

# *Heather Ridge* Metro Matters

Serving the Heather Ridge Metropolitan District communities of: Burgundy, Chimney Hill, Cobblestone Crossing, Cobblestone, Country Club Ridge, Doubletree, Fairway 16, Heather Ridge South, Strawberry, and Sausalito

Volume 3

April 2013

Number 10



**Three-Time  
Heather Ridge  
Golf Champion  
2001, 2003,  
2012**

*See story, page 9*

## Molly Markert, Ward IV

15151 E. Alameda Parkway  
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mmarkert@auroragov.org



**Arbor Day Tree Sales:** Aurora Forestry staff is preparing for the annual Arbor Day tree sale. Arbor Day is April 19 in Colorado. To celebrate, Aurora will once again offer citizens high-quality trees at deep discounts. Residents may call Forestry and reserve an air purifying tree to plant on their property. The 2013 tree sale selection includes English Oak (\$38), Hot Wings Tatarian Maple (\$38), Pacific Sunset Maple (\$27 for whips), and Summer Charm Tree Lilac (\$38). Trees must be paid for in advance and tree pick-up day is Saturday, April 20 at Aurora Central Facilities, 13646 East Ellsworth Ave. For complete tree descriptions and ordering information, visit [www.auroragov.org/trees](http://www.auroragov.org/trees). Aurora's Green Revolution Arbor Day Festival and Plant Sale is 10 am–3 pm Saturday, April 20, at the municipal campus. This collaborative event is your chance to learn more about becoming “green” in your own home and in your community. Watch for additional details as Arbor Day approaches.

**The Overland High School Baseball Booster Club:** The Blazers Booster Club was formed two years ago, and with the help of many community members, local businesses, and supportive OHS staff members, improvements to the aesthetics and playing conditions of Schenbeck baseball field in Utah Park have been made. Since September 2012, the Blazer Booster parent members, coaches, and baseball players have resodded the infield and purchased 20 tons of new dirt for the infield. The dugouts were remodeled, with new benches installed, new concrete floors and fresh paint. The district replaced the chain link fencing on the backstop and the dugouts, as well as provided new batting cages. During every Overland High School baseball game, burgers, hot dogs and other baseball treats will be available for purchase by spectators and the public. The Booster Club noted that Councilwoman Molly Markert supported these efforts.

**Crime Prevention Tip:** The winter months usually equal cold mornings, and make it tempting to start your vehicle and leave it unattended while it warms up (puffers). This provides an easy target for car thieves. Approximately 30 auto thefts occurred during one weekend and almost all of them were puffers. It is illegal to leave a vehicle running unattended in Aurora, and the police department participates in periodic puffer operations — officers troll parking lots for puffers and issue tickets to violators. Please stay with your vehicle when it is running.

**Community Announcement**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Heather Ridge Metropolitan District**  
**4 pm Thursday, April 18**  
**Heather Ridge Clubhouse**  
**Lower Level — 19th Hole**

**Heather Ridge Metropolitan District**  
President, Errol Rowland  
Vice President, Van Lewis,  
Treasurer, Vinny Roith  
Secretary, Melissa Miller  
Assistant Secretary, Jim Bruce  
Assistant Secretary, Joan Beldock  
Assistant Secretary, Mary Lou Braun

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Vinny Roith 303-755-3660  
720-246-0306  
[info@HRColo.org](mailto:info@HRColo.org):  
[HeatherRidgeColorado.org](http://HeatherRidgeColorado.org)

**Heather Ridge Golf Club**  
3521 E Iliff Ave Aurora, CO 80014  
303-755-3550  
[www.golfclubatheatherridge.com](http://www.golfclubatheatherridge.com)

**United Associations of Heather Ridge (UAHR)**  
President, Josie Spencer  
[www.uahr.org](http://www.uahr.org)

**Heather Ridge Neighborhood Watch**  
Bev Brown 303-872-3154  
Amy Jones 720-350-0283  
Aurora Police, PAR Officer  
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Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* is published monthly for the residents of Heather Ridge. Publisher: Donaldsons, Inc., Lynn Donaldson 303-766-8649, [LynnNeu@comcast.net](mailto:LynnNeu@comcast.net).

Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* welcomes letters and other articles regarding community issues. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's phone number. Letters may be edited due to space limitations and for clarity. ©2013, Donaldsons, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. The Publishers do not necessarily endorse the companies, products or services advertised in Heather Ridge *Metro Matters*. Printed by Publication Printers Corp. 2001 S. Platte River Dr.

# Neighborhood Watch

## Are You Being Missed — or Just Missing Out?

Did you know that Heather Ridge Neighborhood Watch (NW) receives continual notifications and/or messages from the Aurora Police Department, PAR Officer, City-Wide Head Area Coordinator, and others who are concerned about our safety? In addition, NW is updated on crime statistics, in or around Aurora. It is notified about events — like important classes being held in the area. There is so much more that you need to know. You may be missing important information.

You probably are aware — because of the information you read in Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* and the flyers posted on your door — that approximately every four months Neighborhood Watch hosts a meeting in the community, with a guest speaker. Your attendance and input could be valuable.

All Heather Ridge residents may not know there is an easy way to receive all this information. If you do not already have your e-mail address on file with an Account Coordinator or Block Captain in your community, you are really missing out! If you are hesitant about giving out your e-mail address, don't be! You can receive this information in your e-mail inbox by requesting it be sent to you as a "blind copy." Blind copy simply means you request the information come only to you. **No one else sees your e-mail address! It is not visible for the world to see!**

If you would like to receive important messages, please get in touch with the Account Coordinators in your community and leave the following information: your name, community, phone number and e-mail address. (Please note if you wish to receive the e-mails via blind copy.) If you get an answering machine, please leave the information or ask the Account Coordinator to call you back.

### Heather Ridge Account Coordinators

Burgundy .....	Angie Murray, 303-368-4357 .....	<a href="mailto:angie-murray@live.com">angie-murray@live.com</a>
Country Club Ridge .....	Judie Maurelli, 303-337-0773 .....	<a href="mailto:judiemaurelli@msn.com">judiemaurelli@msn.com</a>
Fairway 16 .....	Walt Kirkwood, 720-272-2055 .....	<a href="mailto:wvkirkwood@comcast.net">wvkirkwood@comcast.net</a>
Sausalito .....	Carol McCormick, 720-747-0836 .....	<a href="mailto:neighborhoodwatch@comcast.net">neighborhoodwatch@comcast.net</a>
Strawberry I .....	Amy Jones, 720-350-0283 .....	<a href="mailto:amyjjones888@gmail.com">amyjjones888@gmail.com</a>
Strawberry II .....	Bev Brown, 303-872-3154 .....	<a href="mailto:BrownBE_NWatch@comcast.net">BrownBE_NWatch@comcast.net</a>
Cobblestone (email signup)...	Bev Brown, 303-872-3154 .....	<a href="mailto:BrownBE_NWatch@comcast.net">BrownBE_NWatch@comcast.net</a>

Bev Brown, Head Area Coordinator for UAHR, Area 10

## Neighborhood Watch Hosts Community Awareness Program



Above (from left): PAR Officer Area 11 Gene Lemay; Neighborhood Watch Head Area Coordinator for Area 10 Bev Brown; Strawberry Account Coordinator Amy Jones; PAR Officer Area 10 District 1 Mark Lowisz; Division Chief Roger Cloyd; City-Wide Coordinator Cindy Bowen.

