

Heather Ridge Metro Matters

VOLUME 1

Preserving the Heather Ridge open space –

FEBRUARY–MARCH 2011

Maintained best as a Golf Course



NUMBER 9



TEEING OFF ON HEATHER RIDGE'S NEW IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Using shovels, a pickaxe, skis and golf clubs, the five leaders of the water delivery–irrigation project ignore the weather to celebrate approval to get a new water system. (See stories, page 2, 3)

From left: **Errol Rowland** (in shorts?), President Heather Ridge Metropolitan District (HRMD); **Ray Griffiths**, Business Manager Golf Course at Heather Ridge (GCat); **Mike Ritter**, HR General Manager and Golf Pro; **Bob Knutson**, Golf Course Grounds Supervisor; and **Vinny Roith**, VP and Treasure HRMD and GCat

Photo by Van Lewis

PLEASE STAY OFF THE ICE ON THE PONDS!

Colorado is a constant mix of thaw and freeze cycles. The ice on the ponds should never be trusted. For your safety, please keep pets, kids and adults off the ice.

HR Metro District News and Happenings

Bond proposal for water delivery systems. At HRMD's January 2011 meeting, a \$750,000 bond proposal to replace the irrigation system on the golf course was approved, subject to public hearings, a final bid from the contractor and a final vote by the board, approving all details. In January, three public hearings were held by the United Associations of Heather Ridge (UAHR) at the Heather Ridge Club House. President Josie Spencer reported that 89 residents attended those PowerPoint presentations by Ray Griffiths, Mike Ritter, Larry Ransford and Van Lewis.

At the end of each presentation, Spencer asked for questions and guided discussions so everyone could talk and listen. Support for the \$750,000 bond WITHOUT RAISING TAXES was overwhelming. (Only three people said "no" when asked for a show of hands). At the UAHR's February meeting, its board voted 8-0 (with two absent directors) to support the HRMD's proposal.

One bid, out of four submitted, has been tentatively accepted for \$1.187 million, pending final figures. Landscapes Unlimited of Nebraska (Lincoln) has an excellent reputation and work history.

To show how prices have decreased, the same bid to Heather Ridge in 2008 would have been \$1.4 to \$1.6 million. Pending final HRMD approval, construction should

start in February and end in May. Construction will have minimal impact on golfers and golf revenue while promoting long-term prosperity.

The repayment cost of the \$750,000 bond will be paid by the HRMD's property taxes, not golf course operations. The tax revenue comes from the 199 Heather Ridge homes mistakenly omitted from Arapahoe County's first tax schedule prepared for HRMD. The error has been corrected, allowing HRMD to fund the new bond debt service WITHOUT RAISING TAXES.

The sprinkler-system part of the \$1.187 million water delivery project will be financed by Toro Sprinklers for approximately \$350,000. The debt service on this component will be paid out of golf course operation revenues, but not property taxes.

Finally, approximately \$150,000 from HRMD's previously existing Capital Fund will complete funding. As its name implies, capital funds are for capital improvements, which include irrigation.

The \$1.187 million water delivery project is not the end to our water requirements. Future projects include dredging and deepening all ponds to increase water storage, and aeration systems for healthy water and water movement systems between all ponds. Funding

See facing page

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

Metro District Board Members

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

Errol Rowland (Burgundy), President
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Van Lewis (Heather Ridge South), Assistant Secretary
Jim Bruce (Fairway 16), Assistant Secretary
Joan Beldock (Country Club Ridge), Assistant Secretary
Mary Lou Braun (Cobblestone), Assistant Secretary

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

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

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Vice President Scott Dunham (Chimney Hill)
Burgundy, burghoa.com
Chimney Hill
Cobblestone
Cobblestone Crossing
Country Club Ridge
Double Tree
Fairway 16, homesteadmgmt.com/fairway16
Heather Ridge South, Heatherridgesouth.com
Sausalito, sausalitohoa.com
Strawberry, strawberryhoa.com

Managers, Golf Club at Heather Ridge

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United Associations of Heather Ridge

Three community information meetings were held in January. All four presenters did a great job: Ray Griffiths and Mike Ritter outlined the need for a new irrigation system and what it will do for Heather Ridge Golf Course, keeping it competitive. Van Lewis and Larry Ransford presented the financial information, which showed how it could be achieved by borrowing additional funds, but without an increase in taxes!

A total of 89 people attended the three meetings (not counting presenters). The proposal appeared to be well received and the majority of the attendees told the board to go for it! But three people were against it — so it was not a unanimous decision!

Excellent questions were asked and answered. Some additional marketing suggestions were offered by the audience.

