

The Ridge Reporter

The monthly homeowners association newsletter for the residents of Summit Ridge

December 2025

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Wreaths Across America Day

Saturday, December 13, 2025

National Wreaths Across America Day is the culmination of a yearlong mission to Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve and Teach the next generation the value of freedom. This mission is in part carried out each December with the placement of sponsored veterans' wreaths on the headstones of those who have served our country. The observance is designated annually on a Saturday in December by Congress.

By coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and at more than 3,100 other participating locations around the country, Wreaths Across America strives to remember our fallen heroes. The day honors those who serve. And it teaches our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms. Remember. Honor. Teach.

HOW TO OBSERVE WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

All across the country, volunteers come together to lay wreaths on the grave sites of the military. You can help by volunteering, too. Bring your children, no matter their age. It's an excellent opportunity to teach them about the sacrifices our military and their families make and show respect for our military. You can also donate to make sure every fallen hero is honored. Many volunteers start by laying wreaths for their family members but find they continue to help each year. The meaning of a somber commitment of honoring service members with a wreath grows every year.

– www.wreathscrossamerica.org/

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

–Novala Takemoto



Fun Around Town

TRAIL OF LIGHTS

Nov. 21, 2025–Jan. 11, 2026, Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms

Trail of Lights at Chatfield Farms takes you along a winding path glistening with lights that illuminate the Colorado countryside. Tucked into the foothills under the dark sky, the glow of lights can be seen for miles. Just under a mile of walking trail, the illumination of cottonwoods, box elders and pine trees line the pathway through the Green Farm, Crossroads, Deer Creek Discovery Children's Play Area and 1880s Hildebrand Ranch homestead. There is also the option of a shorter path for those who want to take a shorter stroll. In line with the core value of sustainability, all lights used in the event are LED.

HUDSON HOLIDAYS

Nov. 28, 2025–Jan. 4, 2026,

Hudson Gardens & Events Center

You'll be enchanted by towering trees draped in thousands of colorful lights. A grove of dancing Christmas trees, a multi-colored forest inhabited by giant snowmen, the holiday light tunnel and glowing reindeer will light up Hudson Gardens into an extravaganza of holiday cheer. Purchase a delicious cup of hot cocoa or adult beverage before stopping by for a perfect free family photo opportunity with Santa.

MILE HIGH DRONE SHOWS

Nov. 21–Dec. 31, 2025, Downtown

For 41 magical nights, 600 drones will soar into the sky, creating breathtaking holiday-themed animations. See these dazzling displays from across the city every night at 7 p.m. for free. From Santa and his reindeer to iconic Denver landmarks like the Mile High Tree Presented by Xcel Energy & Xfinity and Denver Union Station, each night will bring a new visual experience to life.

THE MILE HIGH TREE

Nov. 21–Dec. 31, 2025, Tivoli Quad on Auraria Campus

Join in the free festivities at the Mile High Tree Presented by Xcel Energy & Xfinity. It's a brilliantly lit, 110-foot-tall immersive art installation that provides a dazzling lights-and-music show. You can experience two of Denver's most popular holiday attractions in one place: America's tallest digital tree and the Denver Christkindlmarket, the city's only authentic German holiday market.

BLOSSOMS OF LIGHT

Nov. 21, 2025–Jan. 11, 2026, Denver Botanic Gardens

Consistently lauded as one of the top holiday light shows in the nation, Blossoms of Light is a spectacular celebration that illuminates Denver Botanic Gardens' York Street location. Wander a mile-long path through immersive, luminous displays that accentuate and highlight our plant collections. A cherished holiday tradition for nearly four decades, Blossoms of Light is constantly evolving to inspire wonder and delight in even the most seasoned visitors.

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This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

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.



Fun Around Town, *continued from front page*

CHERRY CREEK NORTH WINTER WANDERLAND

Nov. 20–Dec. 24, 2025, Cherry Creek North

Enjoy a collection of free holiday offerings and festivities throughout the neighborhood! Festivities include a dazzling display of nearly one million twinkling lights on more than 600 trees spread throughout the walkable neighborhood and Giving Machines—vending machines that don't dispense snacks or drinks, but instead offer the chance to make a positive impact! Enjoy Small Business Weekend (Nov. 29–Dec. 1), Saturday Night Lights with complimentary holiday treats and festive entertainment (Dec. 6, 13 & 20), a Chanukah celebration (Dec. 14) and the Cherry Creek Holiday Market (Nov. 20–Dec. 24), where you can browse gifts from more than 40 local makers, designers and creators. After a long day of shopping, warm up inside the all-new Mistletoe Lounge (Nov. 20–Dec. 24), a new pop-up Christmas bar offering a festive drink menu and comfy seating in a setting that's best described as the inside of a "real-life snow globe."

CHRISTMAS IN COLOR

Nov. 13–Dec. 30, 2025,

**Red Rocks Park & Amphitheater, Water World,
Arapahoe County Fairgrounds**

At three locations, drive through millions of lights perfectly synchronized to holiday music that you'll hear right through your radio. You'll see giant candy canes, snowmen, arched pathways and more.

Summit Ridge Board of Directors

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Laura McKean, Erica Bumgardner, Tori Miller

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 10th of the month before the next month's issue. All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits.

