

Medema Messenger

Publication of the Nob Hill/Ridgeview Hills South Civic Association

New Water Line

Denver Water installed a new water line in a portion of our neighborhood during the months of August and September. During that time, large dumpsters and heavy equipment could be found on several streets. Some periodic water shut-offs occurred during this work period.

Denver Water replaced over 2000 linear feet of water line on S. Cherry Street between S. Dexter Street and S. Cherry Drive. About 930 linear feet of pipe was placed on S. Cherry Drive near its intersection with S. Clermont Drive. The new water line replaced a line that was over 60 years of age. The project was completed in early October.

*Snow falling in
the middle of
a December
night will
always fill
my heart with
sweet clarity.
—Novala Takemoto*

*Christmas is doing a
little something extra for someone.
—Charles Schulz*



December 2025

Vol. 16 No. 12 • Circulation: 1110

Winter's Work: Rest, Renewal and Resilience in the Garden

When the garden settles under a blanket of snow, it can feel as though everything is lifeless and still. But in reality, winter is not wasted time; it's a season of rest and recovery. Just like people and animals, plants benefit from downtime, and the cold months are essential for their long-term survival.

In winter, many plants enter a state called dormancy, nature's version of sleep. Dormancy is far from passive; it's an active survival strategy refined over millennia. When temperatures drop and daylight wanes, perennials, shrubs, and trees respond by redirecting their energy from leaves and flowers down into their root systems. This strategically allows plants to conserve resources during harsh conditions while preparing for spring's explosive growth.

Winter does more than recharge individual plants – it also benefits the larger ecosystem. Freezing temperatures naturally suppress pests and diseases, keeping populations in check. Cycles of freezing and thawing help break down leaves and organic matter, thereby enriching the soil. Snow, often called “the poor man's fertilizer,” insulates plant roots, adds moisture and slowly releases nitrogen into the ground as it melts. In this way, the cold season is as much about renewal as it is about rest.

Some plants require a certain amount of cold before they can germinate (a process called cold stratification) or flower. Many beloved garden plants, from peonies to fruit trees, require a specific number of “chilling hours” below 45°F to break bud properly come spring. Without this cold period, flowering may be sparse or entirely absent. It's nature's quality control mechanism, ensuring plants don't waste energy blooming during unreliable warm spells that could end in frost damage.

Colorado native plants are masters of winter survival. Species like penstemon, blanket flower and pasque flower have evolved alongside our dramatic temperature swings and intense sun exposure. Their dormancy strategies are finely tuned to our semi-arid climate, where winter moisture slowly percolates into the soil while plants rest. By incorporating natives into your garden,

you're working with plants that have perfected the art of thriving through Colorado's challenging winters, emerging each spring with a vigor that comes from generations of adaptation.

For those who love their gardens, winter can feel like a long wait. But it's worth remembering that this downtime is essential. Resist the urge to overprotect perennials from the cold; many need the chill. Instead, embrace winter as nature's way of giving your garden a chance to recharge. While the plants are resting, we can do the same – dreaming, planning and preparing for the vibrant burst of life that spring will bring.

Resources:

Colorado State University Extension – Fall & Winter Watering

— By Pam Rosendal, Colorado Master Gardener

Civic Association Member Registration/Donation Form

Thank you to the families who paid dues last quarter.
Your dues help us make our community more inviting.
Donate \$25 and help our community thrive!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Make check payable to NH/RHS Civic Association. Mail to
Tom Cummins, 6841 S. Clermont Dr., Centennial, CO 80122

Notes From CenCON

- If you missed the Drug Take-Back Day, a drop box is available for unused medications at the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office at all times.
- The Centennial Arts and Cultural Foundation is raising funds for two sculptures to honor our K-9 heroes who have worked with the Sheriff's office. The statues will be placed in Centennial Center Park.
- County Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully reported on budget season. The County is working with the Resident Advisory Committee following the work of the budget: making sure we're looking at on-going costs vs one-time costs, to right size some of the things in the budget. The replacement of 42 Sheriff vehicles is needed. The uncertainty of Federal funds is a problem as safety net funds are in jeopardy as well as funds for infrastructure, road maintenance and public safety. Additional personnel are needed for the 18th Judicial District and the Sheriff's office. The budget is available online. The vote on the final budget is scheduled for December 9.