There also was a great deal of enthusiasm and interest in the res-

taurant update presented by Ritter. It will be called Noonan's Tavern and is scheduled to open early in March. To all who attended the meetings, I commend you for your interest and pride of ownership within your community!

For those who were unable or unwilling to attend I admire the amount of faith and trust you have in your neighbors to be your taxpayer overseers!

The Strawberry HOA, led by President Jan Lucas, has extended a gracious invitation to all HRMD residents to attend their March 21 HOA meeting at 7 pm. Luan Aiken from Tagawa Gardens will be the featured speaker, discussing container and small area gardening! Many of you have seen Luan on CBS4 in Denver over the years. She has been affiliated with Tagawa Gardens as their Outreach gardener. Because they've invited the entire community, Jan recommends that you bring a neighbor,

have some fun and that you come early to get a good seat. A big thank you to Strawberry homeowners for sharing.

In the spotlight feature this month is Larry Ransford (Cobblestone Crossing). Larry was born and reared in upstate New York and graduated from State University of New York, Delhi (located in the foothills of the Catskill Mountains).

Ransford moved to Denver after graduation and started his hospitality career at the Stapleton Plaza Hotel in 1974. He worked in the hotel industry for 30 years. Larry spent 23 years as a General Manager with the Marriott Chain. Most of his professional life has been in Colorado and California. He was part of the opening team for eight hotels, two of which were in California.

Larry purchased his home at Cobblestone Crossing on the second

See UAHR...page 14

District...from page 2

for these projects will come ONLY from golf course operations, grants, or capital funds; nothing from property taxes. A group of volunteers is meeting to formulate plans for grant money, so if you are interested or have experiences with grants, please contact Errol Rowland at HRMDco.org.

Property tax statements and tax assessment year. By now you should have received your 2011 Property Tax Statement. Please read it carefully noting your home's market value — which is critical to your property tax along with mill levy rates.

Determining your property tax is a two-step process. First, multiply your home's market value (as determined by the county) times the state's decreed assessment rate for your assessed value. For example, if fair market value is \$100,000, multiply it by the 7.96 percent assessment rate for a \$7,960 assessed value. Next, multiply that assessed value by the HRMD No. 1's mill levy of 0.04250 for a tax of \$338.30. That, along with all the other mill levy rates, determines your total property tax.

Home values are assessed in odd years. 2011 will most likely see a decrease in your home's market value. Market values are expected to drop 10 percent or more from 2009, mostly due to foreclosures. Remember that 2011 market values will be derived from properties sold between Jan 1, 2009 to June 1, 2010. Today's market values won't enter the property tax assessment equation

until 2013.

Your HRMD No. 1 mill levy of 42.50 is composed of two elements: 31 mills for repaying bonded debt service, and 11.5 mills for HRMD governmental administration. Given no changes in assessed values, the administration mill levy could change each budget year, but the bond debt service mill levy should remain the same. By 2012, administrative costs are expected to decline given reserves and a drop in the level of administrative and operational requirements.

Welcome to Noonan's — your new Heather Ridge pub. Opening in March using the theme of Caddy Shack the movie, restaurateur Rob Lanphier will offer a new menu in the remodeled restaurant located in the club house. During golfing weather, breakfast will be served only downstairs in the renamed Billy Barhoo Grill. Lunch and dinner will be at Noonan's until 2 am. Yes, Rob will be open for those late-night people coming off work or not going to bed by Seinfeld time at 10 pm.

Rob's reputation for success is simple: good food, fair prices and a fun-playful atmosphere. Noonan's will be just that — especially after remodeling. Along with HRMD, almost \$150,000 will be spent to open up walls, replace carpets and create a fresh, new appearance. New TV and sound systems will be installed with special attention to the banquet rooms. These will be a perfect place for weddings, celebrations and business meetings.

Please stay tuned for more information as Rob prepares for his opening.

— Van Lewis



Left: **Van Lewis and Pete Traynor congratulate Ellsworth Bailey** (center) on his new home purchase in Cobblestone Crossing, 13254 East Asbury Drive.