Fairway 16 Clubhouse was filled to overflowing for the recent Neighborhood Watch Community Awareness Program presented by Aurora Police Department. Several Heather Ridge and Area 10 residents wanted to learn more about The CELL (The Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab).





**Pete Traynor**  
 Double Tree  
**303-877-9538**

[PeteTraynor@ReMax.net](mailto:PeteTraynor@ReMax.net)

# Home Sales Soar

Home sales and prices continue their 2013 ascent to surpass 2007 real estate activity — the high water mark before the recent crash. The only dark cloud is an unlikely suspect — too little inventory, especially below \$200,000. Homeowners have recently returned to a semblance of solvency, but many are hesitant to sell. Who can blame them? It's been a rough past five years.

February home prices rose as “for sale” inventory fell to the lowest level since 1985, according to MLS and Gary Bauer. As of March 6, only 6,786 homes were for sale, down 4.3 percent from January 2013, and down 32.7 percent from 10,086 in February 2012.



**Van Lewis**  
 Heather Ridge South  
**303-550-1362**  
[van@vanlewis.com](mailto:van@vanlewis.com)

Prices continue upward with lower-priced homes rising the fastest — the market is recovering from the bottom up! Compared to a year ago, February prices increased 11 percent, and the number of homes under contract grew 13.6 percent.

Today's average single-family home price is \$276,596, up \$28,531 from a year ago. Condos are up \$21,214, to \$175,351. Metro Denver's growth rates exceed national figures making it one of the top 10 major real estate growth markets.

For more details, call Pete and Van for a personalized property evaluation or overview of Heather Ridge. With over 70 years experience between them, they are the neighborhood experts — don't leave home without them.



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• Spring & Fall Bulbs	• Farmer's Market (June — October)
• House Plants & Herbs	• Fall Pumpkins & Festival
• Bonsai, Cactus & Orchids	• Christmas Trees & Wreaths

**Bob LeGare**  
 Council Member, At-Large  
 City of Aurora



**15151 E Alameda Parkway, 5th Floor  
 Aurora, CO 80012**

**303-366-0113**  
[blegare@auroragov.org](mailto:blegare@auroragov.org)

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

## Sold in Heather Ridge January 28 — March 11, 2013

HOA	Sold \$	No.	Street	Be/Ba	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Strawberry I	\$47,500	13633	E Yale Ave B	1 - 1	856	1-Carport, Resv	2 Story
Sausalito	\$107,000	2511	S. Worchester Ct A	2 - 2	1,273	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$114,750	13412	E Asbury Ave	2 - 2	1,208	2-Garage, Det	1.5 Story
Sausalito	\$161,900	2447	S Victor St A	2 - 3	1,273	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Burgundy	\$165,900	2671	S Xanadu Way B	2 - 2	1,315	2-Garage, Det	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$169,900	2771	S Xanadu Way	2 - 2	1,365	2-Garage, Att	Ranch
Heather Ridge South	\$177,500	2871	S Xanadu Way	3 - 4	1,633	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Country Club Ridge	\$183,000	2280	S Vaughn Way 203	2 - 3	1,693	1-Garage, Att	Ranch
Country Club Ridge	\$185,000	2260	S Vaughn Way 103	2 - 3	1,485	2-Garage, Att	Ranch

## Homes for Sale in Heather Ridge, as of March 11, 2013

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Be/Ba	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Fairway 16	\$151,000	2416	S Vaughn Way A	2 - 2	1,365	2-Garage, Att	Ranch
Fairway 16	\$165,000	2496	S Vaughn Way D	4 - 3	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story

## Homes Under Contract as of March 11, 2013

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Bed/Ba	SqFt	Gar/Space	Style
Strawberry II	\$49,900	2485	S Xanadu Way A	2 - 2	1,091	None	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$59,500	13615	E Yale Ave A	1 - 1	856	Off Street	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$63,900	13625	E Yale Ave A	1 - 1	856	1-Carport, Det	1.5 Story
Strawberry I	\$69,500	13621	E Yale Ave B	1 - 1	856	2-Carport, Resv	2 Story
Strawberry II	\$79,000	2419	S Xanadu Way D	2 - 2	1,091	1-Reserved	2 Story
Strawberry II	\$83,000	2465	S Xanadu Way A	2 - 2	1,091	Off Street	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$87,000	13613	E Yale Ave B	2 - 2	1,144	1-Carport, Resv	1.5 Story
Strawberry I	\$95,000	2666	S Xanadu Way	2 - 2	1,144	1-Carport	2 Story
Strawberry II	\$106,900	2481	S Xanadu Way D	2 - 2	1,091	None	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$116,000	2660	S Xanadu Way A	2 - 2	1,144	1-Carport	2 Story
Sausalito	\$150,000	2459	S Worchester St D	2 - 3	1,230	2-Garage, Att	Ranch
Chimney Hill	\$150,000	13623	E Evans Ave	3 - 2	1,344	2-Garage, Att	2 Story

**Van Lewis: Re/Max Alliance**  
**303-550-1362; [van@vanlewis.com](mailto:van@vanlewis.com)**

**Pete Traynor: Re/Max Masters**  
**303-877-9538, [PeteTraynor@ReMax.net](mailto:PeteTraynor@ReMax.net)**

# Homeowners' Association News

## Chimney Hill

**Spring Concerns:** The first day of Spring was March 20, and by the time this issue of Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* is printed, Spring will be in full swing. Hopefully the snow is done this year, and the Chimney Hill community will look green again. The board will be making decisions about all the necessary improvements and repairs.

**Board and Management News:** As always, safety of CH residents is the board's first priority. Please contact Alec at Accord Property Management with any questions and concerns, and report all parking violations. Alec's phone number is 720-230-7321, email [alec@accordhoa.com](mailto:alec@accordhoa.com). Do not call subcontractors directly with any issues related to grounds or building maintenance.

For after-hours property threatening, non-criminal, emergency-only issues, please call 720-259-8019. Leaking sprinklers and/or flooding in your home are some examples of non-criminal property emergencies. Call 911 for all life threatening emergencies.

**This and That:** With spring and summer approaching, some CH residents may be working on home improvements. Please remember to contact Accord Property Management to fill out the proper request forms for all outside improvements such as replacing windows,

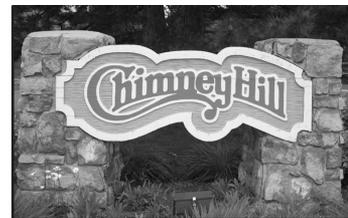
installing and replacing screen doors, and all grounds improvement.

**Parking is still an issue:**

The board will discuss the need to improve/re-evaluate parking rules, and is asking all residents to park at least one car in the garage.

A few months ago CH board installed bright orange containers with ice melt throughout the property. The board also installed seven white real estate boxes for the Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* magazine to be distributed on a monthly basis. Several orange containers went missing and one white box has been taken down several times. It reappeared recently. Removing HOA property is against the law. Please call the management company if you have any questions about items installed on the property.

**Monthly HOA Meetings:** CH monthly HOA Board meetings are scheduled to convene on the third Thursday of every month in the card room on the lower level in the golf course clubhouse. (Enter through the men's locker room). The next monthly meeting will be 6 pm Thursday, April 18. All Chimney Hill residents are welcome to attend.



## Sausalito by Carol McCormick

The Sausalito community is sad to say goodbye to Tony Carniglia, its HOA vice president and landscape "guru." Tony has resigned from the board to return to upper New York State to be with his family. The outstanding appearance of the community is due to Tony's dedicated commitment and "on top of everything" service to Sausalito. Tony has been a vital member of the HOA Board of Directors. Thanks Tony! The Sausalito community will miss you and wishes you the best in all your new endeavors.

