

Heather Ridge Metro Matters

VOLUME 3

AUGUST 2012

NUMBER 2

Gardens in Heather Ridge



Summer is a great time to enjoy the variety of gardens throughout the community. Take a walk around, enjoy the colorful and fragrant flower beds.

More photos on page 9.

Photo by Bette Secord

Neighborhood Watch

Molly Markert's July newsletter included a valuable article concerning tips on how to prevent being scammed. I felt that it would be helpful to our community to list some of those tips:

- You cannot be a winner of something if you did not enter.
- Companies do not routinely ask for your personal information.
- It is illegal to play a foreign lottery or sweepstakes.
- You do not have to pay taxes, fees or handling charges prior to collecting winnings.
- Do not deposit or cash unsolicited checks received in the mail; frequently they are counterfeit.
- Do not provide your bank account information to someone who wants to wire you money unless you know they are legitimate.
- There is no legitimate reason for someone who is giving you money to ask you to wire money back to them.
- Know to whom you are speaking with on the telephone. If you did not initiate the call, do not provide personal information.
- Know to whom you are communicating with on the internet. Do not click on links or provide personal information unless you initiated the contact at a web-

site or e-mail address you know is good.

- Do not allow access to your computer through a phone solicitation.
- Install firewalls and anti-virus software on your computer and run periodic updates. Updates can be set to run automatically.
- If you think your computer has a virus, call your service provider or another reputable information technology troubleshooting service.
- Verify the credentials of workmen coming to your door by contacting the company.
- Do not be fooled by solicitors coming to your door. If they are claiming work needs to be done, verify and get second opinions before you have the work done.
- Do your homework – check with the Better Business Bureau, Attorney General's Office and others before contracting for work to be done.
- Do not feel pressured to make a quick decision. Do your research.

Colorado No-Call List: 800-309-7041 or www.ColoradoNoCall.com

National Do Not Call Registry: 888-382-1222 or www.donotcall.gov

As information — you will still get calls from those
See Neighborhood Watch...page 14

Heather Ridge Metro Matters is published monthly for the residents of Heather Ridge.

Metro District Board Members

(Visit HRMDco.org, HRMD button) Contact Vinny Roith for questions: 303-755-3660; 720-246-0306
info@hrmdco.org; HeatherRidgeColorado.org

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Joan Beldock (Country Club Ridge), Assistant Secretary
Mary Lou Braun (Cobblestone), Assistant Secretary

It is the intent of the editor and HRMD 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 Ridge Metro Matters welcomes letters and other articles concerned with community issues. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's phone number. Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. Send to LynnNeu@comcast.net

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HOAs in the United Association of Heather Ridge:

(UAHR is the "watch dog" of the HRMD)
President Josie Spencer (Heather Ridge South)
Vice President Pam Bjerke (Burgundy)
Burgundy, burghoa.com
Chimney Hill
Cobblestone
Cobblestone Crossing
Double Tree
Fairway 16
Heather Ridge South, Heatherridgesouth.com
Sausalito, sausalitohoa.com
Strawberry, strawberryhoa.com
website: www.uahr.org

Managers, Golf Club at Heather Ridge (GCat)

13521 E. Iliff Ave, Aurora, CO 80014
303-755-3550

Board: President Loren Janulewicz (Men's Club), Secretary Vic Evans (Men's Club), Treasurer Larry Ransford (Cobblestone Crossing), John Hartnett (Men's Club) and Irene Young (Women's Club)
website: www.golfclubatheatherridge.com

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Heather Ridge Community Affairs: Lenders, foreclosures and HOAs

Condo and townhome associations are under greater scrutiny by lenders. Many conventional mortgage lenders, following the practices of HUD or FHA lenders, are requiring more detailed documents from an HOA when qualifying a buyer for a home mortgage. Many lenders now want to see certain operating documents (declarations, bylaws, annual and year to date budgets, reserve balances), meeting minutes, statistics and newsletters before closing a buyer's loan.

Increased lender scrutiny is a direct result of mortgage losses resulting from poorly run HOA communities. When federal and other officials did an autopsy of mortgage foreclosures for the past four years or more, significant mortgage losses were attributable to incompetent HOAs. The biggest culprits were older communities with under-funded reserves that kept HOA fees too low and borrowed money to fund projects; communities with high absentee ownership (too many rentals); and new, under capitalized housing projects. (Think Miami, Florida, and Las Vegas, Nevada.)

The greater Heather Ridge area (as well as metro Denver) had more than its fair share of foreclosures in recent years, but "systemic problems" appear to be behind this area. This includes lending reforms as

envisioned under the Dodd-Frank Act. In Heather Ridge, all HOAs dealt with foreclosures as best they could without any HOA filing bankruptcy. That was not the case for other communities throughout Denver and the nation.

If you are thinking of selling or refinancing your home, it is wise to interview lenders, not just for their interest rate and closing fees, but to know what they want from your HOA about your community. One of the biggest obstacles is absentee ownership — the percentage of renters to owners. A growing number of lenders won't lend to prospective owners when rentals exceed 20 percent of ownership. Before you pay for an appraisal, or go through the brain damage of qualifying for a loan, find out if your community qualifies first.

