

Heather Ridge Metro Matters

VOLUME 2

JANUARY 2012

NUMBER 7

Preserving the Heather Ridge open space –

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



Happy New Year, Heather Ridge!



Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch. On Nov. 16, the second Neighborhood Watch Meeting was held with a grand total of almost 40 residents attending.

The special speaker for the evening was an officer from EMATT (Auto Theft Task Force). He presented a vast amount of valuable information regarding what residents can do to cut down and/or eliminate auto theft. Report *all suspicious activity* to the Aurora Police Department, 303-627-3100, or in extreme circumstances, call 911.

If you need information regarding what constitutes *suspicious activities*, you may obtain a brochure from your Block Captain.

By your watchful eye, and follow up, we can eliminate all crime in our communities. It is each and every resident's responsibility, whether they are an owner or a renter, to be an observant occupant of their community.

And watch for the next Neighborhood Watch Meeting in early 2012! See you there!

Drop It, Lock It, Stop It. The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Program entitled, "Drop It, Lock It, Stop It" has its deputies always on the look out for open, unattended garages. If a deputy spots an open garage door, the Sheriff's office mails out a letter to the homeowner about the safety concern.

When the program began in 2004, 30 percent of all residential burglaries in Centennial and Arapahoe occurred through open garage doors. For the first six months of 2011, that figure came down to 11 percent.

During the summer months, they typically see a rise in this type of burglary. It takes less than a minute for someone to remove items of value from an open garage and get away.

An open garage is an invitation to criminals. To help reduce your potential for being victimized, follow these easy steps.

Drop It. Dropping your garage door is the first line of defense against unwanted entry into your home.

Lock It. Locking the door that leads from your garage into your home reduces unwanted entry. Doors should be equipped with one-inch deadbolt locks. The strike plates need to be reinforced with screws that go into the door frame.

Stop It. Don't make crime easy. It only takes a minute to secure your home.

For more information on Crime Prevention, please contact the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, Community Resource Unit, 720-874-3750 or 720-874-4040.

– Bev Brown

Head Area Coordinator for UAHR

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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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:

President Josie Spencer (Heather Ridge South)
Vice President Scott Dunham (Chimney Hill)
Burgundy, burghoa.com
Chimney Hill
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Fairway 16
Heather Ridge South, Heatherridgesouth.com
Sausalito, sausalitohoa.com
Strawberry, strawberryhoa.com
website: www.uahr.org

Managers, Golf Club at Heather Ridge

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

Joanie Ott (Fairway 16), President
Board: Vic Evans (Men's Club), Larry Ransford (Cobblestone Crossing), Larry Ricketts (Men's Club) and Loren Janulewicz (Men's Club)
website: www.golfclubatheatheridge.com

Publisher: Donaldsons, Inc.
Editor: Lynn Donaldson, 303-766-8649
(LynnNeu@comcast.net)
Advertising: Cindy Crockett, 303-690-7702
(cindycrockett5@gmail.com)

Heather Ridge Metropolitan District: Report to the community

The mission of the Heather Ridge Metropolitan District (HRMD) is to preserve the Heather Ridge open space — maintained best as a golf course. December began the third year of HRMD ownership of the Heather Ridge open space and operations of the golf course and clubhouse. Together, Heather Ridge (HR) homeowners have accomplished much in an uncertain economy and the challenging golf industry.

Major capital investments were made during the first two years of ownership. These expenditures were long overdue as the property had been neglected by previous owners over the last 35 years. A new water well was installed in 2010, south of Iliff. A new irrigation system, state of the art, was completed in 2011, north of Iliff. Dependable water delivery systems are essential for continued success of the course.

Although many of these investments are not visually apparent, they are vital to the future and integrity of Heather Ridge's open space.

Golf revenue for the last two years has been triple the revenues collected in 2008 and 2009. Golf expenses also were higher. Beginning two months ago, fixed expenses have been cut significantly. Controls and balances are in place to assure expenses remain in check. A special thanks to the HR women and men golfers who

have made commitments to the 2012 golf season at Heather Ridge. They demonstrated their financial support by purchasing annual golf memberships and other prepaid fees. Details of all financial reports continue to be posted on the website, HRMDco.org.

In the summer of 2009, HR clubhouse alternatives were presented at each of the eight pre-open space purchase community meetings. The HRMD and the United Association of Heather Ridge (UAHR) will continue to analyze options for the clubhouse. When a course of action is determined, information meetings will be held so that feedback can be obtained and consensus reached.

In conclusion, everyone can be proud of the golf course asset and the accomplishments of HRMD thus far, but there is still a great deal of work to be done. You can help by:

- Praying for great golfing weather. (There were zero golfing days in December.)
- Continuing to promote this great golfing venue via social networking!
- Continuing to golf with friends and enjoying the beautiful open space,
- Supporting the community gathering place and restaurant (Noonan's Tavern).

— Errol Rowland

Heather Ridge Community Affairs

“What type of glass do homes on golf courses install to prevent stray golf balls from breaking the glass?”

