG Indivisible group meets on the second Friday of the month for lunch at the Rendezvous Restaurant, 1 pm. We discuss issues, books, and ideas. You don't have to be a resident of HG, and you don't have to order lunch. If you plan on attending lunch, though, please email or text me, so I can reserve a table.

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

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

com. For more information about the national Indivisible group, visit this website: <https://indivisibleguide.com>.

The Breakfast Club

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

This is just the tip of the iceberg. TBC has grown in the past 20 years. It has three chapters along the Front Range. We have ongoing activities, such as bowling, the Birthday Bash, eating at a new restaurant, and Happy Hour.

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

Wine & Cheese Social Club

We meet on the third Saturday of every month. Join us on Saturday, Feb. 18, 3–5 pm, Aspen/Blue Spruce Room.

Bring a beverage and snack to share. Entertainment is provided. For more information, Debbie Brooks, 303-691-2715.

HG Photo Club

Welcome, photographers! If you want to become a better photographer, learn more about the craft, get and stay inspired, meet others who share your passion, and make new friends — nothing beats a photo club. The HG Photo Club is a group of friendly people who enjoy photography.

Our skills cover a broad range, from beginners to seasoned professionals. If you are interested in visiting, please do so. Come see if you like what we do, then join the club!

We meet on the third Monday, 3–4 pm, Aspen Room. If you have questions, please contact Larry Renshaw, Larry_Renshaw@msn.com, 303-648-0049, or Anita Huddleston, anvid7@hotmail.com, 303-718-6676.

Caregivers Support Group

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

B201 and B202

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

NFBCO Aurora Chapter

The Aurora Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Colorado meets once a month, 10:30 am–12:30 pm, in the Mountain View Room on the fourth Saturday.

Our chapter is open to all blind and low-vision persons interested in learning more about living the life you want with limited vision. For information, contact Dale Holden, chapter president, B213, 303-905-9738.

SRA

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

Low Vision Support

The Low Vision Support Group meets on the fourth Monday of the month, 1:30–3 pm, Aspen Room. Questions, call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224.

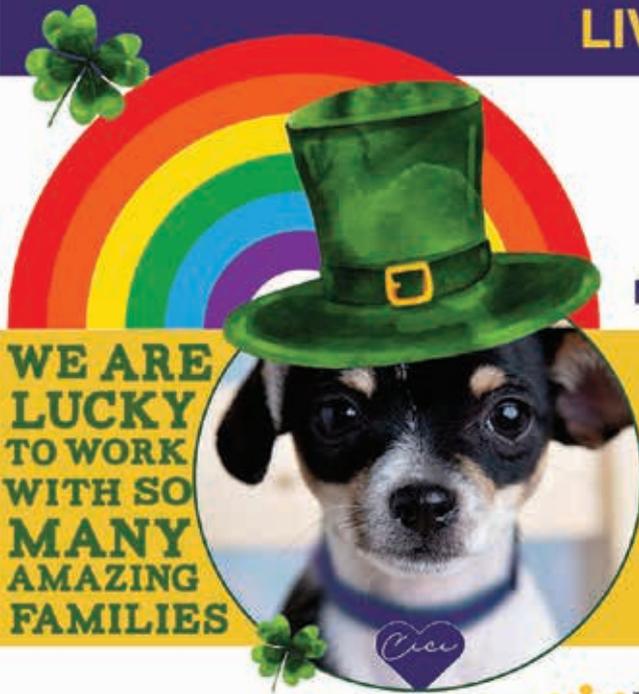
HG Republican Club

Spring is around the corner, and we look forward to new life, both in the ground and in our organization. With new leadership, we continue to be excited about programs and the direction we are headed.

Our speaker for March is John Fabbriatore, former director of the Denver field office for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). He is a proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force. I am excited to bring him to the club. He will address recently proposed legislation in the Colorado

See Clubs...page 41

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Sports and Recreation

Afternoon Cribbage

We meet 12:30–3 pm Wednesdays, in the Clubhouse lobby, near the fireplace. For information: Dean Lux, 303-353-4267.

