

Meadowood Moments

A Community Newsletter



July 2024

Aurorameadowood.com

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MNA Board Moment



Hello Meadowood, As we gear up to celebrate our nation's birthday this July, we send warm wishes for a joyful and safe Independence Day! Whether you're soaking in fireworks, hosting a barbecue with friends, or simply unwinding with loved ones, let's cherish these moments together and honor the freedoms we hold dear.

Get ready for our upcoming events:

Annual Meadowood Festival: August 24

Save the date for our neighborhood's much-awaited August Festival on August 24th! Get ready for a day brimming with laughter, games, mouthwatering food, and thrilling activities for all ages. Stay tuned for more details as we approach the big day!

Community Garage Sale: August 2nd & 3rd

Calling all treasure hunters and decluttering enthusiasts! Join us for our community garage sale on August 2nd and 3rd. It's the perfect opportunity to uncover hidden gems, connect with neighbors, and maybe even find that one-of-a-kind item you've been searching for.

Wishing you all a fantastic July filled with fun and community spirit. We can't wait to see you at these exciting events!

— Zohra Nacer- MNA Media Officer

Meadowood Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Wed., July 10, 6:00 PM, Meadowood Church

Discover our plans for the remainder of the year and share your ideas with us. Your participation is invaluable in shaping our community. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Meadowood Moment

Our Neighbors Helpers

Mr. & Mrs. Park of Meadowood

As I turn into Meadowood on Floyd Ave, I see a person with a grabber in one hand and a trash bag in the other. She is cleaning up our neighborhood, and I want to capture her good deed. But it would be awkward to park and snap a picture without saying hello. I don't recognize the helper but immediately want to thank her and invite her to be interviewed for the newsletter. I hesitate for a moment—because walking up to strangers is a little uncomfortable. We curiously introduce ourselves, and then I ask, "Do you read the newsletter?" She is familiar with it.



Encouraged, I continue, "I saw you picking up trash and wanted to share your story. Thank you for doing this. Can I interview you?" Sun Park eases my discomfort with a warm smile. She suggests including her husband in the interview, as some things might get lost in translation since her first language is Korean. We exchange numbers, and I walk away thankful for this connection.

I'm surprised to find out that Sun and her husband, Eric, live in a home where I have delivered newsletters monthly for a few years. They greet me with friendly smiles when I arrive. I'm offered a set of simple slippers and asked to remove my shoes. The Parks maintain a no-shoe home in line with their cultural beliefs and traditions. We head to the dining room in their ranch-style home, which is connected to their kitchen and has a fireplace. It also has a view of the mountains. Sun has been in Colorado since 2011. Originally from Korea, she came to Denver to study. Sun spent many years working in architecture in both Korea and the US before transitioning to the insurance industry, which offered a better match with the Parks' lifestyle. Eric has been in Colorado since 1997 after securing a job at Lockheed Martin.

He loves their home, mentioning the ease of access to downtown Denver and the mountains. In 2011, some church friends set him up on a blind date with Sun. They met in an area of Havana Street called K-Town in A-town, which has many restaurants with authentic Korean fare. By 2012, they were married. The Parks still enjoy K-Town regularly, another reason they find Meadowood to be the perfect location to live.

They have since merged their experiences—his as an American who lived in New York and California before Colorado, and hers as an immigrant from Korea. They have visited Korea a handful of times, during which Eric catches on to a few words spoken by Sun's family. Eric also takes the claim that he is the most skilled chopstick user in their home.

They look forward to traveling now and in retirement but plan to keep their Meadowood home as a landing place. Sun shares a resource called Meowtel, an app to connect cat owners with cat caretakers while you travel.

Meeting the Parks is not just an opportunity to write a story but also a reminder of the rich, diverse experiences that shape our neighborhood. The next time you see someone picking up trash or helping out, take a moment to say hello. You might just meet a neighbor like the Parks, whose story adds another beautiful thread to the fabric of Meadowood.

— Katy Edwards, Meadowood Moments Correspondent

Join Us In Creating Meadowood Moments!