“Pete and Van know their Heather Ridge neighborhoods, HOAs and what makes today’s housing market tick. I couldn’t be happier! Give them a call if you want the best in the business.” – Ellsworth Bailey

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

Homes for Sale in Heather Ridge, New Listings Jan. 1–Feb. 7

HOA	Price	No.	Street	Baths	Beds	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Burgundy	\$87,000	2661	S Xanadu Way A	2	2	1,162	Off Street	2 Story
Burgundy	\$134,900	2635	S Xanadu Way D	2	2	1,162	2-Garage,Det/Resv	2 Story
Burgundy	\$105,000	2623	S Xanadu Way E	2	2	1,315	None	2 Story
Burgundy	\$101,250	2625	S Xanadu Way E	2	2	1,315	1-Off Street	2 Story
Chimney Hill	\$129,900	13654	E Evans Ave	3	2	1,344	1-Garage, Att	2 Story
Chimney Hill	\$137,000	2023	S Worcester Way	2	2	1,344	1-att	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$99,000	2161	S Victor St B	2	2	1,392	1-Garage, Det	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$99,000	2181	S Victor St A	2	2	1,392	1- Off Street,Resv	2 Story
Cobblestone	\$111,900	2132	S Victor St C	2	2	1,392	1- Off Street,Resv	1.5 Story
Cobblestone	\$94,900	1913	S Xanadu Way	2	2	1,208	1-Garage, Det	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$91,000	1911	S Xanadu Way	2	2	1,208	1-Garage, Det	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$108,000	13568	E Asbury Ave	2	2	1,392	1-Garage, Det	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$99,900	13266	E Asbury Ave	2	2	1,392	Off Street,Resv	2 Story
Country Club Ridge	\$185,000	2260	S Vaughn Way 104	3	3	1,680	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Country Club Ridge	\$174,900	2240	S Vaughn Way 204	2	2	1,124	2-Garage/Oversized	Ranch
Fairway 16	\$154,900	2426	S Vaughn Way A	4	3	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$169,900	2558	S Vaughn Way C	4	4	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$155,000	2548	S Vaughn Way C	3	3	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$150,000	2486	S Vaughn Way A	4	4	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Fairway 16	\$149,900	2486	S Vaughn Way B	4	3	1,650	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$129,000	2824	S Wheeling Way	4	4	1,633	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Heather Ridge South	\$130,000	2888	S Wheeling Way	4	4	1,633	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Sausalito	\$164,900	2418	S Victor St D	2	3	1,300	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Sausalito	\$119,900	2490	S Worcester St A	2	3	1,273	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$35,000	2608	S Xanadu Way B	1	1	856	1-Carport, Det	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$44,100	13647	E Yale Ave B	1	1	856	1-Carport, Det	1.5 Story
Strawberry I	\$54,400	2614	S Xanadu Way B	1	1	856	1-Carport, Det	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$59,900	2690	S Xanadu Way C	2	2	1,144	1-Carport, Det	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$65,900	2694	S Xanadu Way C	1	1	856	1-Carport, Det	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$65,000	13657	E Yale Ave C	1	1	856	1-Carport, Det	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$69,900	13633	E Yale Ave A	1	1	856	None	2 Story
Strawberry II	\$61,900	2461	S Xanadu Way A	2	2	1,091	2-Carport, Det/Resv	2 Story
Strawberry II	\$55,500	2463	S Xanadu Way C	2	2	1,091	None	Ranch

Homes Sold in Heather Ridge

HOA	Sold Price	No.	Street	Baths	Beds	SqFt	Garage	Style	Seller credit
Burgundy	\$95,000	2667	S Xanadu Way E	2	3	1,315	None	2-Story	\$3300/Bank
Cobblestone Crossing	\$116,000	13254	E Asbury Dr	2	2	1,392	1-Reserved	2-Story	\$4500/Indiv
Cobblestone Crossing	\$127,900	13488	E Asbury Dr	2	2	1,208	2-Garage, Det	2-Story	\$0.00/Indiv

Homes under Contract in Heather Ridge

HOA	List Price	No.	Street	Baths	Beds	SqFt	Gar/Spaces	Style
Chimney Hill	\$137,000	2023	S Worchester St	2	2	1,344	1-Garage, Oversized	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$134,900	13404	E Asbury Ave	2	2	1,392	2-Garage Resv	2 Story
Cobblestone Crossing	\$55,000	13314	E Asbury Ave A	2	2	1,208	1-Garage, Det	2 Story
Sausalito	\$109,900	2500	S Victor St F	2	3	1,273	2-Garage, Att	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$62,400	2650	S Xanadu Way B	1	1	856	1-Carport, Off St	2 Story
Strawberry I	\$49,900	2688	S Xanadu Way B	1	1	856	1-Garage, Det	1.5 Story
Strawberry II	\$70,000	2469	S Xanadu Way D	2	2	1,091	Off Street	2 Story



**For more information,
call Pete or Van!**

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

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



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Terri Reid

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Meredith Lanpfier

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Homeowners' Association News

Cobblestone by Kay Griffiths

HOA Meeting. Ray Griffiths, business manager of Heather Ridge Golf Course, attended the last meeting as a courtesy to describe the net-type fence that the golf course will install along the 1st and 6th fairways. The fence will help ensure the safety of golfers, who have been struck by errant golf shots from the driving range.