Rummikub

This club meets 1–3 pm Wednesdays, in the Library. We play in groups of 4–6. Stop by, or call Joanne, 719-641-3644. If you can't make Wednesdays — call. We can see about setting up other days and times. — Joanne Turner

HG ACBL Duplicate Bridge

We play at 1 pm in the Blue Spruce Room each Wednesday. Pre-registration is required, by email, to merrilyv@sonic.net, or call, 720-282-3199. For partnership information, call Linda Harder, 303-369-2032. — Merrily VanZevern, Director

Pinochle

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

Square Dance

Heather Twirlers would like to invite 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, a newer dancer or feel a little rusty in your dancing, this is an excellent chance to recover the joy of dancing and improve your skills while meeting with new and old friends. You will meet other dancers, have a lot of fun, and it is great way to exercise. Any questions, call Beverly Nelson, 303-750-6632.

HG Ladies Golf Club

March is a month often associated with the color green. There's St. Patrick's Day and the first day of spring. There is the greening of the Golf Course, which signals the immi-

nent arrival of the next golf season — a day that members have been anxiously awaiting!

All league members should mark their calendars with these important dates:

March 8: First membership meeting in the Aspen/Blue Room, 10:30 am. This event is an opportunity for members to reconnect after a long winter break, and to sign up for scoring, ringers and pay dues.

March 9: Mandatory meeting for new members, 10:30 am, Mountain View Room. The club's rules and expectations will be reviewed.

March 15: Deadline for resident dues, in order to be included in the club directory.

April 5: Spring luncheon at Rendezvous, 1 pm.

April 12: First day of play, weather permitting. There are no payouts during April.

All women who are interested in league play are invited to join HGLGC regardless of skill level. Detailed information and membership applications are available at the HG Pro Shop, and on our website, www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com.

The next HGLGC board meeting will be held 1 pm Wednesday, March 29, in the Board Room. All members are encouraged to attend.

If you know of a new member, please be sure to remind them about the mandatory new member meeting on March 9.

Golf Trivia: Babe Zaharias was an outstanding athlete who excelled at basketball, baseball, and track and field. (She won two gold medals at the 1932 Summer Olympics.) She then turned to professional golf, winning 10 Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) major championships. She was one of America's top female golf players in the 40s and the 50s, winning the British Women Amateur (first American woman to do so). She was a founding member of the LPGA, and she was also the first

woman to challenge men in a professional tournament. — Suzi Stolte, Publicity Chair

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, which are grouped into forms. It has been described as "meditation in motion."

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

Bunko

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

Muu-Muu Hula Club

The club meets 1:30 pm Fridays, Arts & Crafts Room. All are welcome, dress is casual, and there is no cost for classes. Questions? Call Cindy Crockett, 303-690-7702.

Mexican Train Dominoes

We play noon–4 pm every Saturday, Arts & Crafts Room. Games start at noon and at 2 pm. — Bernadette (Bee) Hass, 303-923-3877.

Men's Monday Bridge

This group meets every Monday, 10 am–3 pm, in the Skyview Room. Questions: Maris Kuga, 720-748-0590.

Men's Evening Bridge

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

Pickleball

Have you heard about pickleball and are you intrigued? The club has loaner paddles for you. Just show up when we are playing, and let us

know you want to give it a try. More than 70 people have joined the club this year. Many of them are first-timers. We are a fun group that welcomes novices.

Club play will be 10 am–noon, or later, daily on the courts by the HG Clubhouse, weather permitting. We are also encouraging Wednesday afternoon play at 3 pm.

Visit our club's website <https://www.hgpickle.org/>. It is typically updated by 7:30 am, if we know play will be canceled or delayed due to weather. On most web browsers, you will find us by typing *hgpickle.org*.

For information, contact Phil Hughes 303-503-7633, phdenver@comcast.net, or Ron Hileman, 720-256-7477, ronhileman@gmail.com.