The following information is the result of research done by HRCA on this frequently asked question:

Regular Glass. Most of the time, people just use regular glass and have special insurance for an “accident” that occurs from a stray golf ball.

The added expense of Lexan or hurricane windows isn't usually worth it financially unless you're right in the line of fire and you have a broken window every month.

Film. There are some “plastic” films that can be applied to regular window glass that makes it virtually shatterproof.

The glass will break, but is held in place by the film. It impedes quick entry through windowpanes and glass doors, helps hold panes in place to minimize flying glass due to violent weather or accidents, and is available in clear safety film or with a tinted sun control option.

The films also help insulate your home by trapping warm air in and keeping cold out.

Fiberglass Screen. If you have trouble with occasional breakage, you could try having a fiberglass screen made for the window.

Fiberglass is less expensive, and has the advantage of not “denting” when hit or pushed. However, the fiberglass mesh is somewhat more opaque than aluminum mesh, which darkens the external appearance of the window and reduces the amount of light transmitted from outside. In addition, a fiberglass screen degrades rapidly with exposure to UV light, leading to fraying and breaking after just a few years, unlike aluminum that lasts considerably longer.

Lexon or Hurricane Windows. Bullet proof glass is known by the trademark “Lexan” and is also known by the generic name Polycarbonate. Instead of shattering upon impact, the glass is held intact within its frame.

It may or may not crack or break, depending upon the nature and force of the blow(s).

Lexan windows are about 3–4 times the cost of regular glass windows, so you have to weigh the pros and cons to see if it makes sense for you.

The strength is determined by the amount of force used to break or shatter the glass.

Just be sure you check the “unbreakable” strength ratings of the glass and consider all the other options

See windows...page 14



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

Heather Ridge Real Estate Update

Overall, Denver's 2011 real estate market ended upbeat and poised for a better 2012 season. Pending statistics for 2011 will show two metro area home markets — one below and one above \$400,000 foretelling the story for 2012 — a tale of two markets!

Home prices below \$400,000, and in particular below \$200,000, are now stable. Helping this have been two factors — declining inventory and increasing demand. If the laws of supply and demand have any importance, prices should rise if allowed to.

Homes above \$400,000 have suffered under a growing inventory marked by fewer high-income buyers. Overbuilt in the late 2000s, the \$400,000 and above market missed the first and second foreclosure rounds of 2007 and 2009, but was squarely hit in 2010 to date. With falling prices, it is restricting lower priced homes from rising in value.

For the past six months or more, the aggregate of all “for sale” inventory has been decreasing, but that might change soon. Lenders appear ready to accelerate pending and foreclosed homes going to market. Called the “phantom inventory” by realtors, this supply of homes was been kept from market by federal and state policies now expiring.

Strongly influencing all home sales now are tougher lending and appraisal rules. In the late 1990s, federal pressures fostered “easy loan qualification programs” that significantly contributed to the national housing bubble. It will take time to determine what new policies and procedures work, and those that don't.

Heather Ridge property values are improving. In 2011, Pete and Van sold over a dozen homes here, helping buyers and sellers understand market conditions and values. Their exposure to those homes and hundreds like them is priceless. If you are planning to buy or sell in Heather Ridge, please call Pete and Van — the real estate guys with over 70 years of experiences doing what they do best. And remember, this “ain't” their first rodeo!



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

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

Sold in Heather Ridge December 2011

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Bed.Ba	SqFt	Garage	Style
Chimney Hill	\$115,300	13520	E Evans Ave	2 - 2	1,344	1-Garage,Att	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$87,000	2142	S Victor St A	2 - 2	1,208	1-Reserved	2 Story
Sausalito	\$100,970	2417	S Victor St C	2 - 3	1,300	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$41,000	2694	S Xanadu Way C	1 - 1	856	None	2 Story

Homes Under Contract in December

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Bed.Ba	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Cobblestone	\$80,000	2101	S Victor St A	2 - 2	1,208	2-Garage,Det	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$129,900	2121	S Victor St A	2 - 3	1,401	2-Garage,Resv	2 Story
Cobblestone Cross'g	\$79,900	13274	E Asbury Dr	2 - 2	1,208	2-Garage,Det,Resv	2 Story
Cobblestone Cross'g	\$82,900	13384	E Asbury Dr	2 - 2	1,392	1-Reserved	2 Story
Cobblestone Cross'g	\$139,000	13314	E Asbury Dr	2 - 2	1,208	1-Garage,Det,Off St	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$155,000	2610	S Vaughn Way C	4 - 4	2,418	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$162,900	2690	S Vaughn Way D	3 - 3	1,650	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Sausalito	\$80,000	2500	S Victor St F	2 - 3	1,273	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$34,900	13651	E Yale Ave A	1 - 1	896	1-Reserved	2 Story

