Heather Ridge Metro Matters

VOLUME 1

MARCH-APRIL 2011



Heather Ridge

BLIC

Preserving the Heather Ridge open space –

- Maintained best as a Golf Course
- **Protecting real estate values**
- Promoting a positive way of life



Golf Club at Heather Ridge

Rob Lanphier: New restaurant operator at Heather Ridge. Billy Baroo's and Noonan's Tavern opened mid March. (See story, pages 19-21)



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

Metro District Board Members

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

Errol Rowland (Burgundy), President

Vinny Roith (Sausalito), Vice President and Treasurer Melissa Miller (Chimney Hill), Secretary Van Lewis (Heather Ridge South), Assistant Secretary Jim Bruce (Fairway 16), Assistant Secretary 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 ©2011, Donaldsons, Inc. All rights reserved.

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Managers, Golf Club at Heather Ridge

13521 E Iliff Ave, Aurora, CO 80014 Mike Ritter, Golf Pro and Club Manager Joanie Ott (Fairway 16), President Board: Ed Oswald (Fairway 16), Larry Ransford (Cobblestone Crossing), Larry Ricketts (Men's Club) and Loren Janulewicz (Men's Club)

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HRMD: News and Happenings How it interacts with other Heather Ridge organizations

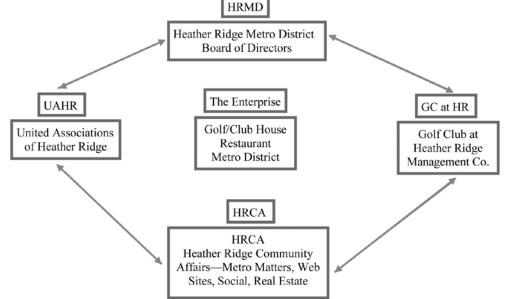
2011 Bond for \$750,000: The Heather Ridge Metropolitan District (HRMD) Board Resolution that authorized a bond closing and funding was approved on March 8. HRMD closed on this bond shortly thereafter, funding the installation of a new golf course irrigation system. Work has already started. Depending upon weather and other factors, it should be completed by June.

Additional funding of approximately \$340,000 has been postponed pending further details. Toro Sprinkler Company was not able to reach agreement with HRMD on financing terms, so alternatives are being explored. Options include renewed negotiations with Toro, going to Rain Bird Corporation, or exploring internal options versus outside vendors. All of this is done with an eye towards saving money and improving efficiency.

Directors of the Golf Club at Heather Ridge (GCatHR) Board have become experts on irrigation systems. As water delivery plans develop, future work may be changed due to funding, internal alternatives, or different needs. As the management company responsible for HRMD's golf asset, GCatHR operates the golf

and club house under a management contract with HRMD.

UAHR, HRMD, GCatHR, and HRCA Concept Chart (right): The graphic outline shows the four organizations overseeing the golf and club house operations. This chart shows the four governing/operational entities as follows:



Heather Ridge Metro District (HRMD) Board of Directors represents the district's taxpayers and voters. Its seven-member board oversees four operational budgets, business leases and contracts, and the good and prudent operation of HRMD. It operates under Colorado law, and is a municipal government as defined by CRS 32. Errol Rowland, retired from IBM, is president.

United Association of Heather Ridge (UAHR) was the founding organization that gave birth to HRMD. It has returned to its original purpose to inform and represent Heather Ridge citizens. Acting as a "watchdog" over HRMD operations, it is an independent group staffed by board representatives from HOAs within the metropolitan tax district. Josie Spencer, a retired Colonel, US Army, is president.

Heather Ridge Community Affairs: Recently created, this group consolidates many activities familiar to everyone: *Metro Matters* magazine, Heather Ridge website management, Friends of the Fairways, and community social and educational activities. This new organization will be part of the Operational and *See District...page 8*



Pete Traynor Double Tree 303-877-9538 Ptofcolo@aol.com

Understanding today's real estate terminology

Seller concession (credit): A controversial sales inducement whereby a seller funds a buyer's closing costs. Many sellers recoil at it, but it makes sales happen when buyers have limited funds and/or the property needs post-closing updating.

Short sale: When a mortgage(s) exceeds a property's market value, it's insolvent. To close, the seller brings cash to closing or gets their lender(s) to take less than what is owed. But the story is not over!



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

Lenders take 1–2 months or more to process a short sale — reviewing, contesting and verifying insolvency. If approved, the seller could be sued for a deficiency, sign a promissory note for funds owing, or what usually happens, receives a 1099 Income Statement for earned income through debt forgiveness. In all cases, legal counsel is advised.

Loan Modification: Promises much, but rarely comes in time to prevent foreclosure. A loan modification has many varieties and forms. Each lender has its own program. Plus there are government-imposed ones. Lenders are swamped with applications, and often experience high personnel turnover due to low wages, high expectations and constantly changing programs/requirements. A minimum processing time is 3–6 months. At the same time, the lender's attorney is most likely pursuing foreclosure.

Forbearance: A first-cousin to loan modification, a lender reduces your payments significantly for up to six months to get you back on your financial feet. If you default, then foreclosure starts. After six months, options might include going back to the old loan and payments, loan modification or refinancing. Deferred payments are added back into the mortgage or payoff depending upon circumstances.

Pre-foreclosure, distressed sale: Seller is behind in payments and foreclosure has started. Also called a short sale, it denotes little time remaining before a foreclosure sale.

Foreclosure: Lender owned, usually an easy sale. In many cases, a buyer must qualify with that lender and use that lender's purchase contract or addendums.