Do you enjoy meeting your neighbors, exploring different corners of Meadowood, or simply taking a leisurely stroll around our beautiful community? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you!

Meadowood Moments, our neighborhood newsletter, is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with newsletter delivery. Whether you're looking for a reason to get outside, connect with fellow residents, or simply lend a helping hand, we welcome you to join our team. By volunteering to deliver Meadowood Moments, you'll have the chance to:

- **Meet Your Neighbors:** Forge new connections and strengthen existing ones as you interact with fellow residents during your delivery route.
- **Explore Meadowood:** Discover hidden gems and familiarize yourself with different areas of our community while delivering newsletters to various households.
- **Enjoy the Outdoors:** Take advantage of the opportunity to get some fresh air and exercise while contributing to the dissemination of community news and updates.

No experience is necessary, and all that's required is a willingness to lend a hand and a friendly smile. Whether you're available for one-time assistance or ongoing support, your help is greatly appreciated!

To sign up as a volunteer or learn more about how you can get involved, please email us at MediaOfficer@AuroraMeadowood.com. Together, let's create Meadowood Moments to remember!

Free Loader Days

July 20 & Aug. 17, from 7 a.m. to noon

Mulch helps reduce weeds, protects soil from erosion and retains soil moisture. Bring your pick-up truck or open trailer – along with your own shovels, pitchforks, and containers – to take advantage of free mulch from the city of Aurora. The mulch pile will be available while supplies last at the intersection of East Hampden Avenue and South Dawson Street (enter via Dawson and follow the signs).

East Hampden Avenue and South Dawson Street intersection.

Learn more: AuroraGov.org/Trees

City of Aurora Moments

Extreme Sports at Wheel Park

July 18: 2465 S. Chambers Road

Embrace the thrill of extreme sports with a semi-pro skateboard demonstration, skateboarding lessons and a mobile ropes course. Personalize a T-shirt and participate in raffles to win a BMX bike, a skateboard or an inflatable kayak. It's a day of action and adventure. For information: email Jessica at jboles@auroragov.org or call at 303-739-7170.

4th of July Spectacular

Thursday, July 4, 6 p.m.

Celebrate America's Independence Day with Aurora's 4th of July Spectacular featuring live musical performances starting at 6:30 p.m. This year's entertainment lineup includes tunes from Colorado Salsa Orquesta group and dance party music from Syndicate, a returning event favorite. Fireworks will launch approximately at 9:30 p.m. Pack blankets and lawn chairs and head over to the site to snag a spot. Aurora Municipal Center's Great Lawn, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway
More information: AuroraGov.org/Events



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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Meadowood Neighborhood Aurora >

Private group · 479 members

Our Facebook group is a great way to stay engaged with our community! Join us on Meadowood Neighborhood Aurora Facebook Page to learn more.

Meadowood Trash & Recycling Program with Waste Connections

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- Fewer trash company trucks in Meadowood means less traffic, less pollution, less noise and less wear and tear on neighborhood streets.
- Rebate of \$2/home/month goes back to the neighborhood association for community projects and events.

Help us help Meadowood – Sign Up Today!

Call 303-288-2100 * www.wasteconnections.com



Advertise in this Newsletter!

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

Newsletter Connections: 303-979-7499 or info@newsletterconnections.com

To find ad rates and discounts, go to NewsletterConnections.com or scan QR code.



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Mary's Moment

Navigating Life Without Home Telecommunications: A Modern-Day Challenge!

Our modern world has made many amazing changes as we all know. Well, maybe some are more amazing and appreciated than others!?!? Recently we have had huge challenges with our home telecommunications. We have NO home land line or internet service for more than a month. How to live without????!! Fortunately, we have cell phones, but not all family and friends had our cell numbers. Life has certainly been a challenge. We know of at least 5 Meadowood homes whose families are in the same void. What to do? Rage at the provider? Get a new service? Limp on waiting for restoration? Many years ago, when I was a child we would visit relatives in Texas. There were party lines available. When someone else on your line heard a ring they could pick up the phone and listen in on others' conversations. I thought that was so cool. I am sure the other people did NOT appreciate that. I wonder if there are any party lines in our world now.