Homes for Sale in Heather Ridge, New Listings Nov. 1– Dec. 31

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Baths	Beds	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Chimney Hill	\$125,000	13645	E Evans Dr	3	2	1,344	1-Garage,Att	2 Story
Chimney Hill	\$129,500	2021	S Worchester Ct	3	2	1,344	1-Garage,Att	2 Story
Chimney Hill	\$135,000	2052	S Worchester Ct	3	2	1,337	2-Garage,Att,Oversized	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$129,900	2161	S Victor St B	2	2	1,392	2-Garage,Det,Resv	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$119,900	13446	E Asbury Ave	2	2	1,208	2-Garage,Det,Resv	2 Story
Country Club Ridge	\$223,000	2240	S Vaughn Way 202	2	3	1,806	2-Garage,Att,Oversized	Ranch
Fairway 16	\$155,000	2610	S Vaughn Way C	4	4	1,650	2-Garage,Att	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$169,800	2568	S Vaughn Way C	4	4	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$173,000	2810	S Wheeling Way	3	3	1,633	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$59,900	13657	E Yale Ave C	1	1	856	1-Carport	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$80,000	13631	E Yale Ave C	2	2	1,098	1-Carport	Ranch

For more information, call Pete or Van!

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

Consume yourself poor!

The outpouring of sorrow and reverence for an American entrepreneurial icon, Steve Jobs, I find excessive. Apple Computer assisted America's love affair for runaway consumption of the latest gadget and much useless consumer stuff.

American politicians ask us to consume with abandon to jump start the economy! I suggest consumption is not the prudent way for informed people! Why?

Consumption for consumption's sake makes you and me poorer. I can attest that I have considerably more than I ever need and should want — yet I'm not rich. I have stuff, junk that clutters my house and life. I'm no happier as a result; just burdened with it.

A March 2004 *Reader's Digest* article, "10 Keys to True Happiness," indicated that 18,000 students from 39 countries with rising salaries who desire more things beyond the basic necessities for life do not incrementally make them feel happier. The more they are able to afford to buy and consume, the less happy they become with each additional item acquired.

The author, Bob Holmes, and

others suggested that an "aspiration gap" for more things as income rises never completely satisfies one's desire to stop acquiring.

"Enough is never enough," yet people continue consuming, hoping a little more consumption will make them happier.

Have you visited a Goodwill or thrift store? I notice that roughly 60 percent of the recycled stuff originates from China. Just think, the Chinese are considerably smarter than you and I! They sell cheaply priced consumer goods with very short useful lives in exchange for billions of dollars of Treasury notes and bonds that continue paying interest decades after the Goodwill junk falls apart. Those communists are financially smarter than American consumers who are capitalists!

Why not get on the right side of the economic equation? Stop consuming and let your fellow patriotic Americans bail the U.S. of America out of its economic doldrums — and make China richer!

I once read an astounding but true story that rivals Steve Job's. A secretary worked for Abbott Labs in the early 1930s. The firm offered

all employees a special stock deal whereby if they invested about \$1,200.00 (about \$10,000 today) they would get preferential dividends. The secretary scrimped, never owning a car, never buying anything other than food and utilities, and living in a furnished cottage near work owned by her sister.

Fast forward to 2009: she died leaving an estate valued over 127 million dollars! Doubling and redoubling of her stock and stock options made her fabulously wealthy. She traveled the world many times while still earning a secretary's salary!

She never really consumed anything other than bare necessities. Think how much money you and I could have if we did not consume beyond bare necessities!

I'm angry! I could be somewhat happier and much richer had I consumed fewer things. Think how much less the Chinese could "laugh all the way to the bank" because I did not buy their junk!

Still want to keep up with the Jones'?

— L. Grant Shideler

High Line Canal at Iliff Avenue Underpass

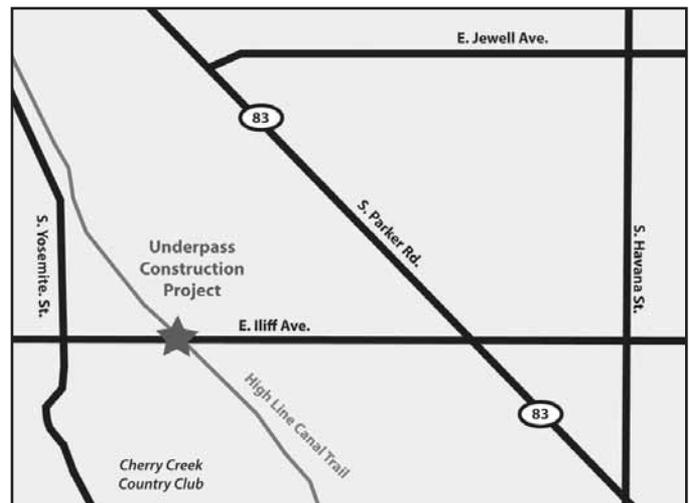
Project Description: Currently, when trail users on the High Line Canal Trail reach Iliff Avenue, they must cross at-grade, meaning they must compete with the traffic to cross the roadway. This has created safety concerns for both trail users and vehicular traffic.