All these terms and more are everyday language for Pete and Van. With over 75 years of real estate sales experiences, they can quickly and professionally determine your options. And better yet, they know Heather Ridge like nobody else — so why train someone else how things work here? For a personal interview or home inspection, please call today!

(These Following Properties May Have Been Listed or Sold by Other Companies)

nomes Solu in neather Ridge February 2011								
НОА	Sold Price	No.	Street	Beds Baths	SqFt	Garage	Style	Seller credit
Burgundy	\$95,000	2667	S Xanadu Wy- E	3 - 2	1,315	Res-space	2-Story	\$3,325
Chimney Hill	\$133,000	13641	E Evans Ave	3 - 3	1,512	1-gar+res-space	2-Story	\$0.00
Cobblestone Cross'g	\$116,000	13254	E Asbury Dr	2 - 2	1,392	Res-space	2-Story	\$4,450
Cobblestone Cross'g	\$127,400	13404	E Asbury Dr	2 - 2	1,392	1-gar+res-space	2-Story	\$0.00

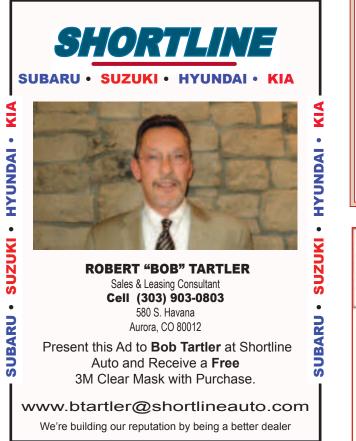
Homes Sold in Heather Ridge February 2011

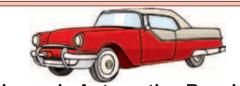
НОА	List Price	No.	Street	Beds Baths	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Burgundy	\$62,400	2650	S Xanadu Way B	1 - 1	856	1-Carport, space	2-Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$55,000	13314	E Asbury Dr A	2 - 2	1,208	1-Garage, Att	2-Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$99,900	13266	E Asbury Dr A	2 - 2	1,392	space	2-Story
Country Club Ridge	\$185,000	2260	S Vaughn Way 104	3 - 3	1,680	2-Garage, Att	2-Story
Heather Ridge South	\$119,000	2824	S Wheeling Way	4 - 4	1,633	2-Garage, Att	2-Story
Sausalito	\$109,900	2500	E Victor St F	3 - 2	1,273	2-Garage, Att	2-Story
Strawberry I	\$49,900	2688	S Xanadu Way B	1 - 1	856	1-Carport, Det	1-Story
Strawberry I	\$54,400	2614	S Xanadu Way B	1 - 1	856	1-Carport	2-Story
Strawberry I	\$59,900	2690	S Xanadu Way C	2 - 2	1,144	1-Carport	2-Story
Strawberry II	\$55,500	2463	S Xanadu Way C	2 - 2	1,091	space	Ranch
Strawberry II	\$61,900	2461	S Xanadu Way A	2 - 2	1,091	1-Carport, space	2-Story
Strawberry II	\$70,000	2469	S Xanadu Way D	2 - 2	1,091	space	2-Story

Homes under Contract in Heather Ridge

For more information, call Pete or Van!

Van Lewis: Re/Max Alliance, 303-550-1362; *van@vanlewis.com* Pete Traynor: Re/Max Masters, 303-877-9538, *Ptofcolo@aol.com*





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A new Aurora City Council member for Ward V after Sandstrom wins county job

Bob Roth was appointed by Aurora City Council to replace Sue Sandstrom, who represented Ward V, which includes Heather Gardens and part of Heather Ridge, after Sandstrom was elected to Arapahoe County Treasurer. Sandstrom began her job with the county early in January.

Roth offers a solid background in all things Aurora as he slipped into his seat on the dais in Council Chambers on Jan. 10. He ran for Councilmember at Large in 2009. He will serve Ward V for nine months, completing Sandstrom's term, then get to run for his own term for Ward V as an incumbent in 2011.

In accepting the council position, Roth resigned his seats on two of Aurora's weightier Commissions: Citizen Advisory Budget Committee (CABC) and Citizens Water Advisory Committee (CWAC). Both gave Roth a keen insight into the nuances of Aurora's budget and water issues.

"I understand how passionately and how hard [CABC members] work on [the budget] and I will take their suggestions to heart," Roth said.

Tenure on CWAC supplemented Roth's understanding of water issues gained from his job. He is familiar with water supply and demand, and how the water department must ensure the supply is available, and paid for, even when demand is less than supply.

As Director of Business Development for Duro Electric, Roth learned about water resources, water rights, and water transmission and storage. He is pleased with Aurora's longtime stewardship in communities where it stores and transfers water, such as Leadville.

In his profession, Roth is in charge of client relationships for a commercial electrical contractor. Duro Electric has wired data centers, schools, office buildings and medical facilities throughout the metro Denver area. He has served in leadership positions for two professional organizations: Associated General Contractors and Associated Builders Contractors.

As chair for Government Affairs for Build-Associated ers Contractors, he worked with state legislators on pavment issues for public works projects. He also interviewed candidates for state representative and state senate, looking for endorsements. Of



Bob Roth represents Ward V

his own rise to elected official, he said, "I have sat on both sides of the table, interviewer and interviewee."

Bob and Judy Roth have four adult children and three grandchildren. They have lived in Aurora since 1999. Bob was born in Leadville, but his family moved to California when Roth started school. They returned to Colorado regularly to visit grandparents in Holyoke and Trinidad.

Roth attended Los Angeles Baptist College on a basketball scholarship and studied business management. Summer work on the Johnson (Eisenhower) Tunnel convinced him that Colorado was where he wanted to live.