Marketing Heather Ridge. Each HOA should consider how its homes fit into today's real estate market. Does your HOA have a website listing HOA information, operating costs (HOA fees, property taxes, annual budget, etc) and transferring costs for buyers and sellers? Does your HOA participate in *Metro Matters*, publishing a timely newsletter about itself, its residents, social activities, or home/community ownership issues? All this helps to sell the community you call home.

Metro Matters periodically publishes information about all 10 HOAs

in the Heather Ridge Metropolitan District (HRMD). This information, collected in a spreadsheet, includes important items such as HOA fees, transfer costs, number of units, and the number of rentals. Owners, agents, buyers and vendors have commented that this report was easy to access and reference.

When someone visits Heather Ridge, what impressions might occur? The next time you drive in or out of the community, take a hard look at it. First impressions can be lasting ones, so what impressions do you see? When buyers visit homes for sale, will the landscape, number of cars parked (or not parked) outside of garages, and the elusive but easily recognized sense of community pride impress them? I hope so.

Talk to your HOA about your concerns. Give them your ideas and support to make your neighborhood better, safer, and "user friendly." Get involved and make a difference. Before you know it, things could be better.

Support *Metro Matters* advertisers. *Metro Matters* is a community magazine sponsored by the HRMD. Its goals include heightened community awareness, education, and promoting HRMD's mission: *to preserve the open space, property values, and safeguard the way of life — best maintained as a golf course.*

See HRCA...page 13

Reader responses were positive

The article, "Update on the Heather Ridge Metropolitan District Activities" in the July issue of *Metro Matters*, suggested four ways that members of the community could help in the goal to reduce the expense of the magazine:

- Request electronic delivery of *Metro Matters*. Contact Lynn Donaldson at metro.matters@comcast.net.
- Support *Metro Matters* advertisers.
- Recommend advertising in the magazine to other providers you may know. Refer them to Cindy Crockett, cindycrockett5@gmail.com, or 303-690-7702.
- Write a brief paragraph to "Letters to the Editor" if you are pleased with one of "Metro Matters" service providers.

Metro Matters would like to offer a special thank you to Strawberry I and II and Board President Jan Lucas for the generous offer to hand deliver the magazine to its residents. The nominal fee of \$120 per year for distribution to 328 units means a substantial savings in postage costs.

Heather Ridge South has also offered to hand deliver *Metro Matters* to their community. Thank you to HRS and Board President Van Lewis.

Thank you to David Brahinsky, who wrote a letter to the editor recommending Hardra Plumbing and Chambers Liquor.

It is community support and involvement that gives Heather Ridge Metropolitan District its strength.

— Bette Secord



Pete Traynor
 Double Tree
 303-877-9538

PeteTraynor@ReMax.net

Changing Real Estate Markets

Changing Markets. What a different real estate market today from one or two years ago. Heather Ridge is a perfect match for today's market needs: prices generally below \$200,000, Cherry Creek Schools, golf course open space, and great location to hospitals, roadways, light rail, shopping, and DIA. What more could you want?

For the past 2-4 years, foreclosures dominated Heather Ridge. Owners with "real value" and updated features couldn't afford to sell due to foreclosures. In 2011, the market slowly changed. By 2012, a shortage of inventory started driving prices up. Yet, prices are not as high as 2007 — the "high-water mark" for metro Denver prices before the recession hit. At present price growth rates, it will take five or more years to recover lost equity.

What can you do to improve your home's value? Updating or remodeling can be expensive, but given your long- versus short-term goals, it might be money well spent. To optimize repairs, give Pete or Van a call. They are constantly showing and marketing properties, which helps sellers make "affordable" decisions to improve their values.

Rentals, interest rates, homes for sale. The local rental market continues to be strong. Rents keep rising along with demand, but a time will come when market forces will kick in and stimulate greater home sales more.

Once an economic recovery starts, it takes one or two years before consumer confidence translates into buying homes. Many tenants rent due to economic uncertainty, affordability, or credit issues. If Denver's economy continues to grow as it is, many tenants will become buyers if mortgage rates remain low.

If you are an investor in Heather Ridge, when do you sell? It is estimated that over 25 percent of all Heather Ridge homes are rentals. This varies from community to community within the 1,127 units in HRMD. Some HOAs reach 40 percent or more. People own rentals for various reasons: income source, they couldn't sell when moving out, market speculation, or tax shelter. Tax policy is a major factor to sell or not — especially for long-time owners facing recapture of depreciation. With so many market decisions and options, call Pete or Van for the latest news. They want to see Heather Ridge's home values increase for many reasons — including because their families live here.

(The Following Properties May Have Been Listed or Sold by Other Companies) **Homes for Sale in Heather Ridge, New Listings May 1–July 11**

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Be/Ba	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Burgundy	\$139,900	2645	S Xanadu Way C	3 - 2	1,315	Off Street	Ranch
Country Club Ridge	\$185,000	2240	S Vaughn Way 201	2 - 2	1,476	1-Garage,Att	Ranch
Fairway 16	\$159,000	2416	S Vaughn Way C	2 - 2	1,365	2-Garage,Att	Ranch
Fairway 16	\$174,000	2518	S Vaughn Way A	4 - 4	1,650	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$151,000	2855	S Xanadu Way	3 - 4	1,462	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$159,900	2882	S Wheeling Way	3 - 3	1,633	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$168,000	2722	S Xanadu Way	3 - 3	1,633	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Sausalito	\$144,900	2419	S Worchester Ct A	2 - 3	1,274	Garage,Att	2 Story
Sausalito	\$200,000	2459	S Worchester Ct A	2 - 3	1,230	2-Garage,Att	Ranch
Strawberry I	\$57,900	13651	E Yale Ave D	1 - 1	856	1-Carport,Det	2 Story