To address the issue, Arapahoe County has partnered with the Colorado Department of Transportation, Denver Water and the City and County of Denver to install a trail underpass that will allow users of the High Line Canal Trail to cross safely under Iliff Avenue. As part of the project, sidewalks will be extended over the High Line Canal on the south side of Iliff.

Project Benefits: Once complete, the new trail underpass will allow pedestrians and cyclists to travel under Iliff Avenue, instead of fighting traffic in an attempt to cross the major roadway. Traffic flow will be smoother, as motorists will no longer need to stop to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists crossing Iliff Avenue.

Project Location: Intersection of Iliff Avenue with High

Line Canal Trail in Denver.



See Iliff Ave...page 15

Homeowners' Association News

Sausalito by Carol McCormick

Landscaping. The landscaping company has been busy removing fall leaves, shutting down the irrigation system and winterizing the community. External gutter cleaning will take place over the next month or so, depending upon the weather. If you want your interior gutters in your patio cleaned, please call Bill McKinney, 303-783-0394, with your special request. Remember to winterize your home.

Snow Removal. Time for an annual reminder regarding snow removal. During and after a snow storm, please do not park your cars in visitor parking or around the mail boxes. The snow removal crew needs to pile the excess snow in these areas. The snow is removed first from main streets. Secondly, the auto courts are cleared, and lastly, the sidewalks are shoveled.

Security. Sausalito 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.

Neighborhood Watch. The UAHR Neighborhood Watch committee met Nov. 16. You can find an article about the meeting on page 2. Sausalito is still looking for more Block Captains. Please contact Carol McCormick, the Sausalito Area Coordinator, at carol_mccormick@comcast.net if you are interested. It will not take much of your volunteer time.

Trash Removal Days. Our regular trash removal days are every Tuesday. Recycling days are every other Tuesday.

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

Board Members. President Vincent Roith, 303-745-9805; Vice President Tony Carniglia (Landscaping), 720-535-9705; Secretary/Newsletter Carol McCormick, 720-747-0836; Treasurer Pat Horton (Pools/UAHR

representative), 303-695-6181; Board Member at Large Debbie Martinez, 720-298-8323; Board Member at Large Tom Scally, 303-750-8772; and Board Member at Large Sherri Cooper.

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

Some fun trivia to keep you thinking on a cold winter day.

1. Prior to his death in 1999, John F. Kennedy, Jr, founded what politically themed magazine?
2. What problem did Leonardo da Vinci, Winston Churchill, Albert Einstein, Thomas Edison and General George Patton have in common?
3. What would the Barbie Doll's measurements be if she were life-size?
4. What did All Nippon Airways do in an effort to prevent its planes from sucking birds into their engines?
5. Before the introduction of the hair dryer in 1920, what common household appliance was promoted for its hair-drying ability?
6. How much hay was eaten daily by Jumbo, showman P.T. Barnum's famous 6.5 ton elephant?
7. How many U.S. states border the Gulf of Mexico?
8. What's the ballet term for a 360-degree turn on one foot?
9. What did blind bank robber David Worrell use as a weapon when trying to rob a London bank?
10. What Great Lake state has more shoreline than the entire U.S. Atlantic seaboard?

Answers. 1. *George*; 2. All were dyslexic; 3. 39–21–33; 4. It painted giant eyes on the engine intakes to discourage birds from approaching; 5. The vacuum cleaner, which could be converted into a hair dryer by attaching a hose to the exhaust; 6. Two hundred pounds; 7. Five; 8. Pirouette; 9. His cane; 10. Michigan.