Social Bridge

Open casual bridge has expanded to Mondays and Fridays, 1–3:30 pm, in the Library, while continuing on Thursdays, 1–3:30 pm, in the Skyview Room. No reservations or partner needed, but please call before you come the first time. If there is sufficient interest, possibly we can stratify by skill level. – Joanne Turner, 719-641-3644

Time4TapDance Group

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

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

Monday Mah Jongg

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

All players are welcome, but you must have the latest Mah Jongg League card. If you are just curious about the game, feel free to drop by

to observe. For information: Bobbie Klapp, 720-708-6738.

Men's Poker and 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 additional information please call Paul Reddy, 303-750-0442, or Larry Hill, 720-272-7765.

Tennis Club

Our play times in March are Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 1–3 pm. We will remain on that schedule through April 2023. We play during the winter months, weather permitting.

Free clinics and refresher lessons available. If you have questions, please call Mark Merrill, 941-350-8455.

We are going to have a new-member recruitment on Sunday, April 23. Further details will be provided in the April *Heather 'n Yon*. Our Spring tennis member picnic is scheduled for Saturday, May 20.

We have monthly social meetings at the Rendezvous Restaurant. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 7, 5 pm. – Jill Taylor

Hand (Knee) and Foot

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

Tuesday Mah Jongg

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

Never played Mah Jongg? Come and observe, to see if you wish to learn. Free lessons can be arranged.

Call Laurie, 720-210-8033, or Bobbie, 520-743-6849, for information.

Ping Pong

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

Billiard Club

The club meets for Co-ed 8-Ball at 6:30 pm Tuesdays. Check in before 6:15 pm to play. Men's 9-Ball is 7 pm Thursdays.

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

At the end of 2022, we calculated who were our "pool sharks." Brian Bucenec came in first, winning a total of 12 times in the first-place spot. Dee Moore came in first among women, winning 10 times in the first-place spot.

For 9-Ball, Brian Bucenec came out on top, winning first place most of the time. Complete statistics are posted in the Billiard Room.

8-Ball Results January 24

- 1st Bob Schlageter Team
- 2nd Roger Goldstein, Dee Moore
- 3rd Doug Miller, Connie Burns

January 31

- 1st Brian Bucenec, Shannon Boyd
- 2nd Coy Whorton, Dee Moore
- 3rd Seam Kelliher, Clint Landry

February 14

- 1st Brian Bucenec, Shannon Boyd
- 2nd Lindy Davenport,
Tammy Beeman
- 3rd Roger Goldstein, Gil Lochhead

9-Ball Results January 26

- 1st Steve Hessen
- 2nd Doug Miller

February 2

- 1st Doug Miller
- 2nd Roger Goldstein
- 3rd Brian Bucenec

February 9

- 1st Roger Goldstein
- 2nd John Manzanara
- 3rd Lindy Davenport

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David Faris Environmental Awards

On Feb. 9, the Heather Gardens Green Team celebrated its 2nd David Faris Environmental Awards in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Room. Presentations were made to members of the HG community for performing exemplary deeds benefiting the environment in which we live throughout the past year. These folks were nominated by neighbors who have seen them working tirelessly.

The projects included delivering Puppy Poop Program (PPP) bags to building residents, creating an herb garden, picking up trash and building the first HG bat house.

The Green Team relies on suggestions from all residents for this annual event. If you know someone who is doing something above and beyond normal activities that benefits your area or building, please nominate them. Nominating forms are located in The Green Team's mail-

box at the Clubhouse (in the row of boxes that collects items to be distributed to the buildings).



Front row: J. Delay, N. Henson, J. Arce, C. Sierota, G. Trevino
Back row: D. Parker, M. Albert, B. Henson, R. Seeman, R. Hilleman
Not photographed: C. Lewis, P. Pendergast, K. Simmons, R. Baxter

Clubs...from page 35

House and explain what it means to Coloradans.

1–2:30 pm Tuesday, March 28
John Fabbricatore (Fab)

“Colorado: Immigration and the Border,” Sandburg Auditorium

Our program is free, although a \$5 donation is welcome. All proceeds go towards advertising and candidate support.