Sold in Heather Ridge May 24–July 11

HOA	Sold \$	No.	Street	SqFt	Type Sale	Concessions	Terms
Chimney Hill	\$118,000	2054	S Worchester Ct	1,457	Bank	\$0	FHA
Cobblestone	\$105,000	2152	S Victor St E	1,392	Bank	\$0	Cash
Cobblestone	\$138,500	2500	S Victor St F	1,273	Individual	\$0	CNV
Cobblestone	\$149,400	2457	S Victor St C	1,230	Individual	\$2,500	FHA
Cobblestone Crossing	\$95,500	13346	E Asbury Ave	1,392	Bank	\$0	Cash
Cobblestone Crossing	\$129,000	13384	E Asbury Ave	1,392	Corp	\$3,700	FHA
Country Club Ridge	\$192,500	2270	S Vaughn Way 102	1,722	Individual	\$0	Cash
Heather Ridge South	\$132,000	2870	S Wheeling Way	1,633	Estate	\$2,750	CNV
Heather Ridge South	\$169,000	2792	S Wheeling Way	1,633	Individual	\$3,582	CNV
Strawberry	\$58,600	2491	S Xanadu Way C	1,091	Individual	\$0	Cash
Strawberry I	\$39,101	2602	S Xanadu Way A	856	Gov't	\$0	FHA



Van Lewis
 Heather Ridge South
 303-550-1362
van@vanlewis.com

Homes Under Contract in June-Jul

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Bed/Ba	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Burgundy	\$88,000	2623	S Xanadu Way F	2 - 2	1,315	2-Garage,Det,Resv	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$89,100	2408	S Victor St E	2 - 2	1,025	2-Garage,Att	Ranch
Cobblestone	\$90,000	2101	S Victor St A	2 - 2	1,208	1-Garage,Det	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$135,000	13256	E Asbury Ave	2 - 2	1,208	1-Garage,Det	2 Story
Country Club Ridge	\$150,000	2280	S Vaughn Way 203	2 - 3	1,693	1-Garage	Ranch
Country Club Ridge	\$187,500	2240	S Vaughn Way 101	2 - 2	1,196	1-Garage,Att	Ranch
Country Club Ridge	\$211,900	2220	S Vaughn Way 202	2 - 2	1,806	2-Garage,Att	Ranch
Fairway 16	\$144,950	2598	S Vaughn Way A	2 - 2	1,462	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$144,900	2725	S Xanadu Way	2 - 2	1,365	2-Garage,Att	Ranch
Sausalito	\$110,000	2101	S Victor St C	2 - 2	1,208	1-Reserved	2 Story
Sausalito	\$137,000	2052	S Worcester St	3 - 2	1,337	2-Garage, Att, Over	2 Story
Sausalito	\$149,950	2511	S Worcester Ct A	2 - 2	1,273	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$79,900	2664	S Xanadu Way A	2 - 2	1,144	None	2 Story
Strawberry II	\$82,900	2423	S Xanadu Way C	2 - 2	1,091	2-Carport,Det, Resv	2 Story

Van Lewis: Re/Max Alliance, 303-550-1362; van@vanlewis.com

Pete Traynor: Re/Max Masters, 303-877-9538, PeteTraynor@ReMax.net

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Your Community needs YOU!

Do you know what your HOA Board does — and what it should do?

Residents are in control of their community unless they abdicate their role. Are you familiar with your homeowners association (HOA) declarations, rules and regulations? They were written for your protection and comfort. Your board must be responsive to the residents.

Do you observe what is done well and say a word of thanks? Do you let them know when a tree is dying or a sprinkler head is spewing forth erratically and wasting water? Do you report when you see a contractor falling short of expectation?

When your fees go up and reserves go down, do you really know WHY?

The most important thing you can do as a resident is **go to** the annual, and several monthly **meetings** to be informed, and to be a part of the stewardship process. Does the Board follow proper protocol at meetings?

Does the board give each member, and attending residents, an opportunity to express their views? Is each member respected, or are discriminatory behaviors and put-downs common? Does one member lord it over the rest?

Before the annual meeting, look critically at the budget sent out to residents and compare it to last year's budget and actual expenses. Ask why the reserves have gone down. Ask why the board doesn't hire a really good contractor for long-term savings. Find out why the board keeps a contractor who has a long line of resident complaints against them. Question the wisdom of proposals for next year's budget expenditures. Ask for proof that projects done were needed and completed satisfactorily. Why would a board propose to spend \$10,000 for an irrigation audit that was already done free? If residents do not relinquish their rights in an HOA, unreasonable expenses can be avoided.

A second important action is

to be willing **to serve on the HOA Board**. Too often, the board is made up of a few people who enjoy the influence attached to being a board member, but they do not really represent the community's best interests. They stay in office mainly because other residents are not willing to serve.