The discussion continued on the fact that players are responsible for any damage caused to a resident's property. If you are able to identify the golfer who caused the damage, notify the pro shop. They will make every effort to help rectify the situation.

Meeting Location. The board is in the process of relocating its meetings to the Heather Ridge Clubhouse. The next meeting in March may be held there. Watch for notification that the meeting site has changed.

Clubhouse Restaurant. A new restaurant will be opening at the Heather Ridge Clubhouse sometime in March. The new owner is doing some remodeling and putting together an appropriate menu. He will also be providing banquet services.

Security. The new security company reports weekly and includes a monthly summary. They visit Cobblestone four times in each 24 hour period. If vehicles are parked in the fire lane, they will be towed without warning.

Magnets that display the phone numbers of the security company and management company are to be distributed to residents. Security, 303-552-9027; management company, 303-337-0963. The number of the towing company, 303-780-7754 will also be included.

Homeowner and Renter Responsibilities. Owners with dogs are responsible for cleaning up after their dog each time. Accumulated dog feces is unsanitary and disgusting. Many homeowners have complained to board members about having to walk by areas that some

owners are using for their dog's poop and leaving it. This is not the type of community any of us want to live in. It is hoped that all owners with dogs will feel the same way and take responsibility for cleaning up daily.

Other responsibilities that come with living in a small, shared community include following parking regulations, avoiding unnecessary noise, and keeping exteriors and patios neat and orderly.

It seems strange to mention this at this time of year — but please do not wash cars with the water from Cobblestone taps. The community's water bill, on average, is astronomical because no owner pays separately.

Please help each other out by paying attention to vacant units and making sure that some heat is on, preventing frozen water pipes that burst, then flooding all attached units. If a neighbor is aware that a home is vacant, REL should be advised.

Management Responsibilities. If you are interested in receiving information from the management company — go to the website for REL, www.associationonline.com, click on the homeowner link, type in Cobblestone, and enter your email address.

The entrance to the complex needs to be shoveled and kept clear. Fences around the dumpsters need to be addressed. Information concerning break-ins or any other criminal activity should be communicated to the residents. Signs need replacing, gutters need cleaning, and REL is looking into USPS lockers to be installed for outgoing mail.

Please remember to drive slowly through the community.



Strawberry by Jan Lucas

Hard to believe but spring will soon be here. Are you ready?

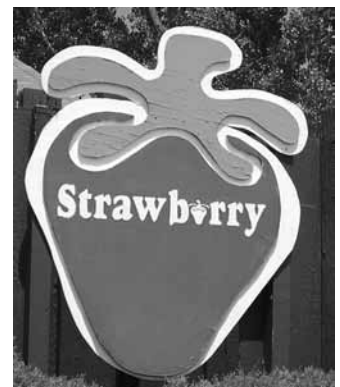
And with spring comes the Annual Meeting. It will be held on April 18, 7 pm. Please come and be a part of the election to be held that night. There are two open positions on the Board Of Directors, which will need to be filled. Remember — in order to cast your vote, you must be an owner and current with your dues.

Garden Party. Coming up at the March HOA meeting is something never done before. With all the interest and great flower planting throughout the community last year, Luan Aiken from Tagawa Gardens was invited to be the featured speaker on March 21, 7 pm. Many of you have seen Luan on CBS Channel 4 in Denver over the years. For the last several years, she has been affiliated with Tagawa Gardens as their Outreach Master Gardener.

She will present a program on container and small area gardening, just in time for interested green thumb types to start planning for the upcoming growing season. We are inviting the entire Metro District to this meeting, so come early to get a good seat. It should be a fun night. Please plan on attending.

Y'ALL COME! At the last HOA meeting, the question was raised as to whether renters could attend meetings. The answer is a definite YES.

All residents are encouraged to attend. Bring ques-
See facing page



tions and concerns, or just come to sit, listen and see what goes on at the monthly meetings.

Clubhouse Information. Please remember the clubhouse is available for rent to both residents and non residents. Rent is \$25 plus a refundable \$300 damage deposit for any get together you or your friends might be planning. Reservation forms are available in the information box at the at the clubhouse front door. If you are not familiar with the building, please contact CAP to schedule a visit.

Firelane Parking. Security has noted several people parking on a regular basis in marked fire lanes. Please do not park there for any reason. Your car will be cited and towed if it is found parked there. Police and Fire vehicles have to have unobstructed access to all drives at all times. Firelane parking is designated for emergency vehicles only. Please do not block their route by parking in them at any time for any reason. Leaving your vehicle in a fire lane could potentially interfere with help getting to someone in a life threatening situation. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Recycle Bins. Just bought a new computer? A new printer? A new bookcase? Great — but please don't throw the cardboard boxes in the trash containers. Break down large boxes and place them in a recycle bin. There are two bins for placing recyclable items like cardboard, newspapers and magazines, plastic bottles and cans. Phase I bin is next to carport 25. Phase II bin is at the end of Driveway 8. Please be a good neighbor to the environment — use the recycle bins for those types of items.