**Landscaping and Architecture:** Spring snow; snow removal; and more snow! The good news is that the Spring snow melts quickly, giving the ground the moisture it needs and helps lessen the water cost during the summer and fall.

Until Sausalito has a new board member in charge of landscaping, please call Bill McKinney at 303-783-

0393 when outside lights need to be replaced. A quick reminder — Tuesday is Sausalito's trash day. However, please have your trash containers in your garage by 8 pm on Tuesday evening. This will help keep the community looking neat and clean.

Thanks to the homeowners who have replaced their old and/or damaged garage doors. The outward appearance of Sausalito's homes adds to the aesthetic beauty of the community and increases the property value.

Brownstone Security continues to patrol Sausalito on foot and on a random basis. Say, "Hi!" to Randy and his staff when you see them out and about. The parking



See Sausalito...page 15

# Country Club Ridge by Judie Maurelli



**Water Usage:** As reported last month, water usage is one of Country Club Ridge's biggest budget items. One might feel that the water is paid for by Country Club Ridge. But the reality is that it is your dollars, in the form of monthly HOA dues that pays all expenses. It has been discovered that some units use significantly more water than others, even though the number of residents within each building is similar. Working with Aurora Water, Country Club Ridge learned how to conduct internal water audits looking for a variety of leaks that consume water. Three buildings have had Smart Water sensors installed to monitor usage 24 hours a day for a 30-day period. Additional details about water usage will be available when the internal water audits are completed.

**How Can I Help?** Check all faucets for dripping water and make any repairs. Flow-restricting aerators for all faucets are available at home improvement stores for \$3–5 each. Check toilets for tank leaks by placing a dye tablet in the tank; wait for 15 minutes and check the bowl. If color is seeping into the bowl — you have a leak! This is a great time of year to test for leaks. In addition to commercial dye tablets, you can use Easter egg dye tablets (dissolve tablet in one cup of water before adding to the tank), old coffee or tea, or food coloring drops.

Contrary to belief that you will “hear” a malfunctioning toilet, these leaks do not make a sound! If a leak is detected, all home improvement stores sell the repair parts. The average toilet in the community uses 1.6 gallons of water per flush. However, the industry standard now is 1.28 gallons per flush, with 1 gallon per flush units available. If you need to replace a toilet, please look for the low-flow units.

Wash full loads of clothes. If you are shopping for a new washer, consider a low-usage front loader with an Energy Star rating. Use your dishwasher instead of hand washing dishes. Not only do you benefit from cleaner dishes, you save water.

**New Contractor for Waste Removal:** Alpine Waste Removal has been contracted to be Country Club Ridge's garbage and recycling provider beginning on April 1. You will receive a letter giving you details about when you will receive a new garbage tote and when the old ones will be picked up. If you are now

*See Country Club Ridge...page 14*

# Fairway 16 by Susan Bruce

**Board Training:** Several members of the Fairway 16 Board of Directors will attend a free workshop at Hammersmith Management on April 2. Dr. Ben Leichtling will present a lecture entitled “Bullies, Boundaries and Boards — OH MY!” The board has attended other training programs in the past year and found the programs helpful.

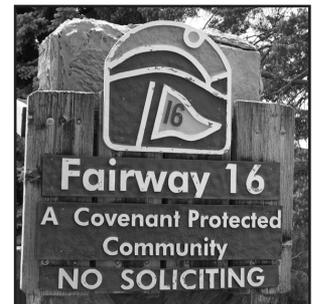
**Earth Day:** *On Havana Street.com* will sponsor a FREE electronic recycling and FREE document shredding event on Saturday, April 20 from noon to 3 pm. It will be held in the parking lot in front of Bicycle Village at Yale and Havana. They will take old/used electronic items that plug in, such as PCs, CPU towers, laptops, notebooks, cell phones, pagers, monitors, keyboards printers, copiers, mice, and even TVs.

**Renters Welcome to Our Community:** Fairway 16 hopes you read Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* each month. You are welcome to come to the Fairway 16 board meetings. As swimming pool season approaches, please realize that you, and the owner of your unit, will need to sign a Swimming Pool Key Agreement and Release. If you need a form, please contact Susan Bruce. As a

reminder, and information to the newest renters, please do not wash your car on Fairway 16 property. The board is trying to keep the water bills under control. Also, please supervise small children who ride their tricycles or bikes in driveways; it isn't always easy to see them when backing out of a garage.

**Squirrel Control:** Have squirrels attacked your patio cushions and removed the stuffing? This was a problem for at least two homeowners last spring and summer. Aurora Animal Control recommends buying fox urine and spreading it around your patio or area where the cushions are. It is available at Bass Pro Shop in the Northfield Shopping area, located at I-70 and Quebec, 1 ounce for \$6.

**Thanks:** To the mystery shoveler who shoveled the snow off the long 16th Fairway cart path on February 27. It was helpful to joggers and dog walkers, but was not done by either the golf course staff or Fairway 16 shoveling crew. Just know — you were appreciated!





# The Golf Club at Heather Ridge

The Golf Club at Heather Ridge is the home of two Men's Clubs and two Ladies' Clubs that provide competition and great fun for all levels of golf. The men's and ladies' clubs are now accepting applications for the 2013 golf season. For more information and applications, please call 303-755-3550.

After 30 years as a private club, The Golf Club at Heather Ridge is now open to the public. It is the only public golf course with enclosed carts for those cool spring mornings. The Golf Club at Heather Ridge offers some of the best greens in the state — it's a true shot-maker's course. Heather Ridge is fast, fun and affordable golf. An average play time for an 18-hole round is 4 hours and 12 minutes. Heather Ridge is located just one block west of I-225 and Iliff Avenue in Aurora.

	Heather Ridge		
	Public	Residents	Senior/Junior
9 Holes Monday-Thursday	\$13	\$10	\$10/\$10
9 Holes Friday-Sunday	\$16	\$14	\$14/\$13
18 Holes Monday-Thursday	\$23	\$19	\$19/\$16
18 Holes Friday-Sunday	\$29	\$26	\$26/\$19

Carts 9 Holes \$9/person  
 Carts 18 Holes \$15/person

**Special April Twilight Rates After 4 pm**  
 All the golf you can get in before dark!  
 \$12 to Walk — \$21 to Ride

**Heather Ridge Residents Get a Free Bucket of Range Balls**

Bring this coupon in when you play your next round of golf for a free bucket of range balls.

*Coupon good for free bucket of balls with the purchase of a round of golf or \$1 off regular bucket price with no round of golf. Only original coupons accepted.*

Offer Expires: **April 30, 2013**

# Three-Time Golf Champion

The Heather Ridge 2012 Men's Golf Association Club Champion is Ben (Benny) Barnes. He also has the distinction of winning this prestigious title in 2001 and 2003. In addition, Benny has been a runner-up several years before winning again last year. An avid golfer, Barnes attributes his passion for golf to his parents, who introduced him to the game while they were stationed in Anchorage, Alaska, in 1959. Benny patterns his golf game after his father, who was also an avid golfer.

Barnes is well-known to the Heather Ridge community as a resident traveling golfer. He not only plays with the Heather Ridge Men's Club on a regular basis, but participates in 12-15 other tournaments throughout Colorado each year, traveling up and down the front range.

When asked what it takes to be a consistently good golfer, Benny's reply was, "Practice, practice, practice, and confidence that you will achieve your golf goals." On average, he plays more than 100 rounds of golf each year.