If residents do not take the time to SEE what needs to be done, they will not appreciate how they could benefit the community. Most residents do not contact the board unless they have a personal problem. They may be too busy or put off by board members. What is your view of your board?

Thirdly, **observe what is happening in your community and speak up**. Know who is on the board and whom to contact when you have an observation. Do you know if the board is preferential in responding? Does the board tell you that you must fix your own patio fence and then votes to fix another resident's fence on the community tab?

Is there a written policy on what repairs are an owner's responsibility versus HOA responsibility?

Do you know if the contractors hired by the management company actually do the job or do they short-change the community while being paid full price? Are you satisfied with the responses you get when you contact the board or management company? Or are they "unresponsive"?

Your board needs you. You may volunteer to help in your area of expertise. You can offer help in community socials, committees, or landscape improvement.

Board members are not

paid and they have busy lives. Most members do not want to do more than the minimum. Long standing members may oppose new members who question and fight for radical improvements. Such members may defend the status quo to the community's detriment.

Board members are human and if they are not held accountable, they may take advantage of their position simply because they can.

Residents need to hold their board accountable. If residents don't take an interest in the welfare of the community, attend meetings and get to know the events or practices in their community, they may face poor work, declining funds, assessments and lower property values.

All the money spent by the HOA Board is YOUR money. Know whether you approve of how it is being used. Remember, *it is your home and your money*.

Being active in your community is just taking care of your own interests.

— Pam Akiri
Chimney Hill



HOT!

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Homeowners' Association News

Sausalito by Carol McCormick

Landscaping. Our grounds are looking pretty good despite the past HOT weather. A few days of wonderful rain sure helps.

Security. Sausalito's security company, Brownstone, is doing a wonderful job patrolling and protecting the community. When you see Randy and his crew walking around the community, be sure to say hello.

Golf Course. Just a reminder for the non-golfers who walk the golf path: please take heed of the posted signs saying you are doing so at your own risk. A traveling golf ball can be deadly.

Neighborhood Watch. The Aurora Police Department posted Neighborhood Watch signs at each entrance. A few more Block Captains are needed. Homeowners and/or renters can volunteer. Please contact Carol McCormick, the Sausalito Area Coordinator, at carol_mccormick@comcast.net, if you are interested or to find out more about the program. It will not take much of your volunteer time. Your services will help keep the community safe.

SAUSALITO HOA ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE HEATHER RIDGE GOLF CLUB ON WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8, 7 pm. Hope to see many of you at this important meeting.

Trash Removal Days. The regular trash removal

days are every Tuesday. Recycling days are every other Tuesday.

Monthly Meetings. The board meets at 6:30 pm on the second Wednesday of every month at the Golf Club at Heather Ridge. Guests are welcome.

FYI. The management company is offering homeowners an e-payment option for monthly HOA dues. You received information via mail along with your payment invoice. If you need more information, please call Bill McKinney, 303-783-0394.

Board Members. President Vincent Roith, 303-745-9805; Vice President/Landscaping Tony Carniglia, 720-535-9705; Secretary/Newsletter Carol McCormick, 720-747-0836; Treasurer/Pools/UHR Representative Pat Horton, 303-695-6181; Board Members at Large: Debbie Martinez, 720-298-8323; Tom Scally, 303-750-8772; and Sherri Cooper.

Property Management Company. Bill McKinney, President, McKinney Management Company, Inc. 3576 S. Logan St., Englewood, CO 80113. Phone: 303-783-0394. Fax: 303-783-0398.



Heather Ridge South by Van Lewis

Got your HO-6 insurance? Thanks to everyone for participating and understanding recent insurance issues, especially adding owner coverage for "loss assessment" risks. Notice letters were mailed to all owners of record via certified mail, signed receipt requested. The board will periodically remind all owners about insurance issues and coverage.

And speaking of insurance coverage, if your basement is flooded by its sewer backing up, losses are not covered by the HOA. An owner's HO-6 insurance policy should address such issues. The HOA will extract water and air-dry floors, but damage claims for personal and real property (carpet, pad, furniture, walls, etc) is an owner's liability. HRS has a designated company to remove water and dry the floors, so call Westwind first. Remember, owners may be liable for costs should water damage not be the HOA's responsibility.

If water enters a unit through a basement window well or other source, the HOA isn't automatically liable. Each incident will be examined for liability. Issues to watch for include a proper window well cover, sunken ground channeling surface waters towards a base-

ment window, or a garden area that traps water runoff. Also, inspect window wells for serviceability and operation. Owners must report to the HOA any concerns that might affect the safety of their property — so please inspect your unit's exterior, especially when it rains.

As an owner, should you have flood insurance? The HOA master policy does not include flood insurance, but individual owners can have it. Discuss this and other issues with your insurance agent.

For whom does the HOA represent? It represents its property owners only, and not renters or others living in Heather Ridge South units. Non-owners must work through their property owners to request repairs or material changes outside of their units.