Centennial's Jingle Jam Brings Holiday Cheer

Join us for an afternoon of joy, music and holiday cheer at Centennial Center Park—perfect for the whole family!

The City of Centennial warmly invites families and neighbors to join us for a festive holiday afternoon packed with cheer at Jingle Jam! This free, family-friendly celebration will be held from 1–4 p.m. on Saturday, December 6 at Centennial Center Park (13050 E. Peakview Ave.). Stop by for a delightful afternoon, where the park will be brimming with holiday spirit! Dancers will kick off the event with their magical moves, followed by Centennial elementary and middle school choirs performing timeless holiday favorites that are sure to make hearts merry and bright with the sounds of the season.

Along with spirited performances, kids and adults can enjoy free holiday cookies, hot chocolate and cider, write letters to Santa and step inside a magical snow globe for a fun photo opportunity. And don't forget your cameras—there will be plenty of photos to capture joyful memories with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Grab a bite at one of the food trucks and visit our vendor booths.

Holiday Show Lineup:

- Amplified Arts
- Dry Creek Elementary
- Homestead Elementary
- Isaac Newton Middle School
- Goddard Middle School
- Indian Ridge Elementary
- Walnut Hills Elementary School

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Medema Messenger

The *Medema Messenger* is published and distributed by the Nob Hill/Ridgeview Hills South Civic Association.

President: Lawrence Depenbusch, depenbusch@live.com, 303-981-8790

Vice-President: ----

Treasurer: Tom Cummins, thcummins@gmail.com, 303-898-5660

Secretary: Nancy Caporale, ncaporale8663@msn.com, 303-945-1051

Newsletter Editor: Gerry Cummins

Newsletter Distribution: Gerry Cummins

Cen-CON Representative: Gerry Cummins,

Gerry.Cummins@prodigy.net, 303-771-0115

Newsletter Help: Open

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 10th of the month before the next month's issue. Send articles to Editor, Medema Messenger, 4193 E. Geddes Ave, Centennial, CO 80122-2257. The newsletters are distributed in March, June, September and December. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter.

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.



This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

City of Centennial

Council Member Amy Tharp reported on several items including:

- An ordinance was passed to streamline landscaping requirements for developers to mitigate environmental impacts, & for aesthetics. They defined functional turf vs nonfunctional turf. There needs to be native grasses or xeriscaping used.
- Commissioner Warren-Gully said to check with Arapahoe County CSU Extension Office for water-wise plantings.
- Shea Properties owns the Lofts @ Monaco and Belleview, a 4-story office building that will be converted into affordable housing. Demolition began in May. The City had housing dollars available that were given to the project.
- Centennial has purchased 2,800 street lights from Xcel, west of Parker Rd. The staff is working on brightness levels; that will take time. Contact 303-325-8000 to schedule lighting adjustments in your area.

Arapahoe Library District

The Library District has numerous programs scheduled for both adults and kids in the coming weeks. Those programs include:

- **A Conversation on Life (and Death)**, Thursday, December 11, 6:00-7:30pm, Koebel Library. Explore different facets of aging well with a trained vacillator, Light refreshments served.
- **Midwinter's Knight**: Friday, December.12, 6–8pm, the Franciscan Event Center (6553 S. Revere Pky., Centennial) for ages 5–12 years. Hear ye, hear ye! All young lords & ladies are summoned to the Court of Mid winter. Join us for an evening of snow, splendor, & medieval magic. Kids can craft treasures, meet costumed revelers, & behold artisans at work. Costumes are encouraged. Space is limited.
- **Introduction to Origami**: Tuesday, December 30, 1-2pm, zoom, for tweens 9-12 years. Learn the art of folding paper with an instructor from the Japanese Culture Center. Have 4-5 sheets of paper ready to fold.

Sign up for these and other events at www.arapahoelibraries.org.