More HOA news on page 11

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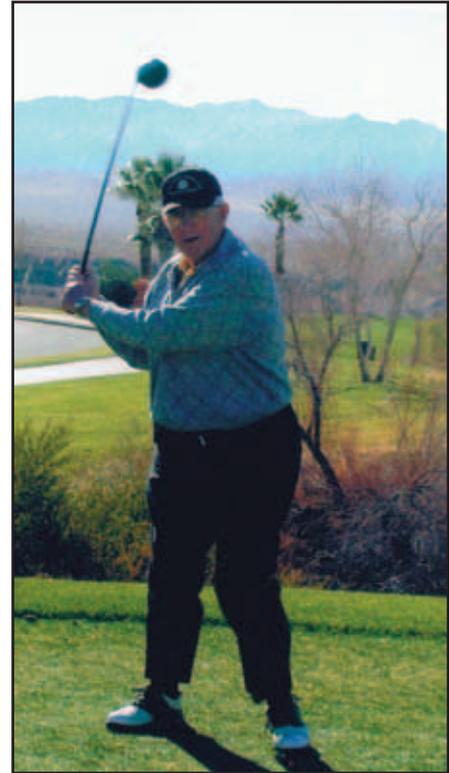
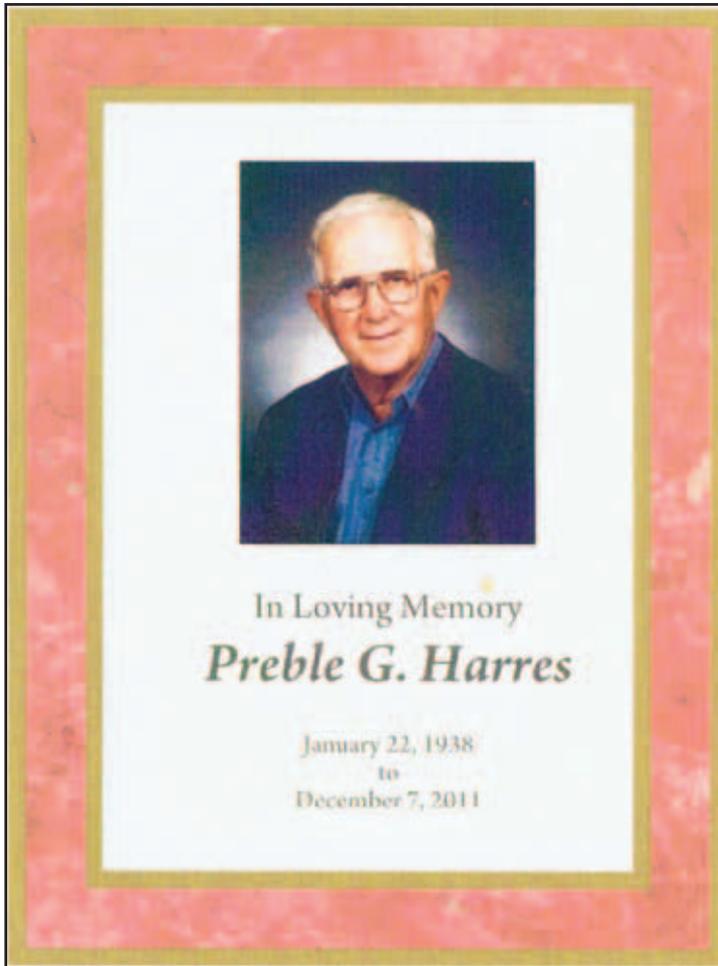
Heather Ridge

Did You Know...

The Heather Ridge Racquet Club was built in the 1970s. It boasted nine tennis courts. The club hosted many state and national tournaments. The grounds and facility were sold in 2002. Country Club Ridge was developed on the property.



Photo Album



Preble G. Harres

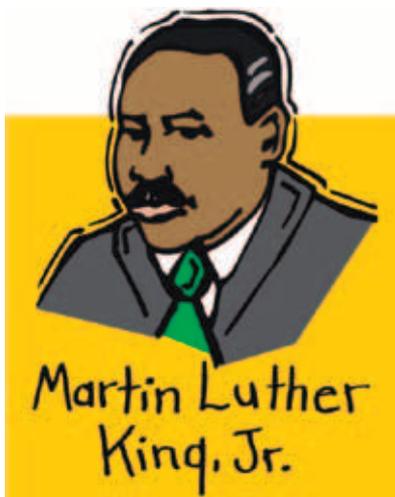
Jan. 22, 1938 to Dec. 7, 2011

The Heather Ridge Metropolitan District recently lost an early friend and supporter when the golf club open space desperately needed one. A businessperson from Kansas, once retired, Harres listed Heather Ridge's pro shop telephone as his "new business number." His sense of humor belied a keen mind and a desire for public service.

When the private club started failing, Preble was a friend to its owner and to the citizens of Heather Ridge. Working with the United Association of Heather Ridge (UAHR) leaders to save the open space then, he played important roles steering resources, setting goals, and improving communications. Without Preble's gentle but firm hand, today's golf course might have been tomorrow's condominiums.

All who knew him or felt his touch will miss Preble — Rest in Peace.

With deep appreciation — The Heather Ridge Board of Directors, The Golf Club at Heather Ridge, Ltd, and the Men's and Women's Golf Clubs of Heather Ridge.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, Jan. 16
Federal Holiday

January 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day Happy 2012!	2 6 pm UAHR Board Meeting – 19th Hole GC at HR	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Federal Holiday	17	18	19 Lunch Bunch at Noonan's 4 pm HRMD Board Meeting – GC at HR	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 6:30 pm Ward IV Meeting – Bent Noodle Restaurant, 3055 S Parker Rd and Dartmouth Ave	27	28
29	30	31				

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Winter/Spring term begins Jan. 7. For information or to register, call Lise Crouthers, 303-871-2291, lise.crouthers@du.edu. Sessions vary from 1 to 5. Fees from \$35 to \$210.

Sample offerings include: Digital SLR Intro, Arab Spring Ramifications, Economic History of the U.S., How the West was Won, Molly Brown's Denver, U.S. Constitution/Supreme Court cases, Shakespeare's Stories, Sightseeing Tour of the Universe, Laughing with Mozart, The King James Bible at 400, Humor Writing, Writing Short Fiction and many more.

Colorado Cowboy Poetry

Jan. 20, 21, 22

For more than two decades, the Gathering has celebrated the cowboy life and culture. Come join Baxter Black and many other award-winning cowboy poets and musicians from the American West, Canada and Australia.