For example, tenants must first tell their property owner (landlord) about HOA matters and requests. Also, parties living together must communicate through the

See Heather Ridge South...page 8



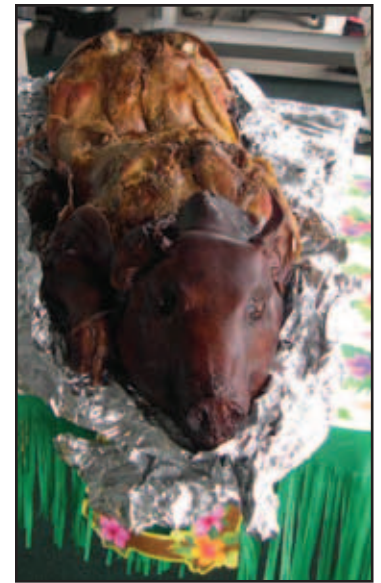
Heather Ridge South...from page 7

owner of record only. The board is required to work with owners of record or their legal representatives only. Tenants and others have no legal standing.

Starting Soon — new asphalt pavement. New asphalt interior roadways will be installed starting in August. Dates and locations will be hand posted throughout the community as paving plans develop. Vehicle access to areas may be restricted during milling and paving operations, so watch for posted notices to plan for parking, garbage pickup, and other issues. There is no special assessment for asphalt paving given adequate HOA Reserves.

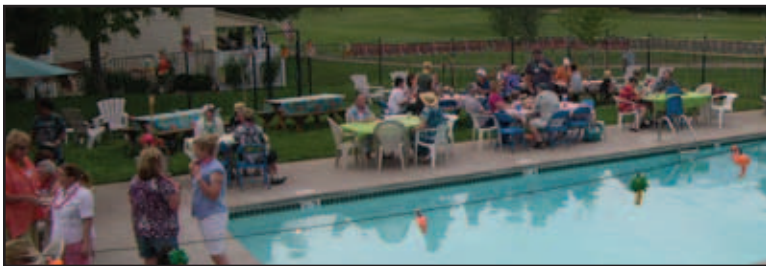
Want a larger basement window? The board recently approved a larger basement window installa-

tion. For details, contact Janelle at Westwind, 303-369-1800, extension 115, for application papers. This feature may allow more light and access to your basement, making it more habitable and improving its value.



Photos: This was the 12th anniversary of HRS's summer Luau Party (affectionately called the Pig Party). Held on a balmy summer's night, July 14 at the clubhouse, over

75 residents and guests attended. Dining on complimentary beer, pork, chicken, and corn on the cob, the three-hour event ended with roasting marshmallows over a fire pit and evening drinks. This is what makes HRS special — a strong sense of community.



Chimney Hill by Lana Gutnik

Board and Management News. Please call ACCU with all questions, problems, requests and suggestions. Mary Parsons, maryparsons@accuinc.com. Mary can be reached, 303-339-9704.

Architectural Approval and Common Area Improvements. All improvements to the exterior of your home must be approved by the HOA Board. Please request an Architectural Approval form from Mary Parsons, maryparsons@accuinc.com. The form could also

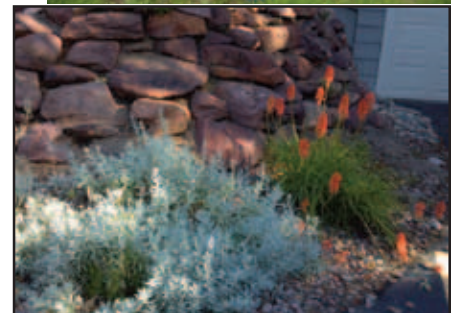
there are a lot of people who figured out how to keep the areas in front of their units beautiful. Here are some photos I took.

All residents are encouraged to call the property managers with any suggestion/concerns.

Pool. I hope people are making time to enjoy the pool. It looks great. Please remember that guests must be accompanied by the residents, and all children must be supervised by adults. Glass items are not allowed in pool area. Only one key per household is given out.

Annual Pool Party Reminder. The pool party is planned for Saturday, Aug. 25, from 5 pm to closing. Don't forget to bring a side dish to compliment the hot dogs and hamburgers provided by the board.

2012 Monthly Meeting Location. Chimney Hill HOA monthly board meetings are held at the 19th Hole in the basement at the Heather Ridge Golf Club on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6 pm. All members are welcome to attend.



be found on www.accuinc.com site.

Water Audit. On July 2, Chimney Hill had a sprinkler water audit done by the Center for ReSource Conservation, which made several good suggestions.

A written report will indicate where Chimney Hill can save water and keep the community looking beautiful. One preliminary suggestion was to eliminate most aprons in front of the units. Some of them have 2-4 sprinklers but still no grass.

I walked around the neighborhood and noticed that

More HOA news on page 12

Heather Ridge

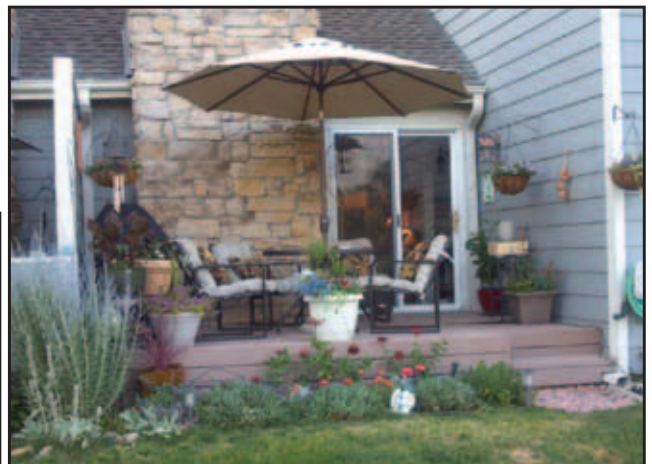
Relaxing after Golf!