He is "very happy and honored" to be appointed to Aurora City Council. According to the *Aurora Sentinel,* Roth has a few issues he'd like to tackle right off the bat.

First, he'd like to figure out why his zip code, 80013, has the highest rate of foreclosures in Aurora.

Another task he'll be focused on as a city councilman is ensuring that people know Aurora is business friendly. "... I want to make sure I do everything I can to let people know that Aurora is open for business."

Dala Giffin

{Reprinted from Heather 'n Yon, *the newsmaga- zine for Heather Gardens.}*

United Associations of Heather Ridge

Let's start this month's column with a little food for thought!!

Who represents you in the Heather Ridge Metro District?

As a Heather Ridge property taxpayer or registered voter, who represents your interests in the Heather Ridge Metro District (HRMD)? Please think twice before you answer.

Some residents might believe their HOA boards represent them, but they don't. All Heather Ridge HOAs are independent legal entities responsible to THEIR PROPERTY OWNERS per their Declarations. In comparison, HRMD is responsible to its individual taxpayers and registered voters, not HOAs.

So who or what represents Heather Ridge citizens in the HR Metro District?

To the rescue comes the United Associations of Heather Ridge (UAHR), representing everyone in the district through the HOA boards. In fact, the voluntary UAHR board is 100 percent composed of HOA representatives appointed by the 10 HOAs in HRMD. Participating boards act in the best interests of their citizens AND the Heather Ridge community.

Congratulations to the nine HOA boards participating in the UAHR.

• • •

UAHR is a voluntary, nonprofit corporation that's independent of HRMD. Acting as

a "watchdog," UAHR monitors the HRMD's budgets, property taxes, and golf and club house operations. It attends all HRMD meetings as well as Heather Ridge Community Affairs (HRCA). This new group within HRMD will oversee budgets and operations for the *Metro Matters* magazine, websites, social and community activities, and the promotion of Heather Ridge real estate et al.

Acting as the "eyes and ears" for participating HOA boards, UAHR seeks access and accountability from the HRMD. As issues and events unfold, UAHR will keep all citizens informed through their HOA representatives.

UAHR will hold community information meetings as needed, such as was done for the recent irrigation project. Please ask your HOA board what you can do to help! (For more information, please email Josie Spencer, UAHR President, at *AmiPep@aol.com.*)

• • •

UAHR Board issues!

UAHR has a change in the membership of the board. Larry Ransford, who represented Cobblestone Crossing, has resigned to become the new treasurer of the recently reorganized GCatHR Board. Cobblestone Crossing will now be represented by Art West, who will be featured in a future "In the Spotlight" segment so everyone can get to know him better.

In the Spotlight!

This month, Edie Reidel (Burgundy) is "In the Spotlight!"

She grew up in a suburb of Chicago, Illinois. When her husband was transferred to Colorado in 1976 by International Harvester, Edie and their three children moved here, settling into a Dam West home. After her husband passed away from cancer, Edie and the children decided Colorado would be their new home forever and put down permanent roots.

With sad memories in her Dam West home, Edie decided moved to Burgundy in Heather Ridge. She's an original homeowner, buying before development started — she knew a good thing when she saw it.

Edie worked for Joslins/Dillards for nearly 30 years before retiring. She enjoys spending time with her children (two sons and a daughter), and spoiling her two granddaughters as only a grandmother can do.

Along with her significant other, Errol Rowland, she loves to travel and golf with their many friends. Edie is an active member of the UAHR Board and Heather Ridge Community Affairs (HRCA).

I thank her for her ongoing contributions to make Heather Ridge a better community for everyone!

– Josie Spencer

• • •

Inc: Affectionately known as GCatHR, this group manages the golf course/club house asset, owned by HRMD. Taking over the position previously held by UAHR, the board of directors hired Mike Ritter as general manager and Golf Pro. Joanie Ott is the president of the board. She is a retired Aurora School District administrator and teacher.

District...from page 3

teacher, is president.

Management Budget under

HRMD. Bette Secord, a retired

– Van Lewis

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Terri Reid terrir@buffbrothers.net

Meredith Lanphier meredithl@buffbrothers.net

Golf Club at Heather Ridge Monthly Update

Jolf Club Heather Ridge

What to expect during our Irrigation Project?

By the time you read this, work should be underway on the golf course irrigation, and the most important thing to tell all your friends is that the course will remain open throughout the project. Eighteen holes will be available each day, even during construction. The construction crew works on half a hole on any given day, so a par four will be turned into a par 3, or a par four converted into two par 3's with a temporary green. Thus, a full round of golf will be provided for the golfers.

Bob Knutson and I have talked to several superintendents and general managers who have had irrigation systems installed recently by Landscapes Unlimited, which is the general contractor for Heather Ridge's system. The feedback has been excellent from all — the Landscapes crew is experienced, talented and aware that the golf course needs to continue to generate rounds and revenue during construction. Their ability to minimize disruptions, be flexible and accommodating to the golf course, is a big part of what makes them a leader in the industry. I feel fortunate to have them as the low bidder, who then won the contract.

GCatHR will be running some "Pardon our Dust" specials during construction and updating the website with irrigation news regularly. Please visit *www.golfclubatheatherridge.com* for more information. This is a great time period to help the course by encouraging golfers to

take advantage of the specials and support golfing as this vital project is tackled!

Also, by the time you read this, Noonan's Tavern and Billy Baroo's Snack Bar will be open. Rob Lanphier and his crew are terrific! So come over and enjoy this new "neighborhood pub!"

Tell all your friends that Heather Ridge provides great value, food, service and attention to detail for wedding receptions, banquets, reunions and corporate functions. For more information about booking events, contact Terri, 720-246-0304.