This three-day roundup includes two evening performances, two full days of popular theme-session materi-

als, authentic chuckwagon cookin', and a first-ever televised Cowboy Variety Show. Tickets range from \$15 to 58, depending upon show selected. Senior tickets available. Call 1-888-718-4253 or visit www.ColoradoCowboyGathering.com. Location: American Mountaineering Center, 710 10th Street, Golden, CO 80401. Tickets are available for a Chuckwagon Supper, 5 pm Saturday, prior to the show.

Aurora History Museum

Chinese New Year Celebration

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2–3:30 pm

All ages invited. \$4 for Aurora residents. 303-739-6666. 15051 E Alameda Parkway.

See FYI...page 12

Chimney Hill

by Melissa Miller

Annual Meeting. Board Members present included Melissa Miller, Oak McEachren, Richard Bates, and Scott Shaeffer. Tom Westing from ACCU was also in attendance.

Overview of the Year. Melissa Miller presented a broad overview of the year, explaining the many capital expenditures that were accomplished, including:

1. Installed xeriscape in front of property, paid for with a grant from the City of Aurora.
2. Received a free outdoor water audit, which helped assess outdoor water usage and health of the sprinkler system.
3. Repaired and replaced stone, grout and flashing on leaky and deteriorating chimneys.
4. Detailed sewer line camera work done by Complete Plumbing. This information was used to draw a detailed sewer line map showing clean-outs and trouble spots. Thanks to resident Mark Carapella for his work in making the map.
5. Purchased unit 13645 E. Evans in a foreclosure due to chronically delinquent assessments.
6. Added large concrete drain pan in the first cul-de-sac.
7. Added new, larger dumpster enclosure in the first cul-de-sac to handle a recycling dumpster in addition to the regular dumpster.
8. Finished a three-year project of putting new roof jacks on all the sewer vent pipes on every building.

9. Painted 20 percent of the property and replaced siding where needed.

2012 Budget Presentation.

Tom Westing presented the highlights of the upcoming budget. There will be an approximate \$5 increase next year, mostly to help replenish the reserves.

Projects for 2012 and Beyond. Melissa Miller and Tom Westing presented potential projects for 2012 and potential long-term projects, including:

1. Painting one-fifth of the property and replacing siding as needed.
2. Replace pool cover and pool lining.
3. Chimney repairs, as needed.
4. Retaining wall replacement/repairs, as needed.
5. Explore options to continue to save water, including revamping the sprinkler system and dual-flush or low-flow toilets.

Approval of Last Year's Annual Meeting Minutes.

Kathy Thrash made a motion to accept last year's annual meeting minutes. Lenore Dechtman seconded and the motion passed.

Election of Board Members. The following three members were elected by secret ballot for three-year terms: Tom Bentz, Mike Pueppke and Oak McEachren. The meeting adjourned at 8:15.



Heather Ridge South

by Van Lewis

2012 – Starting out on the right foot! The Holiday Party on Dec. 10 — more than 80 people shared cocktails, food, and fun to wrap up 2011. A tradition for more than 13 years, this party was the best one yet. About 50 pounds of barbecued prime rib, turkey and ham were served. No one left hungry. Residents contributed all the appetizers and side dishes. HRS laid out a fantastic desert table with cheesecakes, holiday cakes and chocolates with after-dinner drinks.

The HRS Board promotes two seasonal parties to bring the community together and celebrate its uniqueness. The summer party by the pool includes roast pig, chicken, cold beverages, and hours of music and mingling. To many residents, these gatherings are important reasons to live here. It certainly makes it more fun.

A special thanks to board members Linda Hull, Ronni Jones and Dave Elgin. Along with greatly appreciated help from others, they planned menus, bought supplies, served food and drinks, erected and took down tables, and cleaned it all up by party's end. This has been done year after year. It is no small task for those involved.

Budget for 2012. The board has approved 2012's budget that includes a \$5 increase to monthly dues. This is the first increase in three years, and a modest one at

that. The increase was due to rising property insurance and utility costs.

Driveway and interior roadway project.

Weather and the holidays have put on hold the driveway project. While the weather was good, 52-plus driveways were replaced with concrete. Work will resume in January. The goal is to replace all asphalt driveways with concrete by spring 2012, and then re-mill and overlay existing asphalt. Project funding is from reserves only with no special assessment.

Community directory update. It is important that all residents (owners and tenants) keep their current information with Westwind Property Management Company. For direct contact at Westwind, please email Sue Daigle, sue@westwindmanagement.com. Any questions, call Sue, 303-369-1800, Ext. 123.

Ice and snow season. It could be a snowy winter, so here are guidelines for ice and snow removal:

- Don't park in front of your garage — it hampers snow removal



See Heather Ridge South...page 13

Molly Markert's Newsletter for Ward IV

The enthusiasm of kids and the dedication of those who devote their careers to their success have again made Aurora one of "100 Best Places for Kids." This



is an award recently presented to Aurora by the America's Promise Alliance for the second year in a row.