After a **Couples Golf Tournament**, sponsored by the **9-Hole Ladies Golf League**, the winners celebrated.



Above: Edie Reidel got to celebrate her birthday!



More Gardens



Photo Album

August 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Note: Regular Heather Ridge board or committee meetings will be held on the dates below, providing there is business to be conducted.</i></p>			1	2 6 pm FWY 16 Board Meeting – FWY 16 Clubhouse	3	4 HR Community Yard Sale 8 am–3 pm
5	6	7 9-Hole Ladies Golf	8 7 pm Sausalito Annual Meeting – GC at HR	9 11:30 am FWY 16 Potluck – FWY 16 Clubhouse	10 Metro Matters Deadline	11
12	13	14 9-Hole Ladies Golf Club Championship on front 9	15 6 pm Neighborhood Watch Meeting – Strawberry Clubhouse	16 Lunch Bunch at Thai Basil 4 pm HRMD Board Meeting – GC at HR	17	18 8 am Ladies 18 Hole Club Championship
19 8 am Ladies 18 Hole Club Championship	20	21 9-Hole Ladies Golf Club Championship on back 9 6 pm Chimney Hill Board Meeting – GC at HR	22	23 6:30 pm Ward IV Meeting 6:30 pm Pool Party at Strawberry, 2638 S Xanadu Way	24	25 5 pm to closing Chimney Hill Pool Party
26	27	28 9-Hole Ladies Golf	29	30	31	

Note:

- Farmer's Market every Monday at Havana Exchange Shopping Center (on Havana, south of Yale)
- Chemical Roundup Sept. 9, 9 am–4 pm, Aurora Central Facilities Building, 3645 E. Ellsworth Ave.



Out To Lunch Bunch

The next gathering will be Thursday, Aug. 23, noon @ Thai Basil (2710 South Havana St.).

Please contact Ginny Lewis to RSVP —

ginny.lewis@comcast.net or 303-337-6118



Metro Matters readers:

In an effort to reduce mailing costs, HRMD residents, off-site owners and Golf Course members can opt to get a copy via email. If you would prefer to receive this magazine as a low resolution pdf file by email, send your email to metro.matters@comcast.net (with your current mailing address). Advantages, besides saving on postage, include: 1) you'll get the magazine earlier; 2) you can print any page you want to read or share; and 3) you can more easily share it with friends with whom you correspond on email.

HRMD, UAHR and HRCA meetings are open to residents!

Golf Club at Heather Ridge Monthly Update

www.golfclubatheatherridge.com



18-Hole Ladies League

The July 18 Member/Guest Tournament was a fun morning of golf — with a great format and followed by a delightful lunch. The Member/Guest Committee, ably led by Peggy Coppins, outdid themselves with their

“Margaritaville” theme. Noonan’s provided some specialty margaritas. The winners got great prizes. Everyone got a door prize. A good time was had by all! First place winners in the two flights were photographed (below).



Winners in the Member-Guest Tournament were for 1st flight (left, from left): Sharon Berkowitz, Randi McKnight, Debby Wishmier and Pam Ortell. Second flight winners were (above, from left): Vonda Peecher, Marilyn May, Kay Wulfekuhler and Diana Jordan.

Heather Ridge Golf Club Hole in One List

Date	Name	Hole	Yards	Club
6/15/1975	Bob Dahl	5	108	PW
7/4/1984	Vonda Peecher	10	112	7 iron
11/24/1989	Vonda Peecher	10	112	7 iron
9/9/1991	Bob Knutson	10	195	5 iron
7/3/1993	Chris Leger	10	118	8 iron
7/16/1993	Anne Dahl	8	87	8 iron
7/23/1995	Terry Hymans	8	180	6 iron
8/9/1997	Don Copeland	8	160	5 iron
10/16/1998	Dick Bennett	8	155	7 iron
8/9/1999	Tom Knaub	14	214	4 iron
1/16/2000	JJ Jackson	5	108	PW
3/9/2000	Murray Boyd	5	106	6 iron
5/23/2002	Bill Cotter	8	165	5 metal
7/12/2002	Linda Jorgensen	8	85	5 iron
10/8/2002	Dallas Mathews	10	188	19° metal
7/2/2003	Linda Jorgensen	8	145	driver
7/29/2003	Jim Carpenter	8	165	8 iron
8/12/2003	Phyllis Hightower	8	98	8 iron
6/10/2004	Bill Sumberg	8	167	11 metal
9/4/2004	Errol Rowland	5	108	wedge

Date	Name	Hole	Yards	Club
3/15/2005	Bitsey Brooks	10	90	9 metal
6/5/2005	Joanie Ott	14	156	3 wood
5/17/2007	Babe Parilli	5	107	wedge
7/11/2007	Gail Pringle	8	89	8 iron
7/18/2007	Ed Oswald	5	100	wedge
7/21/2007	Jack Patterson	5	110	wedge
8/2/2007	Edie Reidel	8	85	7 iron
8/7/2007	Sylvia Hymans	8	85	6 iron
8/10/2007	Ben Barnes	5	107	wedge
8/18/2007	Ben Barnes	10	247	3 wood
4/2/2008	Joyce Scott	5	99	7 iron
10/4/2008	Jack Eggleston	5	100	wedge
7/11/2009	Sonya Mathews	5	105	8 iron
8/13/2009	Sonya Mathews	8	85	9 iron
10/17/2009	Howard Evans	10	191	5 iron
6/17/2010	Randi McKnight	5	100	PW
6/17/2010	Jim Daum	5	100	SW
3/23/2012	George Zoetewey	8	165	7 wood

If your hole-in-one is not listed here, send the information to hole-in-one@HRMDco.org.