Since 1998, Benny and his wife, Diane, have lived on the 16th Fairway adjacent to the ladies' tee box. Since the day the Barnes moved into Heather Ridge, Benny has proudly hung an American flag, which continues to wave. Diane is well aware of her husband's drive to play golf, knowing what the game means to him.



"The only time I said 'No,' to Benny was when he wished to head to the golf course when my son got married," she laughs.

What are Benny's thoughts for The Golf Club at Heather Ridge?

"It is a beautiful and demanding little course, and we love playing it. We have made many good friends since joining the club."

Congratulations to Benny Barnes for winning the 2012 Heather Ridge Men's Club Championship, and "thanks" for his support of the Golf Club at Heather Ridge.

**President Loren J. Janulewicz**  
GCHRMGA Board



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# Golf Club at Heather Ridge Monthly Update

[www.golfclubatheatherridge.com](http://www.golfclubatheatherridge.com)



## Golf Club at HR, Men's Golf Association

This year the Men's Golf Association (GCHRMGA) will continue a schedule of 14 tournaments including a Member/Guest tournament and a Member/Member tournament. In addition, a Match Play tournament will be held. The Kick-Off Banquet will be April 5. The first tournament will be held on April 6. Membership to GCHRMGA is open to all male golfers who are 18 years or older. You may pick up an application at the Golf Shop front desk.

### GCHRMGA membership fees\*

Membership	\$125
Hole-in-One Pool (optional)	\$5
Match Play	\$25

The membership includes:

- USGA maintained GHIN handicap
- Access to GCHRMGA website <http://hrmga.ghinclub.com> (addresses/phone numbers)
- Two complimentary banquets (Spring and Fall Tournament access)

\*GCHRMGA memberships are non-refundable

**GCHRMGA Board**  
**President Loren J. Janulewicz**  
[ljanul@msn.com](mailto:ljanul@msn.com)

### 2013 Schedule: Heather Ridge Men's Club

April 5	Men's Club Spring Banquet
April 6	Four Man Scramble — A,B,C,D Players. 8 am Shot Gun (Computer Draw)
April 13	Two-Man Best Ball. 8 am (Computer Draw)
April 27	Individual Net. 8 am
May 31, June 1, 2	Member/Guest Tournament. 8 am, Horse Race on Friday, May 31
June 15	Individual Net
June 29	Two-Man Best Ball, Pick Your Partner, must be within 8 strokes
July 6	Individual Net. 8 am
July 19, 20, 21	Member/Member Tournament. 8 am, Horse Race on Friday, July 19, players must be within 8 strokes of each other
August 10	Six Shooter. 8 am, Two-Man Teams, pick your partner (6 best ball, 6 scramble, 6 modified scotch)
August 24, 25	Club Championship. 8 am
September 14	Tournament of Champions. 8 am. Non Winners Tournament to follow on the same day
September 27	Men's Club Fall Banquet
September 28	4-Year End Tournament. 8:30 am. Shot Gun format to follow

### 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](mailto: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.*



Photo courtesy of Sharon Berkowitz

# Ladies 9-Hole Golf League

All women golfers are invited to join the league on Tuesday mornings to play 9 holes of golf. Come enjoy some fun golf and good fellowship; the group alternates playing the front or back 9 at the Golf Course at Heather Ridge. Membership applications are located in the "19th Hole" or online at [www.golfclubatheatheridge.com/womens-9-hole-golf-club](http://www.golfclubatheatheridge.com/womens-9-hole-golf-club).

Play begins April 2. You can find a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board

in the hall outside the Heather Ridge Pro Shop.

The Spring Kick-off Luncheon will be held at Noonan's banquet room on Tuesday, April 16, after the morning round of golf. Please sign up for the luncheon on the sheet provided on the bulletin board in the hall.

Contact Sharon Gunderson, 303-755-1600, [sgrug1@gmail.com](mailto:sgrug1@gmail.com), if you would like more information.

## Interview: Noonan's Event Coordinator

Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* Editor Barry McConnell recently visited with Amy Sharp, Noonan's manager of events and marketing:

**As manager of events and marketing for the banquet facility at Noonan's, I know you schedule several wedding receptions, meetings and holiday parties. What is the most unusual event or group you have worked with?**

One event that comes to mind was a local company named Support Inc. They provide cost-effective services and support that enables individuals with disabilities to perform and function in their community. Simply stated, they are just people helping people. Support Inc. had a very successful casino-themed event that was also a holiday party!

**I know this building formerly housed Heather Ridge Country Club, but I am surprised by the size of the banquet space. How big of a group can your room accommodate?**

Our banquet facility can hold up to 300 guests.

**If I wanted to do a fancy wedding reception for 200 with a formal dinner and an open bar, can you accommodate my plans?**

Yes, we can! Our Chef Shelly Benson is incredibly gifted in being creative with her menus as well as displaying a beautiful food table presentation. Our bartenders are all experienced in making any of your favorite cocktails from martinis to manhattans. Also, Pour Kids (which owns and operates Noonan's Tavern and Banquet Hall, Boone's Tavern and Handlebar Tavern) specializes in featuring local beers, wines and liquors. We are all about "Statetrotic" — our word for keeping it local!

**It seems there is always something going on in the banquet facility. Do I have to make reservations months in advance?**

Yes, we are booking out quickly! Our facility is a great place to not only have your reception (if doing a wedding), but a gorgeous setting for an outdoor ceremony.

**Can the banquet space accommodate smaller groups for meetings or seminars?**

We can accommodate most any size group. We have one large ballroom that can be divided into two smaller rooms. The third room is named The Garden Room, with breathtaking views overlooking the gorgeous Heather Ridge Golf Course. The Garden Room can hold up to 70 guests. This is a great room for meetings and smaller luncheons as well as showers.

**What is your connection with the Heather Ridge golf course? Do you ever host groups after golf tournaments?**

We are a separate entity from Heather Ridge Golf Course. Once this establishment was one country club. Even though we are separate entities, we all, Heather Ridge and Noonan's Tavern, work closely together to host golf events such as tournaments and the banquets that follow tournaments.

**Are there any special banquet room rates for Heather Ridge residents?**

Yes, we offer discounts to Heather Ridge residents



Amy Sharp  
Events and  
Marketing for  
Noonan's Tavern

Interview with Amy...page 14

# A Day on the Course



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GOLF

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## DAILY SPECIALS & ENTERTAINMENT:

Noonan's is the place for Great Lunch & Happy Hour!



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Aurora, CO 80015  
720-246-0304

# 20% OFF!

Just for our friends at Heather Ridge!

Bring in this coupon and receive 20% OFF your entire lunch tab!

Valid Monday– Friday

11am-2pm

Not valid with any other discounts or special offers.