We have had at least 7 assurances that our problems would be restored by 11 PM that day. It hasn't happened. Oh well, at least we can begin to share our cell numbers to all. Excuse me. I must get busy giving many family and friends our cell number. I do hope all your newbie things are working perfectly!

— Mary Metcalf, Special Correspondent

**This Space
Intentionally
Left Blank
for Teen Services**

Erratum: Correction Regarding "Mary's Moment" in Meadowood Moments

Dear Meadowood Residents, We owe you all a big apology and wanted to address two mistakes that slipped into our June Edition of "Meadowood Moments". In our "Mary's Moment" section, there were two hiccups where we accidentally wrote "darkness" instead of "Dartmouth" and "attracted" instead of "interacted".

We sincerely apologize for any confusion caused. We extend our deepest apologies and gratitude to Mary Metcalf for her contribution, and we also apologize to the Dartmouth Elementary School staff and students. We pride ourselves on delivering accurate and valuable information to our community, and we're grateful for your understanding and patience as we work to rectify this slip-up. Thanks for being an amazing neighborhood, and here's to smoother sailing in our future newsletters!



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Library Moments

Mission Viejo Library July Programs

For more information about library programs, call 303-326-8600 or visit auroralibrary.org.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES:

Tue, July 16 at 10:30 AM Kalama Polynesian Dancers
 Fri, July 26 at 4:30 PM Generational Split
 Tue, July 30 at 6:30 PM Aurora Rhythms: Perpetual Motion Concert

EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS:

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM Tots Tunes (ages 0-5)
 Wednesdays at 10:30 AM Sensory Shenanigans (ages 0-5)
 Thursdays at 10:30 AM Storytime (ages 0-6)

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN:

Weds, July 3 at 4:30 PM Pinwheel Craft (ages 6-18)
 Weds, July 10 at 4:30 PM Sticker Painting (ages 6-10)
 Weds, July 17 at 4:30 PM Quicksand Craft (ages 6-18)
 Fri, July 19 at 11:00 AM Mermaid Party (ages 0-6)
 Sat, July 20, 10:30-noon Read to a Therapy Dog (ages 0-12)
 Weds, July 24 at 4:30 PM Constellation Jars (ages 6-18)
 Sat, July 27 at 3:00 PM Balloon Art Performance & Class (ages 3-18)
 Weds, July 31 at 4:30 PM Slime Craft (ages 6-18)

PROGRAMS FOR OLDER CHILDREN AND TEENS:

Thu, July 11 at 4:30 PM Sticker Painting (ages 11-18)
 Thu, July 18 at 4:30 PM Leatherworking Class: Medicine Bags (ages 8-18)
 Fri, July 19 at 4:00 PM Murder Mystery Pizza Party (ages 11-18)
 Thu, July 25 at 4:30 PM Resin Dice (ages 11-18)

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

Mondays at 10:30 AM Coffee and Coloring
 Sat, July 13 at 4:00 PM Sticker Painting

VIRTUAL/WEBEX PROGRAMS:

Fridays, 5:30 PM Library Game Night (Teens)
 Fridays, 8:00 PM Library Game Night (Adults)

Kids Moment

Greetings, Neighbors! Ready to answer the call of adventure? Join Cub Scouts and discover a world of excitement, learning, and unforgettable experiences! Open to boys and girls in grades K-5, Cub Scouts offers a dynamic mix of outdoor activities, leadership development, and community service.

Joining Cub Scouts means: Skill Building, Friendship, Outdoor Adventures and Community Service. We meet every week on Mondays at 6 pm starting August 19 in Meadowood Church. To learn more and join our pack, reach out to AuroraPack734@gmail.com. Let's make this year one of growth and thrilling adventures with Cub Scouts!

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Garden Moment

Xeriscaping vs. ZERO scaping?

When the term, "Xeriscape" comes to mind, most people think of dry, uninspiring yards filled with unmanicured desert native plants. While this is certainly an option for a drought-tolerant landscape, it is not the only option! In fact, most Xeriscape designs are stunning, lush vistas of unique and useful trees and plants. Zero-scaping would be installing only rock or other hard surfaced material, thus using NO water. BUT not very attractive!