National Poinsettia Day

Each year on the 12th of December, people across the United States celebrate National Poinsettia Day. The poinsettia initially came to the United States with Joel Roberts Poinsett, an American botanist and the first U.S. Minister to Mexico. In 1825, he sent cuttings home to Charleston, South Carolina. However, it wasn't until the early 1920s that the poinsettia started taking root in American culture. Paul Ecke, a second-generation farmer in California, discovered a grafting technique that caused the seedlings to branch. Hawking their Christmas flower at roadside stands, Paul Ecke Jr. later advanced sales of the poinsettia through shipping and marketing.

Election 2025

ELECTION RESULTS FROM THE NOVEMBER 4 ELECTION FOR:

Centennial City Council:

Mayor – Christine Sweetland

Council Members:

District 1 – Cindy Sandhu will take the place of Council Member Robyn Carnes

District 2 – Ashish Vaidya will take the place of Tammy Maurer who is term limited.

District 3 – Ryan Dwiggin will take the seat of Mike Sutherland who is term limited

District 4 – Durrell Middleton will take the seat of Marlo Alston who is term limited

Christine Sweetland, a Centennial resident since 2001 will vacate her District 2 seat on January 5, 2026, when she is sworn in as Mayor. At that time, City Council will discuss options to fill the vacant seat, either through a special election or by appointing a resident from District 2. *Note that our neighborhood is in District 2. All newly-elected Council Members will be sworn in on January 5, 2026.*

Littleton School Board:

Voters elected:

Joan Anderssen to a second term

Andrew Graham for a second term

Sean O'Shea fills an open seat

South Metro Fire Rescue ballot measure, 7A, passed increasing the mil levy by 3 mils for operations.

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Looking To Get Involved And Make An Impact This Holiday?

Volunteering can be a fun and deeply rewarding experience where you can meet like-minded people, help improve lives and build a stronger community.

Here are some upcoming opportunities to engage in our community. We hope to see you this Holiday season!

1. Run a toy drive. Mile High United Way collects toys each year for our Children's Holiday Party. This annual event, which is filled with face painting, cookie decorating, and photos with Santa, brings the spirit of the Holidays to hundreds of families in our community. Run a toy drive for the event and help bring joy to children this Christmas.

2. Support our community resource center. Our 2-1-1 Help Center serves as a critical resource and safety net for Colorado residents, particularly during the winter months. Our Resource Navigators work every day to help vulnerable people in our community gain access to basic needs like food and shelter.

3. Help children develop a love of reading. You can help a child build confidence, improve their literacy skills, and develop a love of reading. Volunteer to build literacy kits for young students or become a reading partner through our weekly Read With Me program.

4. Support people experiencing homelessness. Volunteer to put together hygiene kits for at risk individuals and families in our community. The kits, which contain a wide range of important self-care items, are distributed to people across Metro Denver who are currently experiencing homelessness. Contact us to see when you can join in on the next kit build.

5. Join a donor group. We believe the most fulfilling way to get involved is to do it together. Join a network and meet other socially minded individuals who are dedicated to creating a lasting impact. During the Holidays, our donor groups engage in a range of activities, such as creating Thanksgiving gift baskets for families in need.

6. Help a small business owner in Denver. Are you a small business expert? Volunteer your time and expertise to help small, local businesses in Metro Denver reach their growth potential through our United Business Advisory program.

7. Become an advocate. Mile High United Way works every day to remove barriers and create pathways to success for all people in our community through our policy initiatives. Become an advocate and help us change the odds and move families out of poverty.

8. Become a corporate partner. Get the whole team involved and become a Mile High United Way Corporate Partner. We're proud to partner with hundreds of local companies to execute strong, effective CSR programs that positively impact the community while improving employee engagement and business returns.

Mile High United Way believes every person that calls Colorado home deserves the opportunity to thrive. With your support, we can continue to meet the short and long-term needs of residents in our community.

—<https://unitedwaydenver.org>

BOOST Your Business In 2026: Connect Directly with Your Neighbors!