Neighborhood Watch. Cathie Brailey, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, has cancelled the monthly meetings at the clubhouse. If residents have questions or concerns along these lines, she can be reached at her email, strawberryhoodwatch@yahoo.com.

Rules and Regulations Enforcement. Our security officers, Randy and Paul, are on the job and are doing great work for us. They are totally aware of the Strawberry Rules and Regulations and are enforcing them. Please do not give them your interpretation of the way you think the rules read. If you are doing something not in the scope of permission by our Rules and Regs, they will let you know. If you are unfamiliar with the current Rules and Regulations, please go to the Strawberry website, www.strawberryhoa.com and read them. Copies are available at the clubhouse.

Aurora Snow and Ice Removal. When you see ice building up on the street on Xanadu, please call the City of Aurora and tell them. The city, not your HOA, is responsible for clearing snow and ice on Xanadu Way. Call 303-326-8200.

If you need ice melt for your walkway, call CAP. Please use the gravel in the barrels by the carports for ice by your carport and in the parking lots. Ice melt and gravel have to be applied as needed until the melt and thaw cycle goes away. Ice slicer is being used in problem areas. Call CAP to make sure your carport is on the ice slicer list.

Gutters and Downspouts. More new gutters and downspouts will be added to those carports with ice and drainage problems as soon as the weather cooperates and installation can be scheduled. Now is the time to spot and report those problem areas. If you have these issues, please contact CAP so your carport can be evaluated.

Lights Out? Please contact CAP if you notice pole lights not working or carport lights that are out. We have contracted with Radiant Lighting to inspect and repair outside lights.

Possible Strawberry Activities for 2011. Some of the ideas being considered for summer season include the annual garage sale early in May, weather permitting, and a community barbecue to open the pools on Memorial Day weekend. Please submit your ideas to CAP.

To make these events successful, your help with set up and clean up will be most welcome. If you can put up a sign, set up a table, haul a picnic cooler, or can offer other help, call CAP to get involved.

Dog Poop and Snow. With the recent snows, we are finding some dog owners have become lazy about picking up after their dogs. Just because there is snow on the ground does not excuse you from cleaning up the mess. After the snow melts, guess what's still there? It does not vaporize or magically melt into the ground with the snow! If you spot someone ignoring their responsibility, call CAP or notify security. It is a violation.

Meetings

- February HOA – Monday, Feb. 21, 7 pm, Clubhouse.
- Ward IV Town Meeting – Thursday, Feb. 24 6:30 pm, Ethiopian Evangelical Church, 15150 E. Evans Ave., Aurora 80014. Please join Council Member Molly Markert for a discussion of issues and new developments within the Ward IV community.

Important notification for Colorado HOAs

Effective January 1, 2011, the Division of Real Estate will begin registering homeowners' associations. The passage of HB10-1278 creates limited remedies for entities that fail to register or renew their registration with the Division of Real Estate. The HOA Information Officer will serve as a clearinghouse of information concerning the basic rights and duties of unit owners, declarants and unit owners' associations. The HOA Information Officer will track inquiries and complaints regarding unit owner associations and provide an annual report to the Director of the Division of Real Estate.

NEW! Please Note: The HOA registration database is currently online. HOA registration submissions are effective immediately. Payment systems are currently unavailable, but agents may submit a registration record that will hold pending for payment. All HOA registrants will be notified when the payment systems go live. The HOA Information Office and Resource Center has promulgated an emergency rule that grants a temporary automatic registration to all homeowners associations through March 1, 2011.

Please check periodically for further updates, www.dora.state.co.us/real-estate/licensing/subdivisions/Subdivisions.htm

Heather Ridge

Right: A view of Burgundy from Yale Avenue in February. There's a pond in there somewhere behind the tree.

Below: A view of Burgundy last July with a golfer putting on the green. Although the two photos are not taken from identical positions, it shows how much the trees with leaves camouflage the homes behind.



Left: Maintenance workers like Wayne Mueske, who works for Heather Ridge South (HRS), are the unsung heroes of HOAs. Mueske keeps HRS clean and tidy. He does snow removal during the winter months and general repairs. In warmer months, he'll work on landscaping, irrigation, maintenance painting and more general repairs. He helps keep HRS shipshape and running smoothly.

Photo Album



Above: Contrast photos of Fairway 16 in February and July, although not from the same location.