The more revenue the restaurant takes in, the higher their rent goes. That rent helps us operate and maintain the clubhouse, so please refer everyone you can to either Noonan's for a meal or to schedule a banquet at Heather Ridge. You may not know any golfers, but every homeowner knows people who eat!

Finally, all these changes taking place are exciting, challenging and vital to the community's future. Please acknowledge the hard work of the HRMD Board, the GCAT Board and managers, and the new UAHR Board. It takes a small city to run a village, evidently.

They have given an enormous amount of time and energy to get Heather Ridge to this point. Please join them in making sure the future remains bright for YOUR golf course. Word of mouth is a most powerful marketing tool!

– Mike Ritter

Ladies 18 Hole golf season kicks off April 2 with a luncheon. Signup sheets will be on the 18 hole bulletin board. Also, don't forget to send in your applications. **9-Hole Ladies Spring Luncheon:** Tuesday, March 29, 11 am Cocktails (Cash Bar); 11:30 Lunch of Mahi-mahi grilled with baby greens (Asian BBQ dressing), Fresh Pineapple, Toasted Baguette, Petit Fours for dessert, Coffee or Tea (hot or cold) \$15 (cash please). Sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Pro Shop. Please sign up or call by March 15. • Sonya Mathews, 303-283-9612, *sonya.mathews@comcast.net* • Sally Simon, 303-671-8719, *sallysayssimon@aol.com*

The perpetual problem of poop

Metro Matters has received several requests from the Heather Ridge community to address the issues of dogs running at large and the removal of dog excrement. Not only are these infractions unhealthy and unsafe, but they could result in hefty fines and jail time.

Here's the City of Aurora statutes regarding dogs within city limits.

Aurora, Colorado Code of Ordinances

Sec. 14-5. Running at large.

(a) Prohibited. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of any dog or other animal to fail to keep the dog or other animal from running at large within the city. For the purposes of this chapter, an animal shall be deemed running at large when such animal is not physically restrained as follows:

(1) When the animal is being restrained by tethering

upon the premises of the owner or custodian, it must have a cord, leash or chain that is a minimum of six feet in length. It must not be able to enter upon public property, including sidewalks, or the premises of another. Any animal off the premises of the owner or custodian shall be restrained by a leash, cord or chain a maximum of 10 feet in length, held by a person who is physically able to control the animal.

(2) For the purposes of this chapter, the term "premises of the owner or custodian" shall be defined as the residence of the owner or custodian, including the attached property surrounding the residence that is leased or owned by the owner or custodian, but not including any common area, park or recreational property jointly owned or leased by the members of a homeowners' or tenants' association.

Penalty. 1st conviction, a fine of not less than \$25.

2nd offense involving the same animal — fined a sum not less than \$75 and shall be required to spay or neuter and microchip the animal.

3rd and subsequent offenses, a fine of not less than \$150 nor more than \$1,000.

In addition to the fines stated in this subsection, a person

convicted under this section may be subject to not more than one year in jail.

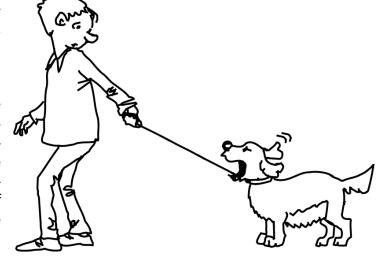
(Code 1979, § 7-2; Ord. No. 97-51, § 3, 10-13-97; Ord. No. 2001-55, § 1, 8-20-2001; Ord. No. 2002-70, § 3, 11-18-2002; Ord. No. 2004-52, § 3, 8-23-2004)

Sec. 14-9. Removal of excrement.

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog or other animal not to immediately remove excrement deposited by such animal upon a common thoroughfare, street, sidewalk, play area, park or upon any other public property, and such is declared to be a public nuisance and a violation of this chapter. Animal excrement shall not be placed in storm sewers or street gutters, but shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner. It shall also be unlawful under this chapter to permit excessive excrement to accumulate on any property to the degree that it becomes offensive or injurious to health.

> *Penalty.* 1st and subsequent convictions, a fine of \$1 to \$1,000 determined by a judge. In addition to the fines stated in this subsection, a person convicted under this section may be subject to not more than one year in jail.

(Code 1979, § 7-6)



Aurora Public Library launches free online language learning system

The Aurora Public Library has added a new online language learning system to its website this month that provides customers with access to on-demand language instruction in 10 different languages.

"Rocket Languages" is an award-winning, interactive, online language-learning system that allows patrons to learn conversational language at their own pace. The free program may be downloaded and accessed at any time for any length of time.

Languages offered are Spanish (Latin American),

Arabic, French, German, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean and American Sign Language.

Each language-learning program includes downloadable or streaming usage, more than 62 hours of interactive instruction, more than 17 interactive audio tracks, and 1,200 words in the software-based MegaWords game that builds words. Transcripts are printable to allow patrons to access their lessons offline.

Seventeen illustrated grammar and culture lessons featuring embedded audio clips, exercises and activities enable the patron not only to learn the language but also the appropriate behavior within the country.

Interactive quizzes and self testing allow patrons to assess their progress and test new language skills. Patrons may learn as much or as little as they wish in each session, and determine the speed at which they progress.

For more information, call 303-739-6600. To access the system, visit *www.auroralibrary.org* and click on *Online Databases*.

Red-light cameras keep you safe on the road

Your safety on the road is a priority for us. That's why Aurora has put into place a photo red-light program designed to enhance public safety by reducing the chance for serious, sometimes catastrophic, accidents to occur.