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is December 5th.**

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AKC REGISTERED LABRADOR PUPPES FOR SALE. To be born end of November. Ready for new homes in January. Call or text 719-349-0679. Farm raised with lots of love!

Classified ads are \$4.00/line (about 40 characters/line). Contact Newsletter Connections at **303-979-7499** or info@newsletterconnections.com to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at NewsletterConnections.com. The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.

The Ugly Seasonal Sweater Soiree

Wed, Dec 17 — Sun, Dec 21, 2025

Ugly Seasonal Sweater Soiree is a hilarious and heartwarming holiday original musical comedy, featuring a live band and packed with festive fun. This brand-new production takes a playful look at the quirks of our favorite December traditions – because let's face it, it's not all fun and reindeer games! With treasured seasonal songs, holiday cheer, and plenty of festive fashion, it's a night of music and merriment the whole family will love!

–<https://www.lonetreecenter.org>

Pumpkin Bread

Makes 2: 9"X 5" loaves

Cream together:

- 3 cup sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil

Add and mix well:

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups pumpkin

Add:

- 3 ½ cups flour
- 2 tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp. salt
- 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice or substitute (1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ tsp. cloves & ½ tsp nutmeg)
- Walnuts, dates or raisins to taste may be added.



Grease and flour loaf pans. Add dough

Bake: 350 degrees for about 1 hour.

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Address	Date Sold	Original List Price	Sold Price	Beds	Baths	Total Sq. Ft.
7446 S Dexter Street	8/26/25	\$849,900.00	\$855,000.00	3	4	2,407
7245 S Dexter Street	11/3/25	\$795,000.00	\$785,000.00	5	4	2,460
6983 S Cherry Street	10/16/25	\$719,973.00	\$713,000.00	4	3	2,214
6844 S Cherry Street	9/11/25	\$677,500.00	\$692,500.00	4	2	2,214
6832 S Birch Way	10/15/25	\$685,000.00	\$680,000.00	4	3	2,184
4233 E Geddes Avenue	10/2/25	\$650,000.00	\$666,000.00	4	3	1,988
6811 S Clermont Drive	10/23/25	\$725,000.00	\$615,000.00	4	3	3,451
4660 E Briarwood Place	8/26/25	\$599,500.00	\$599,500.00	5	3	2,137
7306 S Dexter Street	8/28/25	\$585,000.00	\$590,000.00	3	3	1,628
7270 S Cherry Drive	10/8/25	\$590,000.00	\$565,000.00	3	2	1,659
7261 S Colorado Court	10/10/25	\$575,000.00	\$541,000.00	4	3	1,752
7240 S Cherry Drive	8/14/25	\$595,000.00	\$529,000.00	3	2	1,680
7232 S Colorado Court	10/14/25	\$469,900.00	\$499,900.00	3	2	2,348
7405 S Albion Street	9/19/25	\$599,000.00	\$425,000.00	5	3	2,591
4127 E Davies Place	8/4/25	Off market	\$392,000.00	5	3	1,092

Based on information from REColorado, Inc. for the period 8/1/25-11/14/25. Not all properties were listed and or sold by Kyla Hammond at Your Castle Real Estate. This representation is based in whole or in part on content supplied by REColorado, Inc. REColorado, Inc. does not guarantee nor is it in any way responsible for its accuracy. Content maintained by REColorado, Inc. may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.

Average 2025 Closed Price..... \$615,258
 Average 2025 Days on Market..... 25

of Homes Sold in 2025 45
 Average % of Sold Price to List Price 98%

Award-Winning Realtor:

Kyla Hammond is a top producing Realtor in South Suburban Denver. She is ranked as the #4 agent out of 800 agents at Your Castle Real Estate and ranks in the top 5% of all agents in the Denver area. She has won numerous awards for her work and provides outstanding service for her buyers and sellers. Give her a call anytime!

Kyla Is Highly Recommended!

*“We had such a great experience with Kyla – and we sold our house in one day! She is very professional and efficient. She knows this business inside and out and helps every step of the way.”
 ~ Randy and Sue, Nob Hill, 2025*



720.431.1239

KylaHammondRealty@gmail.com
 KylaHammond.com