Annual membership dues are \$15 per person. We look forward to members renewing or joining for the first time. For more information on dues, send an email to: hgrclub@gmail.com. Bring a friend and enjoy getting to know other like-minded neighbors. – Janet Yoder

HG Democrats

The HG Democratic Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month,

4–5:30 pm. Starting in March, we will be meeting in the Sandberg Auditorium. All are welcome, regardless of party affiliation or residence in HG.

The speaker for our March 28 meeting will be the director of the Aurora Housing Authority. Affordable housing and homelessness are issues which affect us all. They are also subjects being discussed in the state legislature. Learn some facts about those issues in our community. Please join us after the meeting for dinner and/or political conversation in the Rendezvous Restaurant. -Martha Karnopp

Sevillians

Mark your calendar for the Tuesday, March 28, for Sevillians dinner at Rendezvous. This is a wonderful way to connect with fellow residents of the Seville, make new acquaintances, and find out about any important

happenings within the Seville.

Our dinners are the fourth Tuesday of the month, 4:30–6 pm (closing time). A sign-up sheet will be provided in the mailroom of your building. Cut-off for attendance is Friday, March 24. See you there. – Patt Clark, B235.

OPOCS Singles Club

Pinochle and bridge groups are meeting again. We are working on getting social gatherings going. For information, call Jackie Clements, 303-988-3555. – Bernice Lucero

HG Grief Support

Grief Support two-hour weekly meetings resumed in February. Contact Barbara Creswell, 651-485-3608, bcreswell6@gmail.com, for information.

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Heather Gardens Trips

Denver Art Museum

Monday, April 10, 9:30 am–12:30 pm

Fee: \$32, no cancellations or refunds after March 24

We will have a docent guide to lead residents through the exhibits. The Petrie Institute's collection of Western American art has particular strengths in the Taos Society of Artists, Early Modernism, and 19th century bronze sculpture. Today, it stands as one of the finest collections of its kind and, because of its unique location in the Rocky Mountain West, allows the Denver Art Museum to tell the story of American art from a Western perspective.

Charter bus will pick up residents between B243 and B244 on E Marina Drive at 9:30 am, returning to HG around 1 pm.



HG Clubhouse had a Valentine's Day reception in the Lobby with cookies, coffee and music.



Photos by
Janis Farrell

Cirque du Soleil

Sunday, Aug. 6, Bus leaves at 11:15 to Ball Arena

Fee: \$90, no cancellations or refunds after July 17

Reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5

Fee: \$90, reservations required, call 303-751-1811 ext. 5 or stop by the Activities Desk

Originally composed of 20 street performers in 1984, Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group completely reinvented circus arts. It became a world leader in live entertainment. The show has a broad range of audacious projects. On top of producing world-renowned shows, Cirque du Soleil aims to make a positive impact on people, communities and the planet with its most important tools: creativity and art.

Charter bus will pick up residents between B243 and B244 on E Marina Drive at 11:15 am, returning to HG around 5:30 pm.

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EAG Workshop...from page 6

Question: Several people feel that information on this merger hasn't been forthcoming. Couldn't a description regarding combining these committees have been previewed in a column by Funk, in the *Heather 'n Yon*, since every resident gets the magazine delivered to their doorstep?

Funk: I'll take that under advisement. You have to remember that everything in the *Heather 'n Yon* is a month old. I'd have to be clairvoyant.

Question: Do members of the old committees have to reapply for membership on the EAG?

Funk: If the Golf Committee members want to be involved, we will hear from them. The PPC had no members.

(Funk went on to say, anyone who wants to be part of the new committee can be. He suggested that the limits on committee size might be thrown out during the revision of the PMs. He stressed repeatedly that he wanted only members who would interact in a positive, constructive way on the EAG, not those who are negative in their approach.)

He added, "I get phone calls all the time that tell me I'm stupid and don't know what I'm doing. I don't need an entire advisory committee of people telling me that."

Expounding on the common complaint that the communication from the HGMD has not been good, one Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee member commented, "Sometimes, I read in the *Heather 'n Yon* that a meeting [that I've built my schedule around] has been canceled, with no explanation why."