Right: Heather Ridge South in February, photographed from Yale Ave.

Below: HRS in July, photographed from a golf cart. Orientation is looking at the same green, but look-



ing Northwest towards Yale Avenue.

Right: HRS home shaded by leafy trees.



Golf Club at Heather Ridge Monthly Update



Ladies 18-hole League

Our Spring luncheon is tentatively set for Saturday, April 2. Due to construction in the clubhouse, this date may change. We will discuss adopting some new local rules regarding using Sky Caddies (or other GPS-based course distance devices), and when to play provisional balls.

Applications for the 2011 season have been sent to all past members via e-mails. Additional applications can be found in the Pro Shop

or in the 19th hole room. If you know of anyone interested, please forward them the information. Applications received prior to March 11 will be included in the roster.

The Member/Guest event is June 10. Watch for sign-up sheets.

The first scheduled tournament for the Wednesday ladies is April 6.

The first scheduled tournament for the Saturday ladies is April 2.

— Wendy Traynor

Men's Club News

The Kick-off Banquet will be

held on Friday, April 1. Our first tournament is scheduled for Saturday, April 2. Be sure to pick up membership forms and schedules in the Pro Shop.

— Jim Daum

Ladies 9-Hole League

The Ladies's 9-Hole Kick-Off Luncheon will be March 29. There will be a sign-up sheet, with exact time, cost and menu on the bulletin board — SAVE THE DATE.

Our season starts May 3, and ends September 27.

—Marj Copeland

WHO'S WHO?

Errol Rowland is the president of Metro District #1 and has been a homeowner in Heather Ridge since 1997. (Inquiring minds wanted to know more about him.)

Q: Errol, where were you reared?

A: I grew up in Loveland, Colorado

Q: Where did you get your degree?

A: CU Boulder

Q: Would you tell me about your business background?

A: I worked for IBM for 15 years in finance and marketing. In the early '70s, I was involved in pioneering several new computer applications. One was the first application using a magnetic strip on a credit card to sell gasoline unattended at the pump. Another was the first use of scanning the UPC code in a grocery store chain.

I have started three of my own businesses: a software company in the early '80s (which I sold in the early '90s), RecycleUS.com in 1994 provided consulting and print cartridge recycling services, and IDmyBag.com in '06, providing personalized luggage straps.

Q: Is it true that you have had previous, grassroots experience organizing neighbors?

A: Yes. I was a property owner on Lake Loveland when the owner, a local ditch company, decided to sell the recreation rights of the lake. The city, which had been leasing it, elected not to buy the rights. Within days several private bidders stepped up to buy the asset. A handful of fellow homeowners recognized the threat, presented the facts to the 105 lake-front property homeowners. We formed the Lake Loveland Recreation Club and bought the lake in 1984.

Q: Weren't you also involved in the building of a new Loveland civic center around this time?

A: Yes. Loveland's mayor asked me to chair a committee to present the idea of developing a new civic center to the citizens. The vote was affirmative and Loveland built a new city hall, senior center, library and recreation center — complete with a competition indoor swimming pool.

Q: Do you have a special interest?

A: I enjoy hunting, fishing, skiing, bird watching and movies. I was in the top 10 in the nation in Waterskiing Slalom in 1962. (See report on the Christmas Bird count in Denver on page 12.)

Q: What accomplishment are you most proud of so far?

A: I am most proud of my four wonderful children (three live in Colorado, one in Las Vegas) and my six healthy, ornery grandchildren. What makes my life so fun and complete are all my friends and my love, special neighbor and friend, Edie Reidel in Burgundy.

— Bette Secord

Right: Errol Rowland at a younger age was still quite the entrepreneur.



Sausalito

by Carol McCormick

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

Parking Issues. As you are now aware, a new security company, Covenant, has been patrolling the area and notifying car owners when vehicles are illegally parked. Please don't park where you are not supposed to. 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.

Security. The article in the January issue of *Metro Matters* made everyone aware of the heightened security issues the community is facing concerning burglaries in Heather Ridge communities. It is imperative that you keep your doors, screen doors, windows and gates locked. If the thieves find an unlocked screen door, it gives them the incentive to do whatever it takes to break in. Open garage doors also alert thieves to the fact that no one is home or makes it easy for someone to steal the items in your garage or car. Everyone needs to be smart and stay alert these days.

Winterize. Please continue to winterize your home during cold freezing temperatures or during any winter storm. Allow your faucets to drip and keep the cabinet door ajar to let some heat reach your pipes. Better safe

than sorry! You can also wrap your pipes under your sinks. Use the foam cup covers for outside hose spouts. On cold winter nights, keep your internal home temperature at 60 degrees or above.