Here is a link to the celebration: <http://tinyurl.com/BestPlacesforKids>

Iliff Light Rail Station - I-225 Widening - Yale Bridge Closure

The best place to find information about the Light Rail extension from Nine Mile to Iliff, the widening of the remainder of I-225 from Iliff to Mississippi and the Yale Bridge closure including vehicle and bicycle tours, is <http://tinyurl.com/I225-Light-Rail-Yale-Bridge>

Local Player Is Colorado Women's Golfer of the Year

Heather Ridge Golf Club's own Somin Lee was recently named Colorado Women's Golfer of the Year by the Colorado Women's Golf Association (CWGA).

Somin is a freshman on the Pepperdine University golf team. After two straight years of being CWGA Junior Player of the Year, Lee graduated to the association's top player honor regardless of age.

Ms. Lee also was the low amateur finisher in the HealthOne Colorado Women's Open, sharing sixth place overall.

And she was medalist in U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links qualifying, and made it to the round of 32 at the national tournament.

Winterizing Your Pet

The Aurora Animal Care Division and Shelter advises these tips for you pets in winter.

- Eating snow or ice will not provide sufficient moisture to prevent dehydration in your pet.
- Continue to groom your pet in the winter. A matted coat will not provide the proper insulation against the cold.
- Indoor pets may not have grown a thick coat for winter and may require a pet sweater before going outside.
- Pets can get frostbite as easily as a human. Frostbitten areas may appear red, gray or white. Thaw those areas out slowly with a warm, damp cloth and do not rub the frozen areas.
- Salt or chemicals used to melt snow may make your pet ill. It can be fatal if ingested when your pet licks its paws.
- The sweet taste and smell of antifreeze makes it a deadly poisonous treat to animal.
- Cats often escape the cold by crawling into vehicle engines, where they can be killed or seriously injured

when the car is started. Before entering your vehicle, bang on the hood to startle any animal sleeping there.

FYI...from page 10

Morrison Nature Center

*Coyote Watch Training
Saturday, Jan. 21, 10 am*

Help participate in a regional coyote research project by becoming a coyote watch volunteer. Email mbonell@auroragov.org or call, 303-859-8911 to RSVP. 16002 E. Smith Rd.

National Parks

America's Best Idea - the national parks - gets even better with several fee-free days at more than 100 national parks that usually charge entrance fees.

Mark your calendar for these fee-free dates in 2012:

- Jan. 14-16 Martin Luther King Jr. weekend
- April 21-29 National Park Week
- June 9 Get Outdoors Day
- Sept. 29 National Public Lands Day
- Nov. 10-12 Veterans Day weekend

To make the fun even more affordable, check out these discounts and special offers from park partners and neighboring businesses: National Park Hospitality Association; National Parks Promotions Council

Here's a tip - many of your 397 national parks NEVER charge an entrance fee. So start planning your visit! www.nps.gov.



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CEO**

Heather Ridge South ...from page 11

- Only pure sand is to be used, absolutely no chemical ice melt products on new and old concrete and asphalt. Need sand? Please contact Westwind Management. Arrangements will be made to deliver a bucket of sand to your home.

- Owners are responsible for shoveling their own walkways. If physically unable to shovel snow, please contact Sue Daigle at Westwind for special assistance.

- Call Westwind about hazardous ice or snow problems. As ice melts and freezes, it becomes especially hazardous to walkers

- The HOA shovels and maintains all interior roadways and perimeter sidewalks.

- Residents who shovel outside of their property do so at their own risk.

Seasonal updates. With cold weather and increasing utility costs, please don't lower your interior temperatures too much. When it gets bitterly cold outside, interior pipes can freeze and burst. It is also very important that owners have HO-6 property insurance to supplement the HOA's general policy. Please contact your insurance agent to review your coverage versus the general policy. The HRS Association's general coverage has very limited coverage for upgrades and finished basements, and no coverage for personal property.

Free Days for January

Denver Children's Museum Tuesday, Jan. 3
303-433-7444, www.mychildsmuseum.org 4-8 pm
2121 Children's Museum Dr.

Denver Zoo Friday, Jan. 6
303-376-4800, www.denverzoo.org
2300 Steele St

Denver Botanic Gardens @ Chatfield Saturday, Jan. 7
303-973-3705, www.botanicgardens.org
8500 Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton

Denver Art Museum Wednesday, Jan. 18
720-865-5000, www.denverartmuseum.org 10 am
100 W 14th Ave Parkway

Denver Museum of Nature and Science Friday, Jan. 6
303-322-7009, www.dmns.org Monday, Jan. 9, 30
2001 Colorado Blvd (Fee for IMAX films, Planetarium)

Denver Botanic Gardens Saturday, Jan. 7
720-865-3500, www.botanicgardens.org 9 am-5 pm
1005 York St.