## HAPPY HOUR! 11am-7pm MON-FRI

### 9 Lunch items for \$6 (requires purchase of a beverage)

**\*\*NEW! \*\* 1/2 PRICE BOTTLES OF WINE EVERY DAY from 11am- 7 pm!\*\***

All Daily specials are from 7pm-close unless otherwise specified

**MONDAY:** \$2 PBR Cans, and \$6 "PB & J's" ; Texas Hold'Em 7 pm

**TUESDAY:** Karaoke 9 pm & "Girls Night Out" Specials; Mikes Hard Lemonade \$3 for all!

**WEDNESDAY:** 20% off Wings & Texas Hold'Em 7pm

**THURSDAY:** Live Trivia 8 pm, \$2 Danny Noonans, \$3 Fries /Tots baskets, \$17 Craft buckets

**FRIDAY:** \$1.75 Fish Tacos ALL DAY! \$3 Jagers / Deep Eddy Vodkas & Beer Pong at 9pm!

**WEEKENDS:** BYO Bloody Bar 'till 5 pm & Bottomless Mimosas 'till \$3pm & \$4 Mojitos ALL DAY!

**SATURDAY:** \$3 Bud Light & Shock Top ALL DAY; Rock N Roll Bingo 8:30 pm

**SUNDAY:** \$2.50 Coors Light, Batch 19, Colorado Native ALL DAY

[www.pourkids.com](http://www.pourkids.com)

# 10% OFF!

Book your next special event with us, and get 10% off your total food and beverage bill. Just for our friends

at Heather Ridge!

- Meetings
- Luncheons
- Receptions
- Parties
- Golf Tournaments
- Benefits
- Any group occasion!



Aurora's premier banquet and party facility!

Noonan's Banquet Hall is located conveniently off I-225 on East Iliff Avenue at the Golf Club at Heather Ridge in Aurora. There isn't a more perfect place to have your company party, or family event. Noonan's Banquet Hall can accommodate a small gathering or a large gala... up to 250 guests!

Our on-site catering can be casual or formal, and can be designed to fit any budget.

To book your next event, contact Amy Sharp at [amys@pourkids.com](mailto:amys@pourkids.com) or 720-246-0304



13521 E. Iliff Ave  
Aurora, CO 80015  
720-246-0304

[Noonansbanquethall.com](http://Noonansbanquethall.com)



[Pourkids.com](http://Pourkids.com)

# Heather Ridge South by Van Lewis



## Important Contact Information:

Janelle Maninger at Westwind Management Company  
Present location: 15150 E Iliff Ave, Aurora 80014  
May 20 location: 27 Inverness Dr, Englewood 80112  
Office: 303-368-1800 x115  
Janelle@westwindmanagement.com  
Security for HRS: 303-552-9027  
AAA Jetting and Plumbing: 303-435-4952

## Major Repairs since 2000: Completed projects include:

- New vinyl fences and cement retaining walls
- Exterior garage lights, replacing coach lights
- Xeriscaping, rock gardens, ground cover
- Upgrading irrigation system
- Toilet replacement project
- Monthly water and sewer measuring devices
- Exterior sewer cleanouts on all buildings
- New asphalt and concrete roadways
- Mud jacked 35 front porches
- New roofs, gutters and downspouts
- Painting all garage doors, porches, and door sills
- A \$550,000 reserve balance
- No major projects now planned

**Installing Concrete Drain Pans:** Approximately 100 five-foot drain pans are scheduled to be installed on driveway downspouts in the near future. The board recently approved a \$4,000 budget to reduce water and ice problems by discharging it farther away from buildings. Installation will supersede decorative flowerpots and such, so please make note.

**Commercial Vehicles on Site:** The board is receiving more and more complaints about commercial and work trucks parked in the community. It is important to make a distinction between public roads like South Wheeling and Xanadu versus interior roads owned by HRS. Aurora oversees public roads by noting, ticketing, and towing violators. HRS governs interior roads per its Declarations and Rules and Regulations. Complaints include repairing commercial vehicles in front of units along with

multiple vehicle parking. Commercial vehicles are limited to property visits only. Otherwise, they must park on public roads and not on HRS grounds or driveways.

**Join the Board, Get a Free Meal:** Yes, it's true! Each year the board is entitled to fete itself, per the annual budget (for those budget watchers, it's authorized in our Declarations). Being the frugal board it is, HRS usually caters the dinner at the community clubhouse. Board members, spouses, and significant others enjoy a fun evening celebrating their services for the year. If you would like to learn more about joining the board, please contact Janelle or a board member.

**Welcome New Owners:** Although there have been few sales recently, "welcome new and newer residents." After each closing, Westwind Management sends a Welcome Package with pertinent information. Please call Janelle if you haven't received one. It's important to know how HRS operates before doing something that might cause problems.

**HRS is a Condo, Not a Town Home Community:** The HOA maintains exteriors and ground areas with few exceptions. Front and back patios along with driveways are for the exclusive use of occupants. Fencing rear patios requires written approval along with windows, doors, skylights, garage doors, etc. The best rule is to call first to avoid problems. Yes, that's Janelle you call.

For more HRS information, please visit:

- [Heatherridgesouth.com](http://Heatherridgesouth.com)
- [Westwindmanagement.com](http://Westwindmanagement.com)
- Front door bulletin board at HRS's clubhouse
- [Heatherridgecolorado.org](http://Heatherridgecolorado.org)

## Country Club Ridge...from page 7

recycling, you may use the containers you have or any container clearly marked with the recycling logo. A variety of recycling containers are available for purchase from Alpine. Recycling will continue to be picked up every other week. All newspaper, junk mail, plastics #1 through #6, milk cartons, cardboard food containers (such as cracker or cereal boxes), corrugated cardboard, aluminum cans, and glass may be recycled. If you have not recycled in the past, think about how many of the containers from consumable products can be reused and eliminated from our landfills. Our kids and their kids thank you.

## Interview with Amy...from page 7

through our advertisement in Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* magazine.

### **Who should I contact to get more information about reserving the banquet room?**

Please contact Amy Sharp, Marketing and Events Coordinator, [amys@pourkids.com](mailto:amys@pourkids.com). I will be more than happy to arrange your special occasion, luncheon or any event you plan to host.

# April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 April 1 (and 15) 7:30 pm City Council Mtg 1515 E. Alameda Pkwy	2 <b>Ladies 9-Hole Golf: 1st Day of Play</b>	3 <b>Ladies 18-Hole Golf: 1st Day of Play</b>	4 6 pm Fairway 16 Annual Mtg, Election Fairway 16 Clubhouse	5	6 <b>Ladies 18-Hole Golf: 1st Saturday and Luncheon</b>
7	8	9	10 6:30 pm Sausalito Board HR Clubhouse <b>Metro Matters Deadline</b>	11	12 <b>Metro Matters Last Day to Submit Articles</b>	13
14	15 7 pm Country Club Ridge Board Mtg 2950 S Jamaica Court	16 7 pm Strawberry Board Mtg, Strawberry Clubhouse 12:30 pm Ladies 9-Hole Golf Luncheon at Noonan's	17	18 <b>HRMD Board 4 pm April 18 HR Clubhouse 6 pm Chimney Hill Board, Golf Course Card Rm</b>	19	20 <b>FREE Recycle Day - On Havana Street.com</b>
21	22 <b>Earth Day</b>	23 6:30 pm Heather Ridge South Board Mtg HRS Clubhouse	24	25 6:30 pm Ward IV Meeting – Garden Plaza of Aurora, 14221 E. Evans Ave.	26	27
28	29	30	<p><i>Note: Regular Heather Ridge board or committee meetings will be held on the dates above, providing there is business to be conducted. HRMD, UAHR and HRCA meetings are open to residents!</i></p>			

## Sausalito...from page 6

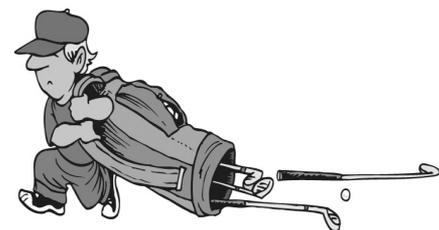
rules remain the same — if you have a visitor/guest who will be parking overnight in the visitor parking, please notify security in advance. Homeowners and tenants are expected to park cars in their garages. You can review the Sausalito Rules and Regulations for further details. Call Brownstone at 720-879-4568.