The Summit Ridge newsletter is published monthly by the Summit Ridge homeowners association, a non-profit homeowners association. The newsletter delivery is provided by **Jim Riss of Re/Max Professionals**. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter. Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

Sweater Fest

**A Holiday Market & Party at Aspen Grove
December 5 (3pm-9pm) & December 6 (10am-5pm)**

Feel the joy a one-of-a-kind vintage treasure can bring this season! We're getting warm and cozy indoors at Aspen Grove for Sweater Fest, a two-day holiday market and party celebrating all things local, festive, and fabulously knit.

40+ amazing local businesses offering the finest:

- Vintage and modern clothing
- Records & music finds
- Jewelry and accessories
- Home goods & décor
- Handmade gifts and more

It's the perfect way to shop small, support local, and find gifts as unique as the people you love (including you). And yes, we highly encourage your best (or worst) holiday sweater.



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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>

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Howliday Dog Market

Friday, December 12, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Saturday, December 13, 12:00 am – 4:00 pm

Aspen Grove

Bring your pup and get ready for the ulti-mutt holiday shopping event! The Howliday Market is back — two festive days packed with wag-worthy fun, local vendors, and holiday cheer (for humans and dogs alike).

Shop Local. Support Rescue. Celebrate Your Pup. Discover over 25 dog-friendly and special holiday gift vendors featuring gifts, treats, and accessories for you and your four-legged friends (and a few for your cats, too!). Sip on a festive cocktail from our BARBOX holiday bar featuring a custom drink line-up, grab a bite from the food truck, and enjoy the cozy holiday vibe.

Entertainment & Activities:

Friday Night: Live music and a Dog Sweater Contest at 6:30 pm — bring your pup (and yourself!) in your cutest, ugliest, or most creative sweater for a chance to win cash prizes!

Saturday: A DJ spinning classic holiday jams sets the mood for a chill, festive shopping day.

Holiday Extras:

- Dog Cookie Decorating sponsored by AJ's Dog Bakery
- Eye-Spy Scavenger Hunt to win gift cards
- Plenty of photo ops and festive fun around every corner

It's the paw-fect holiday celebration for you and your pup! Shop, sip, and spread cheer — all while supporting local rescues and small businesses.

—<https://aspengrovecenter.com/event/howliday-dog-market/>

Kiwanis Club of Columbine

We've had a busy and rewarding month! Our members handed out Halloween candy at school and community events and enjoyed presentations from our Key Clubs at local schools. Meeting these dynamic students reminds us that our future is in good hands—thank you, teachers and principals, for all you do.

December will bring our biggest effort of the year: **Salvation Army Bell Ringing, starting December 14.** We'll fill about 100 two-hour shifts at two King Soopers stores and welcome help from Kiwanians, friends, and community members. Kids and musical instruments add extra cheer! Last year we raised \$18,000 for the Salvation Army, and we hope to do even better this year.

We'll also host our Quarterly Blood Drive on December 8.

If you're looking for hands-on service opportunities or want to meet active community members, join us! Details on upcoming projects and events are shared in our weekly newsletter—email info@columbinekiwanis.org to subscribe. Visit columbinekiwanis.org or come for a free breakfast at our weekly meeting every Wednesday at 7 am at 4Gs Restaurant, 5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton.



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NEWSLETTER
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Our January deadline
is December 5th.

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- **The Trust Factor:** Local print publications are valued sources of community news and events. Aligning your business with this trusted medium instantly boosts your own credibility and reputation.
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Classified ads are \$3.00/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.lonetreeartscenter.org>

December is a month of invitation to forget ourselves in the service of others.
–Robert Louis Stevenson

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REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2025

A Season of Gratitude in a Market that feels less than Thankful!

The Denver Real Estate Market has felt a little upside down this year, as the typically active Spring Market felt less than active with Sellers New Listings outpacing Buyers Demand and Inventory growing to levels we haven't seen since 2012! We are excited to announce that the late Fall Market that typically slows a little appears to be gaining some speed as Buyers used October as their moment to get off the fence. This new activity looks like the "Recalibration" we mentioned last month as prices have stabilized while Sellers are adjusting their expectations and Buyers and Buyer Demand is still motivated when the numbers make sense and affordability is in reach. By the numbers, we ended October with 12,495 Active Listings, and Pending's increased by 3.4% in October over last year and Closed Sales were actually down almost 8% from October of 2024. The Closed Sale numbers are down due to a lack luster market in August and September, but this October activity should provide a nice boost in Closings in November and December. Sellers: prices are stabilizing and market times are reasonable for those who prepare their home properly for the market and price it accurately, however it is still very competitive and varies from area to area and price range. Buyers: your opportunities to get the best values and interest rates we've seen all year are right now! Please prepare your finances with a Pre-Approval with a Lender and be prepared to move quickly if you see the home that fits your needs, as the good homes will move quickly! It's also a great time to be patient with the Inspection process, and don't panic. Remember that almost all issues at inspection are fixable and can be worked out with a reasonable Seller rather than terminating. The best news is that you can still find and close on a home before the Holiday Season and we are really good at helping you complete your Real Estate transactions.



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