Photo red-light cameras have a positive impact on the safety of drivers and their passengers. These cameras change driving behavior and hold individuals accountable for endangering the safety of others.

In a recently released report, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) says red-light cameras reduced

the rate of fatal red-light running by 24 percent from 2004 to 2008. The institute further reports that if the cameras had been installed in all U.S. cities with populations greater than 200,000 residents, 815 deaths would have been prevented.

A few studies have shown that in some situations there is an increase in rear-end accidents resulting from drivers who slam on their brakes once they realize there is a photo red-light camera in the intersection. However, these types of accidents typically are not as severe and harmful as the types of accidents that the cameras intend to reduce. Rear-end accidents are usually much less severe and catastrophic to people. Broadside accidents often cause more serious injuries and greater property damage.

Keeping drivers safe is a key priority in Aurora. The photo red-light program is just one simple way that your city works to keep you safe. If photo red lights save even one life in Aurora, that's a program worth keeping. Do you agree?

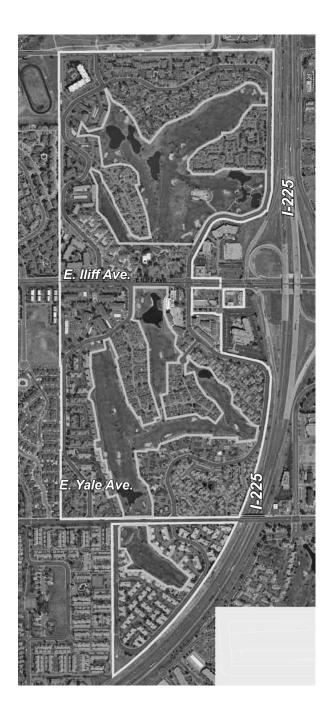
To read the report issued by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety visit *www.iihs. org/news/rss/pr020111.html.*

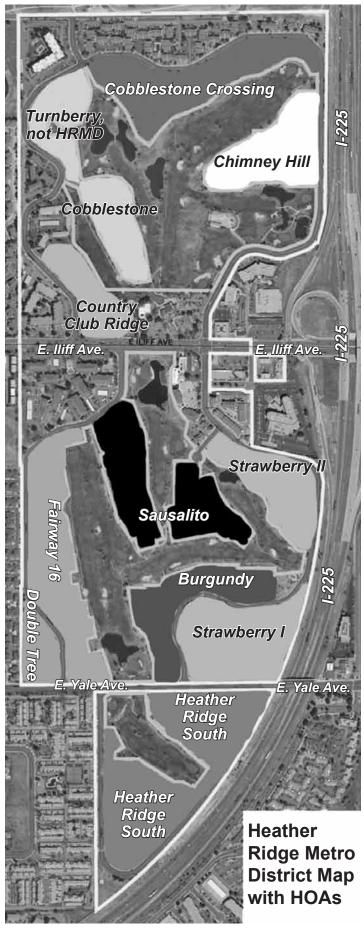
–www.auroragov.org/AuroraGov/ Government/Press_Room/449610

Aerial Map of HRMD

The 10 Homeowners Associations that comprise the Heather Ridge Metropolitan District are shown in the aerial map of Heather Ridge at right.

Below: The Heather Ridge Golf Course is outlined within the boundaries of Heather Ridge.





Heather Ridge Metro Matters, March-April 2011

Homeowners' Association News

Chimney Hill by Pamela Akiri

The community is off and running on converting from turf to xeriscape, thanks to a \$20,000 grant from Aurora Water.

The landscape architect, Ken Ball, met with Lana Gutnik (board member) and Pam Akiri (the grant co-ordinator) at the Chimney Hill grant site on Saturday morning, Feb. 26. Ken took all our questions, walked the areas, and gave advice on how to improve the look and efficiency of the lawn areas.

Chimney Hill has lots of small patches of lawn on steep slopes — some under heavy shade of mature trees and some with a continuous rain of pine needles. All have inefficient pop-up sprinkler heads. Residents, although generally happy with the overall look of the community, have often complained about bare spots, runoff, soggy areas, and burned areas.

In the grant, an outline of what would be preferred included: flowers and color at the entry triangle, and xeric bunch grasses and islands of xeric shrubs in the lawn on the north and south ends of Chimney Hill next to South Xanadu Way, which borders the golf course. To the list of desired plant species in the grant, Ball added many suggestions of species



that would thrive under shade, in bright sun, on slopes, etc. He had slides on a laptop to show us not only the species he suggested, but also arrangements that he had put together in areas with conditions similar to those at Chimney Hill.

One of these is shown below. The board is really happy with the prospects of having a beautiful solution to the bare slopes. In addition, Ball proposed irrigation changes, such as going to a mix of drip and rotary sprinkler heads to make water use more efficient and reduce costs. Looks like a win-win solution! Ball is now working on a landscape design to be reviewed, probably at the next board meeting.

Chimney Hill is also on the list for an outdoor water audit, which will give the board direction towards minimizing water costs (maximizing water efficiency). The audit is free. Any recommended change that is implemented will give get the community a rebate.

See Chimney Hill...page 14



Before (above) and after (right) photos of an entryway to a home that was transformed by xeriscaping on a slope. Photographs by Ken Ball

Chimney Hill...from page 13

All residents are encouraged to avail themselves of the FREE indoor water audit by Aurora water. From experience, a short visit from this department leads to big water savings. Having already participated in the grant process, Chimney Hill is eligible to get up to \$25,000 in rebates for additional xeriscaping that the community could elect to do (at a rate of \$1/sq.ft. of conversion of any turf areas, 5,000–25,000 sq. ft., for plant costs only).