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

Our Golf Course is Not a Dog Park. Do Not Put Dog Waste in Golf Course Trash Receptacles and Containers. Pick Up Pet Waste and Take It Home.

Call Tony for pet waste disposal ideas.

February holidays and events. Cherry Pie Day Feb. 20; President's Day Feb. 21; and Ash Wednesday March 9.

Neighborhood Reminders. Please slow down and observe the posted speed limit when driving through Sausalito. Pick up your pet's waste, even in the snow, when out walking. Take your pride in Sausalito. Call Tony, 720-535-9705, for your landscaping needs or to replace outside light bulbs and auto court flood lights. If Tony is unavailable, call Bill McKinney, 303-783-0394.

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



Chimney Hill

by Pamela Akiri

The Chimney Hill HOA Board is happy to announce that the community has been awarded a Xeriscape Grant. All the details are not known yet, but Pam Akiri, the grant coordinator, has an appointment scheduled with Abby Schreiber to determine how much of the 22,000 square foot grant area will be funded. That will happen on Feb. 14. A good omen — don't you think?

While writing the grant, your board learned a great deal about Chimney Hill's irrigation system and about a myriad of ways to conserve water, thus saving money. When outlining the grant area, Pam discovered that an

entire irrigation zone, which has been watered for 32 years, belongs to Aurora Parks! Not watering that plot of land is a big savings.

As a result of completing the grant application, Chimney Hill gets priority status on a free outdoor water audit by ReSources this June. This audit will help identify water use in the whole Chimney Hill community and where efficiency can be improved. It will allow the community to apply for rebates for recommended improvements.

Working on and submitting this grant application is a win situation for Chimney Hill, the environment, resident pocketbooks and Aurora Water. Thank you to Aurora Water and, in particular, Abby Schreiber and her team for providing guidance, information and support for all the HOAs involved, throughout the process.

Will keep you posted as plans and installation are accomplished.



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More HOA news on page 15

Annual Bird Count in Denver

Here's the report on the Denver Urban Christmas Count of birds. There were 48,538 birds of 83 species, which is an average number of species for the 23 counts that have been conducted, but higher than average for the individual birds. People who counted birds that used their feeders did not record as many birds as the field parties. However, adding all the feeder reports, it gives a better sense of urban birds.

Lots of birds were counted — mostly geese, as usual. This year, Canada and Cackling geese together totaled 48 percent of the birds recorded: 19,422 Canada, 2,924 Cackling. Northern Shovelers ranked as the second most numerous species at 3,201. The top 20 were:

South Platte North and Rocky Mountain Arsenal tied for the most species, at 55. South Platte North had, by far, the most birds, 12,381. South Platte South was

	Bird	Count
1	Canada Goose	19,422
2	Shoveler	3,201
3	Red-wing Blackbird	3,158
4	Cackling Goose	2,924
5	Rock Pigeon	2,606
6	Starling	2,130
7	Mallard	2,098
8	Ring-billed Gull	2,077
9	Com. Merganser	1,112
10	Pintail	950
11	House Finch	812
12	House Sparrow	715
13	Gadwall	562
14	American Crow	550
15	Green-wing Teal	474
16	American Robin	471
17	Com. Goldeneye	392
18	Black-billed Magpie	291
19	Ring-necked Duck	202
20	Am. Tree Sparrow	194

next with 9,880. Ducks concentrate along the river in impressive numbers. (You could go out today and see those shovelers, mallard and pintails in hefty quantities.)

Among the water-challenged areas — Aurora with 3,022 birds and Fairmont with 3,027 topped the list. Aurora had 43 species. South/Hampden and Botanic Gardens/Denver Country Club both had 32.

Several parties had species that no other groups saw. South Platte North had six, including turkeys counted not by sight or sound, but by their recent tracks. Rocky Mountain Arsenal had five, including the nine Long-eared Owls counted by Refuge biologist Mindy Hetrick. Park Hill found the only Bushtits. Pheasants flew up at Cherry Creek Reservoir, and the only grackles (23) patronized the Denver Zoo.

Feeder reports: Twenty-one observers at 15 feeders added 1,148 birds. Besides geese, 202 House Sparrows and 164 House Finches topped their list of 26 Species.