Fairway 16

by Susan Bruce

Directory. The homeowners' directory needs to be updated. If you DON'T want your phone number and/or email address listed, please leave a voice mail for Cassie Thomas, 303-980-0700, or email her, cthomas@ehammersmith.com BY AUG. 31.

UAHR Representative. Barry McConnell has volunteered to attend these meetings and report to the board.

Pool. Isn't the pool delightful this year? Millie Cowen is leading a water exercise class on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 pm. It's a great workout and lots of fun — come join us.

Reminders: Owners must accompany their guests at the pool; children under 18 require an adult to be with them.

Large Tree Pruning. Bids are being collected for this job. It is best to prune in the late fall so the board will schedule this at that time. If you have smaller trees that need pruning, contact Pinky Gonzales or Harold Eagen.

Garage Sale. The date is Saturday, Aug. 4 and the time is 8 am–3 pm. Signs will be posted.

Dog Houses. They're gone! The 3 houses that were over the backflow valves have been replaced with steel cages for added security. A huge thanks to Pinky Gonzales who led this effort and was assisted by Adrian Gonzalez and Bill Yeager.

Water, Water. If you hear water running either inside or outside your house, please find out what is happening. You may need a new toilet or a new part inside your toilet. You can buy leak detector tablets at hardware stores or put 4–5 drops of food coloring in the tank. If the color appears in the bowl, you have a leak that needs to be fixed. The City of Aurora offers rebates of \$75–150 for new low flow toilets. You don't need to know a water account number, just write in Fairway 16-HeatherRidge on that line of the rebate form. If you'd like a copy of the form, call or email me. I can send you a copy.



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Phone Numbers.

- Graffiti hot line: 303-739-6063
- PAR Officer (Aurora Police person assigned to Fairway 16): Mark Lowisz, 303-739-1819

Parking. We are SO fortunate to have four parking spaces per home — 2 in the garage and 2 behind the garage. Please do NOT park in the designated Fire Lanes. Commercial vehicles are also prohibited, unless doing work in your home. Board members will be placing stickers on vehicles that don't comply. If they are not moved in 24 hours, they will be towed at the owner's expense.

Thanks.

- to Karen Peters for flowers put into planter by the north sign
- to Darlene Yeager for pruning and cleaning out the rock walls around the pool
- to Ed and Joanne Oswald for supervising the rental of the clubhouse
- to all of you for planting barrels, pots and beds of flowers

Dog Waste. This is a continuing problem. Please pick up after your animals promptly. Especially in hot weather, this is a health issue.

Potluck Luncheon Party. Thursday, Aug. 9, 11:30 am, at the clubhouse. Bring a dish to share and enjoy meeting and chatting with your great neighbors. Iced tea and lemonade will be provided as well as plates and silverware. Do bring a serving spoon or fork, if one is needed. The 3 pool balls we blew up June 9 for our first party are still going strong and waiting for folks to play with them.

Be A Guest Writer: *Metro Matters* accepts guest writers. You are invited to submit an article, 500 words or less, for acceptance in the next publication. Send to Bette Secord, Fairway 16, bettesecord@gmail.com; or Lynn Donaldson, LynnNeu@comcast.net or 13731 E. Hamilton Drive, Aurora, CO 80014.





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Molly Markert's Newsletter for Ward IV

Banks in Harmony Summer Concerts. The 26th anniversary Banks in Harmony, Aurora's FREE evening summer concert series, is held in various Aurora parks.

- Aug. 2, Meadowood Park: Deja Blu (variety/classic rock)
- Aug. 9, Meadowood Park: Chris Daniels & the Kings (roots rock and roll with horns)

Fraudulent Medicare Callers are Robbing Bank Accounts. There have been a rash of phone calls from solicitors, claiming to be from the Senior Medicare Card Office, who are manipulating Medicare beneficiaries into revealing their bank account numbers. Once they have obtained this information, the solicitor then steals money from the beneficiary's bank account.

The caller initially explains that the beneficiary will be receiving updated Medicare cards within the "next three to five days," but first, the beneficiary must verify over the



phone, personal information, such as name, address and other information.

As a lure to get the bank account number, the caller then

reads the root number of the person's bank (the first series of numbers on a check), then asks the beneficiary to complete the sequence by providing the numbers of their actual banking account.

The caller's tone is particularly authoritative, and if the beneficiary does not readily comply, an alleged "supervisor" is put on the line to exert additional pressure.

Protect Yourself. Remember that Medicare will never, ever call on the phone or knock at a door. New Medicare cards will only be issued when a beneficiary initiates the request for a lost or stolen

card. And, aside from setting up a direct deposit account to receive a Medicare check, Medicare does not need personal bank account numbers. This is only true if the bank account in which the Medicare check is to be deposited has changed, but the change must be initiated by the beneficiary.