Sausalito by Carol McCormick

Landscaping. The landscaping company has prepared Sausalito for winter. Snow removers will do their best to keep the roads and auto courts plowed and sidewalks shoveled. Sometimes it is hard to keep up with the constant snow, so please be patient with the snowremoval crew.

Parking Issues. Please don't park where you are not supposed to. Our rules state that if you have a visitor/guest who will be parking overnight in visitor parking, you must call security in advance so the patrol can be notified. Covenant's phone/fax number is 303-552-9027. No Parking signs will be posted in the appropriate places on Worchester near the mailboxes.

Security. Sausalito's security company continues to do an excellent job of patrolling the community.

Winterize. Please be sure that your home is winterized. Colorado winter weather is not over.

Trash Removal Days. The regular trash removal days are every Tuesday. Recycling days are every other Tuesday. It has been noticed that some trash containers are still out two days after trash removal. Please remember, trash containers can be put out after 8 pm on Monday nights and must be put away before 8 pm on trash day. Thanks.

The Golf Course is NOT a Dog Park. Do not put dog waste in Golf Course trash receptacles and containers. Take it home. Call Tony for pet

By May or early June, the landscape facing South Xanadu Way should be looking good with an Aurora Water Grant Area sign to identify it. Keep it in mind when you are driving by on Xanadu, or teeing off from the 4th or 5th holes on the golf course!

Anyone interested in xeric landscape design by an experienced architect and horticulturist should contact Ken Ball, 303-403-1434, or at his Mountain Spirit Studio, 6786 Salvia Ct., Arvada 80007.

waste disposal ideas. Neighborhood Reminders. Please slow down and observe the posted speed limit when driving through



Sausalito. Pick up your pets' waste, even in the snow, when out walking. Take pride in the community. Call Tony, 720-535-9705, for your landscaping needs or to replace outside light bulbs and auto court flood lights. If Tony is unavailable, call Bill McKinney, 303-783-0394.

Monthly Meetings. The board meets at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Golf Club at Heather Ridge. Guests are welcome.

March is Women's History Month. Here are a few choice quotes from some famous women.

"Perseverance is failing 19 times and succeeding the twentieth." ~ Julie Andrews

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." ~ Eleanor Roosevelt

"Hope is a thing with feathers,

That perches in the soul,

And sings the tune without words,

And never stops at all." ~ Emily Dickinson

"I don't think of myself as a poor, deprived ghetto girl who made good. I think of myself as somebody who from an early age knew I was responsible for myself, and I had to make good." ~ Oprah Winfrey

"The trouble with some women is they get See facing page all excited about nothing — and then they marry him." ~ Cher

"Never run after a bus or a man. There will always be another one." ~ Old Irish Expression

"Women should be tough, tender, laugh as much as possible, and live long lives. The struggle for equality continues unabated, and the woman warrior who is armed with wit and courage will be among the first to celebrate vic-

Burgundy by Matt Mettler

Economy sags - but BurgHOA is still strong. It's sometimes easy to forget how much influence on our community the HOA has. It is a critical component of all property values and a big deciding factor for future home buyers too.

Personally speaking, I know that it was a big aspect in my decision to purchase here. Residents are also lucky in that the community has fairly affordable monthly dues. Some residents in other HOAs pay \$500 or more a month and don't enjoy nearly the return benefit that Burgundy residents do.

No one living here is independently wealthy of course. However, I think we are pretty fortunate to have the direction and thoughtfulness built into Burgundy's budget and spending plans. Some Aurora HOAs aren't in nearly as good a position financially as this HOA.

It doesn't mean that Burgundy is exactly where it would like to be in terms of reserve funds, but the overall health of the HOA is strong. That is a very important facet for maintaining value and attracting new home buyers.

Think about it — who would want to move into some place with a \$700 a month HOA fee on top of their mortgage or rent? Imagine how difficult it would be to sell a place like that! Or to try and make it sound like that was somehow

tory." ~ Maya Angelou

"If you want anything said, ask a man; if you want anything done, ask a woman." ~ Margaret Thatcher

"When women are depressed, they eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. It's a whole different way of thinking." ~ Elayne Boosler

a solid investment for a potential buyer?

Mutt Mitt



Bandit "Amuck" in the Neighborhood. One of the sadder, more disturbing things discussed by the board was that some Schmuck was effectively emptying out the dog poop bag dispensers on the Xanadu side of the property. Somebody said they saw the poop bag perpetrator just pulling out bags and putting them into another plastic bag he apparently brought with him for their premeditated doodoo bag snatching spree.

Now, I just have to say that you must be pretty lame, lazy, or both, to actually steal free dog poop bags, considering that pretty much any ol' plastic bag can work for the job. The only reassuring thing in this story is that maybe he actually uses them to pick up his own dog's poop. If you see this poo bag stealer in action — please send me an email with the person's description. (Cell phone photos are great too.) Describe what you saw so the board can at least attempt to address the issue with the Jer... uh, I mean person, Thanks!

www.BurgHOA.com

More HOA news on page 16

Did You Know?

Governor John A. Love, Colorado's 36th governor, was the first member of Heather Ridge Country Club. He was elected governor in 1962, reelected in 1966 and 1970.

In 1973, John Love resigned the governorship to become the nation's first Director of the Office of Energy Policy (nicknamed the "Energy Czar) in the administration of U.S. President Richard M. Nixon.

Love died in Colorado on January 21, 2002, at the age of 85. www.wikipedia.com

Heather Ridge South by Van Lewis

New recycling trash program. On Tuesday, April 12, Tuesday, HRS will start a new program to recycle trash. Called "Altogether" recycling by Alpine Waste and Recycling, Alpine will pick up recycled trash containers every other week from that date forward. The regular trash day, Tuesday, will not change.