New Species: One new species materialized in the Middle South Platte section

See *Birds*, page 14

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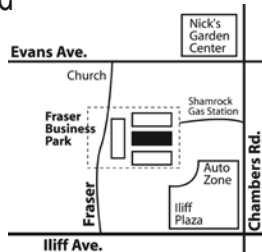
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February Calendar at Heather Ridge

Thu 17	HRMD Board Meeting Golf Club at Heather Ridge	4 pm
Mon 21	President's Day – Federal Holiday	
Thu 24	Ward IV Meeting Ethiopian Evangelical Church (15150 E Evans Avenue, off Chambers, near Nick's Garden Center)	6:30–8:30 pm

March Calendar at Heather Ridge

Tue 1	UAHR Board Meeting Golf Club at Heather Ridge	6 pm
Tue 8	Shrove Tuesday	
Sun 13	Daylight Savings Time Begins	
Thu 17	<i>Happy St. Patrick's Day</i> HRMD Board Meeting Golf Club at Heather Ridge	4 pm
Sun 20	First Day of Spring	
Mon 21	Garden Party Strawberry Clubhouse (2638 S. Xanadu Way)	7 pm
Tue 29	Ladies 9 – Hole Kick-Off Luncheon	

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

UAHR...from page 3

fairway in 1994. He was asked by his HOA to represent Cobblestone Crossing in the UAHR with instructions to be skeptical! That attitude and his extensive managerial experiences make him an ideal treasurer for UAHR. Larry is proud of the fact that his checkbook starts with a zero balance each month and finishes that way as well. Later he will work on identifying what UAHR really needs for a budget and ways to fund the association.

In his spare time, Larry enjoys working out. He also is an enthusiastic mountain climber and enjoys the challenges of climbing Colorado's Fourteeners.

– Josie Spencer

Birds...from page 12

— a Lesser Goldfinch. (They usually have headed south by October). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at the Denver Country Club caused a flurry of emails to ascertain its identity. Out-of-state experts confirmed the ID. Three early counts recorded this species, but none since 2004.

Birders: South Platte South, Rocky Mountain Arsenal, and the Denver Country Club group had the most observers. Eight hikers trekked along Cherry Creek from the reservoir to University.

– Hugh Kingery
Franktown, CO

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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Heather Ridge South by Van Lewis



A New Year, New Board, New Challenges!

The board formed itself on Jan. 24, welcoming three new members: Ruth Chizum and Ronni Jones are new, but Linda Hull, having served before, isn't new. Linda, assisted by Ruth and Ronni, will manage the clubhouse and pool as she did before. Again, thanks to past members Melinda Smith and Vicki Braun for their contributions to the board.

There are nine positions on the HRS board, which meets once a month on the fourth Tuesday, 6:30 pm at our clubhouse. If you want to attend or speak, please contact Sue Daigle at Westwind, Sue@westwindmanagement.com or 303-369-1800, to get on the agenda.

Maintenance work continues even in wintertime. Our maintenance person, Wayne Mueske, keeps HRS clean and tidy along with snow removal. (See photo, page 9.)

Come warmer weather, Wayne's responsibilities will include landscaping, irrigation, maintenance painting, and general repairs. At this time there are no outstanding work orders. Wayne, along with board members Dave Elgin and Skip Cunningham, help keep HRS ship-shape and running smoothly. If you need maintenance work, or see a problem in a common area, please contact Sue Daigle.

Please visit HRS's website to keep updated on community events (heatherridgesouth.com). Board member Josie Spencer manages it as communications director. The website calendar lists community functions and events along with historical documents, reference material, and real estate information. There are links to Westwind Management, HR Metro District, and UAHR sites. Josie is also the president of United Associations of Heather Ridge, which represents all HOAs and owners in the Heather Ridge Metro District.

Have you noticed the new parking and speed signs? John Hartnet oversees parking, security, and architectural control. For any of these services, in particular exterior upgrades or repairs, contact Sue Daigle. All satellite dishes must be approved by John before installation. The board and John are very concerned about crowded and illegal parking, so please help by parking in your garage. Garages are for cars, not storage.

Our new roof project is half done and it's only mid-

February! Good weather and fortune (Arvada Roofing) have us ahead of schedule. That makes May a reasonable time to finish the project. Remember to contact your insurance agent about your HO-6 policy should a roof loss occur before a new community insurance policy is established. Any questions, call Sue.

Budget year 2010 ended on two positive notes: an \$18,000 budget surplus (which went into Reserves), and monthly HOA fees for 2011 weren't increased — for the third year in a row! Much credit goes to Treasurer Ed Kay and the board for critically monitoring our budget and capital repairs.

Once the roof project ends, the Reserve budget will approximate \$750,000. To better understand future maintenance and reserve requirements, an engineer-based reserve study has been ordered. This will help the board determine adequate HOA fees and a prudent reserve balance for years to come.

Cleaning for a Reason

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning — once per month for four months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. *Cleaning for a Reason* will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. It's our job to pass the word and let them know that there are people out there that care. Be a blessing to someone and pass this information along.

www.cleaningforareason.org

You may not know someone going through chemo, but someone on your email list might. Please forward!

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

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

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