Xeriscaping is the process of creating an attractive low-maintenance landscape while using plant material that only requires minimal water. The term was trademarked in 1981 by Denver Water and comes from the Greek word, "xeros" meaning "dry". The landscaping trend gained popularity quickly in many arid regions and areas where water usage is a premium.

While cacti, succulents, agaves, aloes, and other xerophytes are commonplace in most xeriscape designs, the design ethos is not exclusive to these plants. You can create a beautiful, water-wise yard or garden with a variety of drought-tolerant plants, trees, ground covers, and succulents, all while prioritizing water conservation.

Transitioning from your current landscaping to Xeriscape might seem like a daunting task, but it is fairly simple as long as you have a bit of knowledge and a good eye for design.

The key to implementing Xeriscape practices into your yard is understanding water efficiency within your landscape. Water is an incredibly valuable resource and Xeriscape landscaping allows you to conserve that resource while enjoying a beautiful yard. By grouping plant material with similar water needs together, limiting the amount of grass on your property, and utilizing water retention methods such as mulch wells and irrigation systems, you can enjoy a wide variety of trees and plants within a low-water landscape design. Many times, these native plants will also attract many pollinators and wildlife.

Mulching is very important, as it insulates the ground, slowing down water evaporation, leaving more water available for plant health. Mulching will also greatly reduce weed development. There are many resources to get you started. The City of Aurora provides in-person classes and online videos of Water-Wise Landscaping.

— Kim Wisdom, Landscape Architect

Cooking Moment

Grilled Summer Vegetable Skewers

Ingredients:

- Assorted vegetables (bell peppers, zucchini, cherry tomatoes, mushrooms, etc.)
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- Optional: garlic powder, thyme, rosemary, etc.



Instructions:

Preheat your grill to medium-high heat. Cut the vegetables into bite-sized pieces. Thread the vegetables onto skewers, alternating colors and types for a vibrant mix. Brush the skewers with olive oil and season with salt, pepper, and any optional herbs or garlic powder. Grill the skewers for about 10-12 minutes, turning occasionally, until vegetables are tender and lightly charred. Serve hot and enjoy these delicious grilled summer vegetable skewers with your neighbors! This recipe is perfect for summer gatherings and is sure to be a hit!

Pets' Moment

Foster Pets From The Aurora Animal Shelter

The Aurora Animal Shelter is urgently seeking foster families to open their homes and hearts to various animals, including large dogs that need space to stretch their paws, shy cats seeking comfort outside of a kennel environment, and underage kittens who require bottle-feeding or medication. Foster parents must be at least 18 years old or have a guardian co-signer; pass a background check; own home or have approval from the landlord; participate in training for neonatal and feral kittens (if applicable); submit to an annual home inspection by shelter staff; and have an isolated room in the home. The shelter provides all required supplies and training. If you're interested in fostering, learn more at AuroraGov.org/Animal. Questions? Email fosteranimal@auroragov.org or call 303-326-8395.

Meadowood Report

June 2024

Here is a year-to-date snapshot of the activity in your neighborhood. Spring is finally here and buyers are coming out of the woodwork.

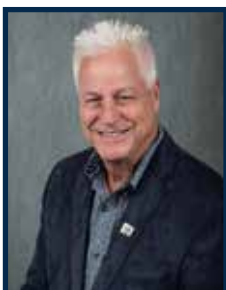
Meadowood Overview

(Stats as of 6/13)

- Homes on the Market..... 11
- Homes Under Contract to Close..... 10
- Homes Sold in 2024 as of June 14th 25
- Homes Sold over \$500,000 11
- Homes Sold between \$400,000 to \$500,000 ... 12

If you have any real estate questions or needs, give us a call. Jim Wanzeck and PJ Ausmus together have over 45 years in the real estate business and are honored to help Terry Simmons move on to the next phase of his life as a retiree.

If you have any real estate questions or needs, please don't hesitate to reach out!



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