The "Altogether" program allows you to mix recyclable items in the same "clearly marked container" for newspapers, cardboard, paper grocery bags, junk mail, glass, aluminum. Recycle containers must be manufacturer branded with "recycle" to differentiate them from other organic trash. Alpine Waste and Recycling sells them at no markup or profit, so please consider them first. You may also purchase "suitable" containers at Home Depot or Loews.

Please remember to sign up for this service by March 28 in order to start April 12. Thereafter, call Westwind Management to get into the pick-up cycle.

There's no direct cost to residents other than container(s), but the HOA will pay \$200 more per month. The board believes \$200 is cost effective ONLY if sufficient residents participate. If you have not received detailed information regarding recycling (it was mailed), please contact Westwind Management, 303-369-1800; *sue@westwindmanagement.com* or *Rachel@ westwindmanagement.com*.

Putting your trash outside for pickup. Please read your Rules and Regulations directory. Trash can go out no earlier than 6 pm the night before, and must be removed by the end of daylight on trash day. If Alpine Waste Company doesn't remove everything you left, e.g. a broken appliance, chemicals, etc, you have to remove it. You can't leave it outside on HOA property hoping someone else will remove it. Please take responsibility.

Pool season around the corner. Repairs to the pool area will begin soon. Repairs include caulking and concrete work to "pin" the pool to the concrete pad. The pool opens one weekend before Memorial Day so residents can

get a head start. It also closes mid-September rather than promptly on Labor Day.

Roof replacement project. Replacement



is quickly coming to an end given weather. Thanks to the \$2,000,000 settlement by HRS's general insurance carrier, this initially proposed 10-year project will be done by May 2011. Not only is thanks due the contractor, Arvada Roofing, but thanks to all homeowners for their cooperation.

New security company, Covenant Community Services (CCS). They continue to exceed everyone's expectations! With new parking signs now in place, violating vehicles are being ticketed and towed. Before a vehicle is towed, there's a defined process to be followed. It is listed in HRS Rules and Regulations book — so please be familiar with it.

Residents are our best eyes and ears for a safer HRS. Always carry your cell phone with you to call Security, 303-552-9027, to report ANYTHING suspicious. Please don't confront anyone, just call CCS first, or the Aurora Police.

CCS is looking out for your safety by ensuring garage doors are closed, parking and fire codes are observed, and the clubhouse and pool are monitored. Please watch for unfamiliar vehicles, and monitor activities at the park and club house/pool. CCS will keep an eye on vacant homes while you are on vacation. For any questions or concerns, please contact CCS directly at 303-552-9027.

Pool keys. The board will be replacing pool keys before the pool season starts. More information to follow, so please stay tuned. Keys will be mailed to owners only, not to tenants. If you are an off-site owner, please make sure your address is correct and on record with Westwind Management.

Building to be painted. Unit addresses 2869-71-73-75 South Xanadu Way will be painted soon. This building in particular has See Heather Ridge South...page 18



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Heather Ridge South...from page 16

suffered from defective paint. The manufacturer is long gone after 20 years, so the "Life-Time Warranty" is no good.

Disregard sewer insurance/inspection notice. A company is mailing residents warning that they need insurance services to protect them from repair costs. Ignore them! The HOA is responsible for all sewer issues once the waste line leaves your unit (unless you try to flush "everything you own" into it and block the flow — then you're responsible). Any questions, contact Sue at Westwind.

Has HRS missed painting your exterior wood trim? Check all your doors and sliders for peeling paint or damages. Inspect porch posts, too. Call Sue at Westwind if you have any issues.

Satellite Dishes. Before installing, you MUST have written HOA approval. Anything and everything done to or through the skin of your unit MUST be approved. This includes windows, doors, furnace vents, cable, solar, etc. Please call with any questions first.

The Banquets at Heather Ridge

The Banquets at Heather Ridge is a full-service banquet facility with a variety of menus and amenities to fit every function, and every budget.

Why should you choose Banquets at Heather Ridge?

- Located on the award winning golf course the Golf Club at Heather Ridge
- Next door to Noonan's Tavern the newest B.U.F.F. Brothers location
- · Three rooms available for smaller events and meetings
- Large ballroom capable of accommodating 200 seated guests or up to 250 for buffets and cocktail receptions.
- · Personalized event planning
- Audio/visual equipment available
- Stage
- Newly renovated 30- x 40-foot hardwood dance floor
- Experienced and friendly staff
- · Beautiful views of the golf course

Menus: Buffet and Plated Menus available for Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner as well as Cocktail and Banquet Receptions

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- Ideal location with easy access to I-225
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- Minutes to Cherry Creek State Park and Reservoir for hiking, biking, boating, camping, and more.
- Minutes to 9 Mile Light Rail Station
- · Golf outings/tournaments available.

For inquiries, please call **720-246-0304**, or email **Terri Reid**, *terrir@buffbrothers.net*. Check us out at *www.golfclubatheatherridge.com*.

For Noonan's Tavern, please visit www.buffbrothers.net

Who's Who?

Rob Lanphier is the new restaurateur at Heather Ridge. He opened Noonan's Tavern,

Billy Baroo's Grill and The Banquet Rooms at Heather Ridge on March 14. (I wanted to know more about him.)

Question: Rob, where were you born and raised?

Answer: I was born in Quantico, Virginia. My father was a marine, so I lived

in 10 different states before I was 12. We moved to Aurora, Colorado, in 1980, where I attended Aurora Hills Middle School and Gateway High School.