**Neighborhood Watch:** The NW quarterly meeting took place on March 13. See additional information in this issue of Heather Ridge *Metro Matters* (page 3). Please contact Carol McCormick, Sausalito Area Coordinator, at [neighborhoodwatch@comcast.net](mailto:neighborhoodwatch@comcast.net) if you have questions or want to join Neighborhood Watch as a Block Captain.

**Board and Management News:** The Sausalito board meets at 6:30 pm on the second Wednesday of every month at the Golf Club at Heather Ridge. Guests are welcome. Sausalito board members are: President Vincent Roith, 303-745-9805; Open Position, vice

president/landscaping; Secretary Carol McCormick, (newsletter/Neighborhood Watch coordinator), 720-747-0836; Treasurer Pat Horton, (pools/UAHR representative), 303-695-6181; Debbie Martinez, board member at-large, 720-298-.8323; Tom Scally, architecture, 303-750-8772; and Sherri Cooper, board member at-large. Please contact Vinny Roith if you are interested in serving on the Sausalito board.

**Property Management Company:** Bill McKinney, president, McKinney Management Company, Inc., 3576 S Logan Street, Englewood, CO 80113. Phone: 303-783-0394, fax: 303-783-0398.

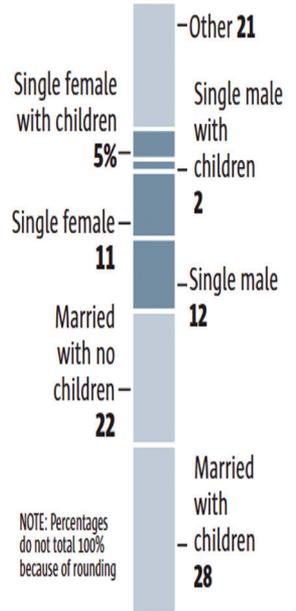


# Shifting U.S. Housing-Market Trends

Changing U.S. demographics and the impact of the recession are shifting U.S. housing trends. Buyers still in the market are putting more money upfront and are buying more elaborate homes than in the past. And single and minority homebuyers are taking a bigger share of the country's housing market.

## Who are the homebuyers?

While married couples dominate the market, single buyers are the fastest-growing segment



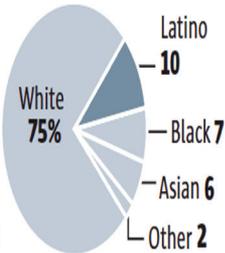
## What are Americans buying?

The pre-owned-home market still dominates housing purchases



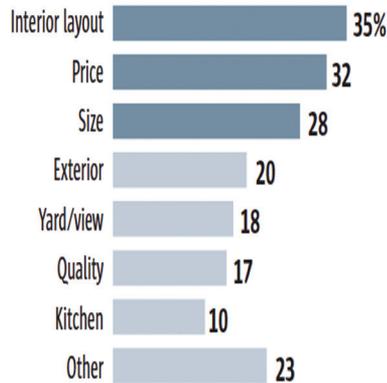
## What ethnicity are homebuyers?

Most are white, but Latinos are the fastest-growing market



## Why buyers pick a home

Style, price and size of the house are the top factors in a buyer's choice



## What are their income levels?

Median \$86,865

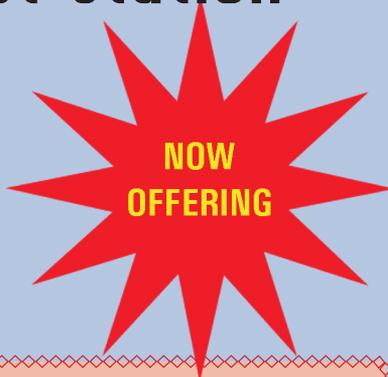


Source: National Association of Home Builders, U.S. Census Bureau

McClatchy Tribune

# Havana Street Station

Welcomes All Heather Ridge Residents!



## HEATHER RIDGE SPECIAL!

10% Discount OFF Entire Entree!

Monday — Thursday

11 am — 6 pm

OR

2 for 1 First Drinks

Monday — Thursday

11 am — 6 pm



VISIT US TODAY!

Dining Room opens for breakfast at 6 am daily; lunch and dinner served daily.

1911 South Havana Street

# Grounding Breaking for I-225 Rail Line Project

On March 1, more than 250 people watched as the groundbreaking ceremony took place at the future site of the RTD Aurora City Center Station.

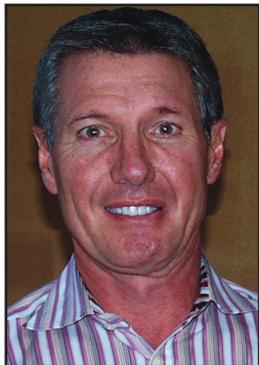
This 10.5-mile rail line along I-225 will include eight stations, traveling through Aurora and a section of Denver. It will connect passengers along the Southeast

Light Rail Line from Nine Mile Station to the City Center of Aurora, Aurora Municipal Center, Anschutz-Fitzsimons Medical Campus, the new VA Hospital and Children's Hospital, in addition to the East Line to the airport.

The full I-225 Rail Line is scheduled for completion by the end of 2015. The line will open in 2016 after six months of testing. For more information on the I-225 corridor fast tracks project go to [www.rtd-fastracks.com/i225\\_1](http://www.rtd-fastracks.com/i225_1).

"Last May, we started construction on the portion of the I-225 Rail Line from the existing Nine Mile Station to Iliff," said Tom Tobiassen, RTD Board Director, District F. "Little did we know that less than a year later, we'd be starting construction on the entire line, and in just a few short years from now we'll be celebrating the opening of the line."

Kiewit Infrastructure Company will build the rest of the I-225 rail project northbound to Peoria and Smith Road. The Smith/Peoria Station is where the I-225 Light Rail Line will connect with the East Rail Line to Denver International Airport and downtown to Denver Union Station (DUS).



**Dr. Nick D'Amico**

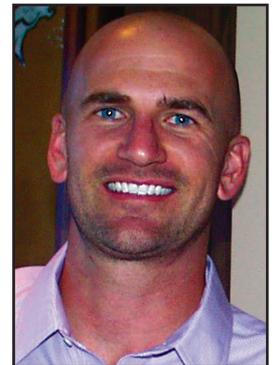
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# HRCA Update: Golf Course Communities Outperform Others

*Golf Digest and Business Week* magazine recently surveyed 40 golf communities nationwide to see how well they survived the economic downturn. Selecting destination and vacation home communities, they developed profiles of the five strongest and weakest markets, and much to no one's surprise, golf communities did better than non-golf communities.

Although Heather Ridge is not a destination or resort community, the golf course adds value to its 10 communities, and Aurora in general. Heather Ridge welcomes everyone, creating a diversity not normally found in "gated or age restricted" communities. As the housing market improves, Heather Ridge will outperform others because its citizens and taxpayers saved the open space best used as a golf course.

Center operates in the Department of Regulator Agencies (DURA) under the Real Estate Commission. Last year, all Colorado HOAs had to register and pay a funding fee of \$50. Created in response to growing complaints and concerns, the HOA Office will attempt to monitor two of the fastest growth industries in Colorado — HOAs and HOA management companies.