Other tips:

- Never give out personal or financial information, regardless of who calls. If in doubt, call: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4223)
- If you have caller ID, write down the number.
- Be assertive and hang up the phone! It's shrewd to be rude.
- Contact the Senior Medicare Patrol investigators at: 1-800-503-5190. Be sure to document the event.

The 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office of Consumer Protection provides assistance to victims of crime and answers questions on white collar crime issues. If you have a question or need assistance, call 720-874-8547.

Fwy 16, Burgundy, Cobblestone Crossing, Chimney Hill and Strawberry have teamed up to host the First Annual Heather Ridge Community Yard Sale. Saturday, Aug. 4, 8 am-3 pm

All HOAs are welcome to participate as their rules permit. ARC will be by on Sunday to pick up donations.

HRCA...from page 3

Those who advertise ask only for the opportunity to win your support. *Metro Matters* was patterned after Heather Garden's *Heather 'n Yon* newsmagazine that has about 100 advertisers, many community articles, and HOA and Heather Gardens Metropolitan District news. Its success is a direct result of Heather Gardens' strong community interest, shared experiences, and financial stability.

Heather Ridge and *Metro Matters* aspire for similar results in the greater Heather Ridge area.

- Van Lewis



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Dr. Matt Mauck

Letters

Metro Matters

I have used several of the businesses who advertise in the magazine, *Metro Matters*.

Hardra Plumbing installed a hot water heater in a rental condo for me and did some other plumbing jobs. Harry is good to work with — honest and fairly priced.

My wife and I buy all of

our wines from Chambers Liquors. Their selection is quite wide. They offer complete help with selections, and their prices are great.

I recommend that readers use these people whenever possible. They will be quite satisfied.

— **David Brahinsky**
Country Club Ridge

Letters to the Editor: Send or deliver your letters for Metro Matters to Bette Secord, Fairway 16, bettesecord@gmail.com; or Publisher Lynn Donaldson, 13731 E Hamilton Dr, Aurora, CO 80014; LynnNeu@comcast.net by the tenth of each month. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity or space.



Neighborhood Watch...from page 2

you gave permission; those with whom you have a business relationship; charitable organizations; political candidates; political polls, opinions, ideas or votes. Consumers should register with both lists.

July Incidents. An attempted break in at Burgundy, July 9. Residents, 2 adults, one child and a dog, were all home and sleeping when someone attempted to jimmy the front door dead bolt lock around midnight. The tool broke off in the lock so the perpetrator was unsuccessful. The dog did not bark (only barks when someone actually enters the premises) but did attempt to awaken the residents, who brushed him off. The tampered and broken lock was discovered in the morning.

Two nights in a row, an older man in a champagne colored Toyota Tacoma was parked on South Vaughn Way by Fairway 16. An attempt was made to identify the license plate, but the driver quickly drove off. Approximately 10 minutes later, the Toyota Tacoma drove down the road appearing to see whether anyone was still out in the neighborhood. Aurora PD was then contacted because of the suspicious behavior of the driver. The truck has not been seen since.

—**Bev Brown**

Head Area Coordinator for Neighborhood Watch

Free Days for August

- Denver Botanic Gardens @Chatfield** Friday, Aug. 3
303-973-3705, www.botanicgardens.org
8500 Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton
- Denver Art Museum** Saturday, Aug. 4
720-865-5000, www.denverartmuseum.org
100 W 14th Ave Parkway 10 am–5 pm
- Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys** Sunday, Aug. 5
303-322-1053, www.dmmtdt.org
1880 Gaylord Street, Denver 1–4 pm
- Denver Children's Museum** Tuesday, Aug. 7
303-433-7444, www.mychildsmuseum.org 4–8 pm
2121 Children's Museum Dr.
- Denver Museum of Nature and Science** Sunday, Aug. 12
303-322-7009, www.dmns.org 2001 Colorado Blvd
Monday, Aug. 20
(Fee for IMAX films, Planetarium) 9 am–5 pm
- Denver Botanic Gardens** Tuesday, Aug. 28
720-865-3500, 9 am–5 pm
1005 York St., www.botanicgardens.org
- Mizel Museum** Thursday, Aug. 30
303-394-9993 9 am–4:30 pm
400 S Kearney St mizelmuseum.org

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Scott Winder

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P.S. A few paraprosdokians to enjoy

A paraprosdokian is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader or listener to reframe or reinterpret the first part. It is frequently used for humorous or dramatic effect, sometimes producing an anticlimax.

- I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way. So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.
- Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather. Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.
- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on the list.
- Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- If I agreed with you we'd both be wrong.
- We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
- War does not determine who is right — only who is left.
- The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- Evening news is where they begin with "Good evening," and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
- A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.
- How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.
- I thought I wanted a career, turns out I just wanted pay checks.

- A bank is a place that will lend you money, if you can prove that you don't need it.
- I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
- Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?
- Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
- Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?
- Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas!
- Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.
- A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you will look forward to the trip.
- Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.
- Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.
- Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.
- There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.
- I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.
- When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.
- You're never too old to learn something stupid.
- To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
- Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.
- Some people hear voices. Some see invisible people. Others have no imagination whatsoever.
- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

— compiled by **Larry Wagner**
Heather Ridge South

Classified Ads

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