Q: What did you do after graduation?

A: After that, I played single A and AA baseball throughout the south for two years.

Q: Where did you get your degree?

A: In 1989, I graduated from Metro Community College and went on to receive an MBA from University of Colorado, Denver. **Q:** Would you tell me a little bit about your background in the restaurant business?

A: I began my career working for Bobby Rifkin and

Jerry Kernis, who owned over 20 restaurants and bars throughout Colorado. They are probably best known for owning The Proof of the Pudding, The Fresh Fish Company, and Tiffany Plaza.

I also apprenticed under Cliff Young for about a year.

Q: I heard that you have been an owner of nine restaurant/bars! Is that true?

A: Yes, but only 7 were in operation at one time.

In 1996, I opened and operated my first bar, Tre Philos ("3 friends" in greek), in Tamarac Square with a friend, for $1\frac{1}{2}$ years.

I then became general manager for Rafters for two years.

In 1998, Tim Gibson and I bought The College Inn.

As partners we bought bars

that were underperforming and turned them around in 6–8 months.

In April 2010, we sold 4 of our bars and in January. 2011, we sold one in Phoenix, Arizona.

We currently own two bars, plus one in Arizona, currently under contract, and the Heather Ridge enterprise.

Q: What is your vision for your Heather Ridge operation?

A: Heather Ridge has a remarkable 40 year history filled with memories and nostalgia. This could be a wonderful venue for the community to gather socially, hold weddings, graduations, Bar Mitzvahs, confirmations, etc.

I would like to bring back the 4th of July picnic, fireworks and concerts of old.

I have been working with Tony David to offer a Friday Night Supper Club with dinner and dancing.

My vision is to make Heather Ridge the heart of our neighborhood again.

– Bette Secord

Note: The ads below are reprinted from www.GCatHR.com

Opening March 14

Noonan's Tavern at the Golf Club at Heather Ridge will be opening its doors on March 14. Noonan's Tavern will be operated by the well-known and established Restaurateur Rob Lanphier.

At Noonan's Tavern we pride ourselves on Great Service, community and a menu prepared from scratch and with the freshest ingredients. The food is always fresh, made to order, never pre-cooked or frozen. Zero Trans Fat oil is always used for the healthiest fried food in town!

Better Beer, here!

Our "*Better Beer Program*" ensures that you are getting the freshest, best tasting beer possible. Special glassware, extra staff training, canned beer and commitment to great tasting beer make us an industry leader in the "beer clean" advantage. Want to learn more about the *Better Beer Program*? Come check it out. We look forward to meeting and servicing our community!!







March Calendar at Heather Ridge			April Calendar at Heather Ridge				
Sun 13	Daylight Savings Time Begins	Fri	1	Tony David at Noonan's	8 pm		
Mon 14	Noonan's Tavern Opens	Sat	2	Ladies 18-Hole Kick-Off Luncheon			
Thu 17	Happy St. Patrick's Day HRMD Board Meeting Golf Club at Heather Ridge 4 pm	Tue	5	UAHR Board Meeting Golf Club at Heather Ridge Open to all HRMD residents	6 pm		
	Michael Collins Pipes & Drum Band	Fri	8	Tony David at Noonan's	8 pm		
	– Irish Step DancersNoonan's Tavern7 pm	Fri	15	Tony David at Noonan's	8 pm		
Fri 18	1	Sat	16	Magic Moments 7 Noonan's Tavern	:30 pm		
	Noonan's Tavern 7 pm	Sun	17	Palm Sunday			
Sun 20	•	Tue	19	Passover			
Mon 21	Garden Party 7 pm Strawberry Clubhouse	Thu	21	HRMD Board Meeting Golf Club at Heather Ridge	4 pm		
	(2638 S. Xanadu Way)	Fri	22	Good Friday			
Tue 29	Ladies 9 – Hole Kick-Off Luncheon			Tony David at Noonan's	8 pm		
Aquil Tarle Day Aquil e			24	Easter			
Apríl Fool's Day – Apríl 1			29	Tony David at Noonan's	8 pm		

GARDEN PARTY: Strawberry HOA meeting has invited Luan Aiken from Tagawa Gardens to be the featured speaker at its meeting on March 21, 7 pm. Many of you have seen Luan on CBS Channel 4 in Denver over the years. For the last several years, she has been affiliated with Tagawa Gardens as their Outreach Master Gardener. She will present a program on container and small area gardening — just in time for interested gardeners to start planning for the next growing season. All residents of the HR Metro District are invited — so come early to get a good seat. It should be a fun night. Please plan on attending.

Be A Guest Writer: *Metro Matters* will be initiating a new section entitled "Guest Writers." You are invited to submit an article, 500 words or less, for acceptance in the next publication. Send to Lynn Donaldson, LynnNeu@comcast.net or 13731 E. Hamilton Drive, Aurora, CO 80014

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Heather Ridge Metro Matters, March-April 2011



Coda: A restaurant in transition. More photos of Noonan's Tavern as the remodelling continues, preparing for its reopening on March 14.



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 fifth 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.

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Subscriptions: To accommodate Heather Ridge residents when traveling, who wish to receive Metro Matters. the publisher has a subscription policy. Provide a forwarding address, plus a check for \$1.70 (payable to Donaldsons) Inc.) for each issue desired. Send your check to Donaldsons, 13731 E Hamilton Dr. Aurora, CO 80014. Indicate which month to begin mailing the magazine. Metro Matters is also available online at uahr.org.

Non-resident owners may have the magazine mailed for free. Email Bette Secord, bettesecord@gmail. com, with information.

Heather Ridge Metropolitan District *Metro Matters*

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