*Photo courtesy of Sharon Berkowitz*

The five strongest markets included Vail; the Oregon region east and west of the Cascade Mountains; Park City, Utah; the Myrtle Beach area in South Carolina; and the High Country of North Carolina near Charlotte. The five weakest were northern Michigan, Palm Springs, California; Reno, Nevada; Sarasota, Florida; and Scottsdale, Arizona.

Golf course homes and communities are not immune from market trends, but the Scottsdale study observed: while overall market prices dropped 4.1 percent, golf course values rose 1.4 percent. The same phenomenon happened in other market studies, reflecting the notion that buyers prefer golf communities. Golf course lots are priced up to 40 percent higher than non-golf lots reflecting community features, proximity to open space golf courses, and economic-income issues.

\$300 from Tallyn's Ranch. This appears to be a warning shot across the bow of HOAs and management companies to be reasonable and fair. Moreover, fees must be fact-based and transparent.

**Controlling documents govern all HOA communities:** Called Declarations or CC&Rs (covenants, conditions, and restrictions), these documents may stipulate administrative costs such as HOA fees, working capital contributions, recording and transfers fees, or providing disclosure documents to buyers (newsletters, financial statements, budgets, declarations, etc.). These fees should be reasonable, but one person's "reasonable" may be another's outrage.

Created in 2010, the Colorado HOA Information Office and Resource

**Court Reduces HOA \$500 Transfer Fee:** An Arapahoe County small-claims court recently overturned a homeowners' association transfer fee, allowing the seller to recover

Of the 600 formal complaints the HOA Office received last year, these were the most common ones:

- Manager 157
- Failure to produce records 78
- Transparency 76
- Not following governing documents 64
- HOA not listening to homeowners complaints 57
- Lack of maintenance 53
- Harassment, retaliation, discrimination 50
- Improper or selective enforcement of covenants 38

House Bill 1134, if approved, would expand the authority and responsibilities of the HOA Office in concert with two other pending bills. Among the issues being debated by the Colorado legislature are licensing and regulating property management companies, and reforming HOA foreclosure laws, limiting HOAs to specify amounts (yet to be determined). Other provisions being discussed are to limit transfer fees to \$50, to cap administrative fees and fines, and limit add-ons to HOA homeowners' debt.

**HOAs Need to Watch Laws for Growing Pot:** With Colorado's passage of the new marijuana laws, HOAs needs to be thinking about its impact on their communities. Guidelines approved in Referendum

*See facing page*

64 will become regulation soon. Concerning private cultivation, up to six plants may be grown for personal use per household in safe, controlled locations. Outdoor plants must be secure in locked structures. A person's right to grow might conflict with HOA oversight of common and limited common areas. Issues could include general safety, attractive nuisance and erecting structures for growing plants. Board discussions should start before springtime planting.

**Real Estate Market Briefs**

• *Metro Denver Small Property Vacancies Fall.* Vacancies in for-rent townhomes, single-family homes, and other small properties fell during the fourth quarter of 2012 to 1.7 percent. It was 2.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2011, and 2.3 percent in the third quarter of 2012. The lowest vacancy rates are in Jefferson and Douglas counties, 1.3 and 1.2 percent respectively.

• *Stapleton Ranks 10th on Top-Seller List of Planned Communities.* According to John Burns Real Estate Consulting (Irvine, California), Stapleton ranks 10th in planned communities. Surveying 100 communities and ranking the top 50 across the United States, Stapleton was ranked 10th, followed by Highlands Ranch, 12th; and The Meadows in Castle Rock, 37th.

• *Colorado Mountain Housing Market Rebounds.* Realtors report sales and prices in six mountain communities have rebounded to 2007 levels by the end of 2012. Crashing in 2009, sales in the six Colorado resort counties have rebounded. The average Aspen sales price for 2012 was \$4.2 million.

• *January's Metro Area Luxury Homes Edged Up Higher Over January 2011.* Forty-five homes sold in January, down from December's blistering-hot 65 sales. The median

price remains the same as last year's, \$1.25 million.

• *Colorado Delinquency Rate Falls for Mortgages.* The Mortgage Bankers Association now ranks Colorado 46th in delinquencies and 43rd in foreclosures started. The delinquency rate for all Colorado mortgages at the end of 2012 was 4.72 percent, a very different situation than three years ago when Colorado was the nation's poster child for foreclosures.

• *Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act Good for One More Year.* Set to expire December 31, 2012, Congress extended the Debt Relief Act for 2013. Created in 2007 to deal with the tax consequences of foreclosure, short sales and mortgage modifications, struggling sellers won't be taxed in 2013. During the housing crash, up to 40 percent of all sales included mortgage debt forgiveness, a significant factor to the housing recovery.

—Van Lewis

**Free Days for April/May**

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Denver Children's Museum</b><br>303-433-7444, 4–8 pm<br><a href="http://www.mychildsmuseum.org">www.mychildsmuseum.org</a><br>2121 Children's Museum Dr.  | Tuesday, April 2<br>Tuesday, May 7   |
| <b>Denver Botanic Gardens @Chatfield</b><br>303-973-3705, 9 am–5 pm<br><a href="http://www.botanicgardens.org">www.botanicgardens.org</a><br>8500 Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton  | Friday, April 5<br>Friday, May 3     |
| <b>Denver Art Museum</b><br>720-865-5000, 10 am–5 pm<br><a href="http://www.denverartmuseum.org">www.denverartmuseum.org</a><br>100 W 14th Ave Parkway   | Saturday, April 6<br>Saturday, May 4 |
| <b>Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys</b><br>303-322-1053, <a href="http://www.dmmmdt.org">www.dmmmdt.org</a> , 1–4 pm<br>1880 Gaylord Street, Denver   | Sunday, April 7<br>Sunday, May 5     |
| <b>Denver Museum of Nature and Science</b><br>303-322-7009, <a href="http://www.dmns.org">www.dmns.org</a><br>2001 Colorado Blvd, 9 am–5 pm<br>(Fee for IMAX films, Planetarium)   | Sunday, April 21<br>Sunday, May 12   |
| <b>Denver Botanic Gardens</b><br>720-865-3500, 9 am–5 pm<br>1005 York St., <a href="http://www.botanicgardens.org">www.botanicgardens.org</a>  | Monday, April 22                     |
| <b>Denver Center for Performing Arts</b><br><a href="http://www.denvercenter.org">www.denvercenter.org</a> , 1101 13th St. Each Tuesday at 10 am, DCPA will release a limited number of \$10 tickets. Ten seats for every DCTC performance in the coming week will qualify (up to 25 shows per week). Use code SCFD. | 303-547-3410                         |



**Out To Lunch Bunch**

The next gathering will be noon  
Thursday, April 18, at

**Citron Bistro**  
3635 S. Yosemite Street  
Denver, CO

RSVP TO

**Josie Spencer**  
[amipep@aol.com](mailto:amipep@aol.com)  
303-671-5634





## Free xeriscape classes in April

For more information and a complete class schedule, go to [aurorawater.org](http://aurorawater.org) or call 720-859-4407. No registration necessary.