"OUT-TO-LUNCH-BUNCH"

Any HRMD resident who is interested in joining a monthly lunch gathering at Noonan's Tavern, third Thursday of the month, to meet old and new friends, please contact: Ginny Lewis, ginny.lewis@comcast.net 303-337-6118 • See you Jan. 19



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Salon Platinum (SW corner of Iliff near I-225)

Windows

...from page 3

before replacing your windows.

Cambridge Windows offers an exterior mounted lexan window that goes on top of your existing window. www.cambridgedoors.com/windows_golfball.asp

John Chipman, who lives at Fairway 16 and owns Carefree Exteriors Inc., suggests using tempered or safety glass that is one-eighth double strength glass as opposed to the standard one-sixteenth single strength glass.

Safety glass resists shattering and is a composite of two sheets of glass with an intermediate layer of transparent plastic. Also called shatterproof glass, tempered glass has been processed by controlled thermal or chemical treatments to increase its strength compared with normal glass. Tempered glass is made by processes that create balanced internal stresses that give the glass strength. It will usually shatter into small fragments instead of sharp shards when broken, making it less likely to cause severe injury and deep lacerations.

As a result of its safety and strength, tempered glass is used in a variety of demanding applications, including passenger vehicle windows, glass doors and tables, refrigerator trays, as a component of bulletproof glass, for diving masks, and various types of plates and cookware. (john@carefreeexteriors-inc.com or 303-693-8553)

If anyone is interested in purchasing screens for their windows, please contact bettesecord@gmail.com. Prices may be reduced if there are enough interested parties.

America's Wartime Veterans

Some 41 million Americans have served in the U.S. military since 1775; 23 million of them are still alive, 17 million of whom served during a conflict. Among them:

1. **Vietnam War (1964–75)** Many of the 8.8 million who served in uniform were draftees; 7.6 million are alive today. Thirty-five percent of all living veterans served during this time. 49,500 continued to serve through both Gulf wars. (see #3 and #5 below)

2. **Korean War (1950–53)** Often called "the forgotten war," it finally had a memorial dedicated to it in Washington in 1995. Of the 5.7 million Americans who served, 2.7 million survive. 211,000 remained in the military for the Vietnam War.

3. **Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990–91)** America's first encounter with Iraq's Saddam

Hussein involved 2.3 million military personnel, of whom 2.2 million are still present. 837,000 served during both Gulf Wars.

4. **World War 2 (1941–1945)** America's most massive mobilization involved 16 million men and women, of whom 2.1 million are still alive. Of these, 147,000 served in the Korean War; 54,000 served in the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

5. **Global War on Terror (2001–)** Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have involved 1.4 million military personnel.

Compiled by Leigh Montgomery, *Christian Science Monitor*, Nov. 14, 2011, from sources: American Community Survey (2010 census), Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs.

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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Harry

2012 Colorado Legislative Session

State Representative Nancy Todd writes that “the 2012 Legislative Session began Jan. 11. This will be a bittersweet session for me as it will be my last in the House of Representatives. I do hope to continue serving you in the Senate in 2013. This session, my priority will be drafting legislation that is geared toward creating jobs. There are many creative ways to do this, and I and my colleagues are working hard to find the best solutions to bring Colorado’s economy forward and to create good, well-paying jobs now and for generations to come.

“The reapportionment process has ended with the recent Supreme Court’s decision to uphold the recently drawn maps by the commission. The maps have been drawn, and it is now time to move forward and concen-

trate on the upcoming session, and helping ensure Colorado is a go-to state for businesses and families well into the future.

“I will be conducting three town hall meetings every month. Town Hall and Community Meetings are a great way for me to get feedback, questions and concerns from constituent[s]. I welcome all to attend and look forward to seeing you there.”

First Friday of every month: Panera Bread, 12293 E. Iliff Ave, 7–8 am.

Third Saturday of every month: Mission Viejo Library, 15324 E. Hampden Circle, 10 am–noon (Co-hosted with Senator Suzanne Williams from Senate District 28).

Third venue to be determined. – Rep. Nancy Todd

Iliff Ave...from page 6

Revised Project Timeline (weather permitting):

Nov 18, 2011: Partial trail detour and Yosemite Street improvements complete

Dec. 6, 2011: Underpass project construction starts

Dec. 6–8, 2011: For 4 days, Iliff Avenue is restricted to one lane in each direction

Dec. – March 2012: High Line Canal Trail detour, using the newly-constructed Yosemite Street improvements

Mid January 2012: Full weekend closure of Iliff Avenue. Specific date to be determined

Feb. 2012: For 7 days, Iliff Avenue is restricted to one lane in each direction

April 1, 2012: Estimated completion of major construction

May 2012: Minor landscaping and final roadway paving occur

Want to learn more?

- Sign up to receive weekly e-mail updates by sending your name, address and e-mail address to Iliff.Highline@gmail.com.

- Call 303-419-3301 with any questions.
- Follow Arapahoe County on Twitter for regular project announcements.

Please check back frequently as more information will be posted as it becomes available.

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.

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winter activities.
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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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