Funk: You need to take a positive approach and realize [there was a good reason for the cancellation].

Asked if he would be a member of the EAG, Funk responded, "I guess so."

He summarized the reasons for changing the committee structure.

- Each of our three enterprises — golf, the restaurant, and the Clubhouse — has a professional running them. A committee advises, but is not the authority.
- Establishing the EAG is to create a structure for op-

erating in the current business environment. The object is to broaden the sources of input and address a wider range of topics, rather than siloing or isolating resident input. HG has moved the needle a lot in how HG operates, given that this is a multi-million dollar operation.

- We have to change. We need to change. Change is hard, but change is inevitable.

As no work on revising the PMs was tackled on Jan. 30, the decision was made to use the time slot formerly held by the Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee — the second Monday at 10 am — for the next EAG meeting. That group, chaired by Clubhouse/Restaurant Committee Chair Maria Mines, and minus Funk met on Feb. 13, and offered some revisions on the draft PMs.

A number of residents from the former Clubhouse/Restaurant, Golf and PPC indicated their willingness to serve on the EAG, and work on the PMs. There was general agreement that the EAG should continue to meet monthly, reviewing the profit and loss (P&L) statements from the three HGMD enterprises needed to be current for group members (see page 15 for December 2022 HGMD treasurer's report).

One representative asked, how can we make annual budget recommendations, if we don't see the P&Ls? The group adjourned after agreeing to continue revising the PM draft at the next EAG meeting, on March 13.



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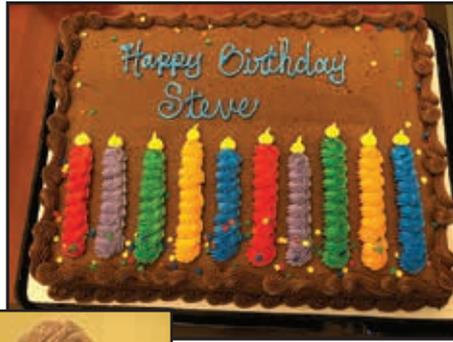
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Photos by Lynn Donaldson



Steve Wolther, B232, celebrated his 76th birthday on Feb. 3 with 14 friends in Rendezvous Restaurant. As with most birthdays, it followed the usual pattern — dinner from the menu, cards, gag gifts and birthday cake. Then Steve got pranked. A large, wrapped gift was brought in for him to unwrap. What could it be? Inside was a smaller wrapped box. Finally, after opening five boxes that got successively smaller, he got the gift — a jar of chocolate sprinkles for the man who often complains that there are not enough sprinkles on his dessert. Who pranked him? He kept accusing various celebrants until he discovered the truth.

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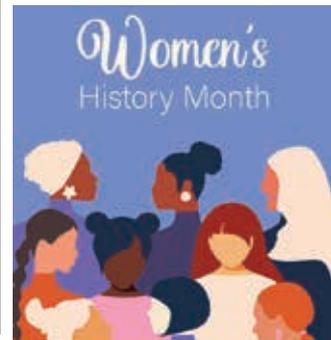
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FYI...from page 30

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- Homeowner's insurance payment assistance

The city received \$1.75 million in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for this program, with the possibility of receiving additional funding in the future. The program will be open until funding is exhausted.

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Overheard @ HG

The politics of snow

by Mary Hafka

In an era when it seems as though no one agrees with anyone, I feel comfortable making the following assumption: everyone living in Colorado has an opinion about snow. Specifically, about removing it.

About 40 years ago a long-time mayor, who served 15 years, and (I believe) was popular enough before this event, lost his job because he didn't get the Denver streets plowed fast enough after a heavy snow.* This guy had a sports arena named after him, but that wasn't enough to save his job, when a young upstart candidate made poor snow removal an issue, claiming that, if elected, he would do better.

In 1983, Federico Pena became Denver's mayor, replacing 74-year-old Bill McNichols. After electing the city's first Hispanic mayor — which was a big deal — Denver experienced another heavy snowfall. Pena was criticized as loudly for slow snow removal as the guy he replaced.