**Prepare for Your Design Consultation** - Aurora Water offers free design consultations for residents interested in converting to xeriscape. Participants must request a site map packet and register for this class. To obtain a packet and register for this class, call Diana at 720-859-4407 • April 9, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Aurora Municipal Center, Aurora Room, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway

**Xeriscape Basics** - Learn how simple it is to convert your water-guzzling lawn into an incredible low-water landscape without spending a fortune • April 11, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Tallyn's Reach Library, Community Room, 23911 E. Arapahoe Road

**Xeriscape Start to Finish** - Learn how to convert your lawn into xeriscape with this hands-on class. We'll talk about turf removal, irrigation and how to pick plants. We will also show site layout and proper planting techniques • April 13, 9 to 11 a.m., Aurora Municipal Center, Xeriscape Demonstration Garden, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway

**Green Revolution Arbor Day Festival and Plant Sale** - Learn everything you need to know about gardening. Our staff will be there to walk you through tree planting, spring maintenance, vegetable gardening and much more. You can also purchase a xeric plant or tree in celebration of Arbor Day. Then visit the Great Lawn on the building's west side for even more fun. • April 20, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aurora Municipal Center, Xeriscape Demonstration Garden, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway

## Keep your gardens and lawn healthy during hot, dry summer

Forecasters are predicting a hot, dry summer. Although Mother Nature can surprise us sometimes and deliver a lot of springtime snow, it doesn't look like that will happen at this point. Our water supply is dependent on snowmelt, so if we don't get significant snow in the next couple of months, it's possible we could ask City Council to approve additional watering restrictions. You can still maintain an attractive landscape and use water efficiently. Here are some tips:

### Plants and Trees

- Mature trees benefit from supplemental water during warm and dry weather. Trees should receive 10 gallons/month for every inch of trunk diameter.
- Mulch 3 to 4 inches of organic or inorganic material. The mulch will help to retain moisture in the soil and reduce weeds.
- Water deeply and infrequently. Most perennials, shrubs and trees can be watered once a week or less.

### Lawns

- Don't bag your grass clippings. Returning your grass clippings to your lawn can significantly reduce the need to fertilize.
- Fertilize your grass during the spring and fall, not during the hottest months.
- Mow your grass between 2.5 and 3 inches and mow often enough that only a third of the grass height is removed mowing. Keep the mower blade sharp.
- Aeration is more beneficial than power raking. Aerate in both the spring and fall.
- To create deep root growth, water deeply and infrequently without creating run-off. Footprints or lawn mower tracks that remain at least a half-hour after traffic has passed indicates water is needed. Grass will also get a blue-gray tint when it is stressed and needs water.
- Most areas of your lawn have enough natural moisture in the soil to start growing. Turf on slopes or that face south and west might need additional water.
- Wait until May to start using your automatic sprinkler system.

### Automatic Sprinkler Systems

- When you turn on your sprinkler system for the season, complete a thorough walk-through to check for leaks and damage.
- Adjust your clock monthly, according to changes in weather, and check regularly for leaks and damaged equipment. Test your system each month to ensure nothing needs to be repaired.
- Use the "Cycle and Soak" watering method. Water for half the time and allow the water to soak in for an hour, then water for the remaining time. This helps reduce run-off especially on slopes. Depending on the slope and soil type, you may need to run three times.
- The best time to water is at night between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Remember that our city ordinances are written with conservation in mind and prohibit watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Refer to the [www.aurorawater.org](http://www.aurorawater.org) website for watering time recommendations.
- Aurora water also offers free irrigation systems audits. Call 303-739-7351 to schedule yours today.

### Vegetables

- Mulch around your vegetables with straw, shredded leaves or grass clippings.
- Prepare the ground a month before planting with high quality compost that is stable and low in salts.
- In the early season vegetables don't require much water - the plants are small and the root zones aren't established. Water these plants frequently but with only a bit of water directed to the root zone.
- Don't worry if your plants look a bit wilted in the afternoon sun. Check your plants in the morning to see if you need to water.
- Water close to the root of the plant. Watering the leaves makes plants more susceptible to disease.

For helpful tips on how to get the most out of every drop, go to [aurorawater.org](http://aurorawater.org) or call 303-739-7351.

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# Letters

## Heather Ridge Metro Matters:

It's that time of the year. Hiding Easter eggs. But the ones we received were not hidden, nor painted pretty. They seemed not to be eggs at all because when stepped on, they mushed between my toes (oohh yuck).

Please be a good animal owner and forgo leaving anymore presents outside our door. Cameras do catch all "doggie don'ts." They are not from our dog — they are bigger than she is.

We love our house (have been here four years). But, this is getting out of hand. If the excrement from the dog was smaller, it wouldn't be as bad. Please help. It started 3–4 weeks ago.

**The Klodts  
Fairway 11**

## Heather Ridge Metro Matters:

Long-time Heather Ridge friend, Gayla Schroeder, passed away March 13. She had been a golf and woman's club member for over 20 years. Gayla, we miss you.

**Don Schroeder  
Heather Ridge Men's Golf Club**

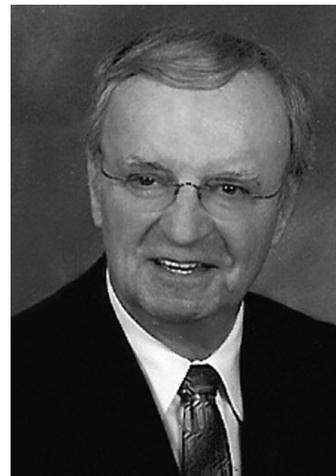
**Letters to the Editor:** Send your letters for Metro Matters to Barry McConnell, Fairway 16, [bmconn202@aol.com](mailto:bmconn202@aol.com); or Cheryl Greenman, [cgreenman08@gmail.com](mailto:cgreenman08@gmail.com); by the tenth of each month. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity or space.

## Tell Us Your Story!

Heather Ridge Metro Matters (HRMM) would love to hear from you! Whether it's a letter to the editor, an article about someone special in your neighborhood, or about an upcoming Heather Ridge organization event, HRMM wants to hear from you. Got a good news story about an advertiser, an extra special anniversary, or birthday. Share it with the community through *Heather Ridge Metro Matters*. Are you a member of, or interested in starting a Heather Ridge writers club, bridge club,

# Advocate Will Be Missed

Long-time resident and Heather Ridge advocate, Tom Bentz, passed away February 4. Tom was born June 16, 1934, in Akron, Ohio. After serving 13 years as a lieutenant with the Aurora police department, Tom worked as an HOA/property manager for a number of years, representing several HOAs in the Denver area including Cobblestone, Chimney Hill and Heather Ridge South. When the threat of Heather Ridge losing the open space began, Tom represented Chimney Hill, becoming active and determined to help save the golf course.



In 2012, he was inducted into the Big Car Racing Hall of Fame, and was an active member of BCR for many years. Tom is survived by his loving wife, Terri; daughters Karen and Jill (Gregg); grandchildren Kurt, Ashley, and Dustin; and one great grandson.

A memorial service was held at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 11500 East Iliff Avenue, Aurora on March 14. Reminiscing about their life at Heather Ridge, Terri said, "Tom and I moved here in 1978. Heather Ridge has always been a big part of our lives and he was thankful the community voted to buy the open space." Contributions may be made in Tom's memory to the Heather Ridge Open Space Foundation. Please send your contributions to: Heather Ridge Open Space Foundation, 3521 East Iliff Avenue, Aurora, CO 80014.

needle point club, cooking club, wine tasters club, investors club, chess club, or book club? *Heather Ridge Metro Matters* will help you spread the word. Please keep your articles to less than 500 words and submit them by the 10th of the month to *Heather Ridge Metro Matters* editor Barry McConnell, [bmconn202@aol.com](mailto:bmconn202@aol.com) 303-366-1505 or publishing coordinator Cheryl Greenman, [cheryl.greenman@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.greenman@gmail.com) 303-886-1693. By the way — small business owners may find the service directory and classified advertising a great low cost tool for reaching new customers!

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**Harry**

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