In due course, Pena said something like, "I guess we'll have to wait for the sunshine to do its job." Which, if memory serves, was pretty much what Mayor McNichols had said, just before he got the boot.

This season has been a snowy one, which has caused the snowplow controversy again to raise its ugly head. All politics is local.

So, although I didn't attend a HG Resident Open Forum earlier this year, I heard comments later made at the January meeting of the Area Representatives Organization (ARO). What was said at the ARO meeting led me to believe that much howling, rending of garments, and gnashing of teeth had occurred during the Forum because the HG neighborhood did not get plowed very fast after heavy snowstorms in late December and early January.

Subsequent official comments were tendered, reminding everyone that HG has a civility policy. I was left to guess that things had gotten somewhat uncivil at the Forum. A

number of residents had expressed dismay about the caliber of snow removal. I cast my mind back to poor, old Mayor McNichols, and sighed.

I was left with the impression that some of the loudest complainers might have been a few residents of Country Places (CP), whose individual driveways didn't receive a high priority when snowplows got dispatched. I could be wrong, but it seemed to me that after all the folderol, my CP driveway was plowed a lot sooner when the next snow fell.

Delayed snow clearing doesn't affect me much these days. Most of my work can be done remotely. My short-legged dog might have a few choice woofs to say on the matter, but she's always found snow to be a personal inconvenience.

In the old days, I never used to hesitate to jump in my trusty auto, and venture out into the snow, no matter how hazardous. I once drove to Dallas during an ice storm. Following that, I figured no driving conditions would ever scare me again.

That was true, until I went to work for a cable company, located in the Denver Technological Center (DTC). Commuting to the DTC greatly changed my attitude about driving in bad weather, or, in fact, commuting at all. The reason was simple. Those drivers headed to the DTC during rush hour were crazy. Probably late for work. Certainly overly caffeinated. Quite simply put, they were out to kill me.

Traveling to the DTC possibly qualified for being the "Slipperiest Drive in America." It was wide open with few trees and wind breaks, so the streets iced over quickly. A couple of skids on the way to work caused me to turn in my American-made car for a four-wheel-drive Toyota.

Still, the biggest hazard clearly was the other drivers. I gritted my teeth through six years of that job, including experiencing one accident when a driver on Arapahoe came over a slight rise in the road, going

way too fast, and plowed into five cars, including mine, that were stopped at a traffic light.

As the second driver from the front, in the pack of accorded-together vehicles, I was the second least injured, I believe. (The lady in the front car walked away.) I had surgery on both legs.

I also had been driving my father's car when the accident occurred. He was in the hospital, at the time. At his request, I took his car out to run it, every now and then. No matter how old you are, it's never fun to have to tell your father you just totaled his car.

I grew to really hate that job, and the commute was a large part of why. (The free cable TV — including all premium channels — was nice, though. I miss that.)

It was a relief when, in 1998, my medium-sized cable company was bought by a big cable company (Comcast), and we all got laid off. I collected my generous severance check, and skipped off to spend that summer lying by HG's outdoor pool.

The cable company was the last job I had where I commuted during rush hour. These days, my philosophy of snow is, I don't drive in it unless it's an emergency. I know that a lot of people must get to work — same as I used to. I figure I'm doing a public service for the citizens of Colorado, staying off the roads and making one less vehicle playing bumper cars.

Mark Twain supposedly said, "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." It's never been clear to me what Mark thought we could do.

Over the years, I've accepted, good-naturedly, that complaining is HG's favorite pastime. Maybe, at the end of the day, we're all just a bunch of snowflakes.

(Oops! I hope that wasn't too uncivil.)

*A significant factor in McNichols's failure to get re-elected was a two-day blizzard that began on Dec. 24, 1982, and continued through the holiday. The massive storm dropped about two feet of snow, with more in some neighborhoods; strong winds created impassable drifts. The city was virtually paralyzed as city crews failed to clear the streets for days. [Wikipedia]

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