

Columbine Patio Homes *Happenings* NOVEMBER 2023

Torino Circle
Fort Collins, CO
970-490-1000



BRINGING WARMTH AND GRATITUDE TO YOUR NOVEMBER

The Thanksgiving season carries with it a unique sense of warmth and gratitude. As the leaves fall and the air turns crisp, there is an unmistakable coziness that blankets our homes and hearts. It's a time when families and friends come together, not only to share a bountiful meal but also to embrace the richness of togetherness. The warmth of a crackling fire, the scent of savory dishes filling the air, and the laughter that echoes through the gathering are all reminders of the bonds that tie us. It's a season that encourages reflection and appreciation, a moment to acknowledge the blessings, both big and small, that grace our lives. Thanksgiving is a celebration of the spirit of gratitude, reminding us that even amid life's challenges, there is much for which we can be thankful. It's a time to share, to give, and to remember that the true abundance of this season lies not only on our plates but in our hearts.

Happy Thanksgiving!

-From Andrew and everyone at the
Worthington

HAPPY TO BE HERE

In August, after a few too many years of nomadic living, Hart & I were delighted to learn that we had secured a residence in the patio homes here on Torino Circle. Even more than the convenient location and fine amenities in the home itself, what gives me daily pleasure is the sense of inhabiting what feels like a bucolic island in the midst of an urban landscape. Only recently did I learn the significance and history of the old irrigation canals that circle our small community, and the vital function they serve in creating a protective corridor for wildlife. This was verified yesterday when I had the privilege of spying a sleek and healthy fox trotting purposefully across a grassy expanse, intent upon securing a meal. I've also watched placid mule deer move languidly from grass clump to grass clump, pausing occasionally to return my gaze. Clearly, they feel secure in their right to be grazing here, as countless generations before them have.

The one wrinkle in this Arcadian tableau is the matter of the geese. (One wonders why they still bear the moniker of Canada geese when it's obvious they have emigrated en masse from our neighbor to the North...) Indeed, they are strikingly handsome creatures, but their



digestive calling cards are decidedly less so. In that regard, I have been apprised of a neighborhood policy that seeks to mitigate the situation by limiting the birds’ available buffet offerings. Residents who currently provide unenclosed seed feeders (prone to easy spillage) are being asked to consider removing them until Spring now that most migrating species have departed. Seems like a reasonable request. Although the geese have become permanent residents, patios devoid of spilled seed may slightly lessen the fallout (sorry) of their constant and profligate feasting.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone, from your new neighbor who is happy to be here!

— Teresa Renger, Columbine Patio Home Resident

"TWO THANKSGIVING DAY GENTLEMEN" BY O. HENRY

In the bustling heart of New York City, amid the clatter of carriages and the whirl of shoppers, there lived a man named Stuffy Pete. Stuffy Pete was known for his immense appetite and his peculiar tradition every Thanksgiving.

One crisp November morning, Stuffy Pete made his way to the lavish and extravagant restaurant, Delmonico's. He had been saving pennies for weeks, and this was the day he'd been waiting for. He eagerly ordered a lavish Thanksgiving feast, complete with turkey, oysters, and all the trimmings, more than anyone could consume in a day.

As Stuffy Pete indulged in his feast, he caught the eye of another man dining in the same restaurant. This man, well-dressed and well-mannered, was not indulging in such a grand feast. Instead, he ordered a modest meal of soup and bread.

The two men, though very different in their choices, struck up a conversation. The well-dressed man introduced himself as Mr. Dooley, and Stuffy Pete soon discovered that Mr. Dooley had fallen on hard times. He had lost his job and could hardly afford a simple meal, let alone a lavish Thanksgiving feast.

Stuffy Pete, despite his voracious appetite, was deeply moved by Mr. Dooley's story. He realized that his own gluttony was excessive and wasteful when there were people like Mr. Dooley who had so little. After a moment of thought, Stuffy Pete made a decision.

He called over the waiter and asked for a takeout container. He began to pack the remaining turkey, oysters, and trimmings, which would have been enough to feed a small family for days. He handed the package to Mr. Dooley, who was taken aback by the act of kindness.

As they parted ways, Stuffy Pete said to Mr. Dooley, "I've been a fool, Mr. Dooley, thinking Thanksgiving was only about what's on the plate. Today, I've learned that it's about sharing, giving, and the company of good people like you."

With a newfound sense of gratitude and a lighter heart, Stuffy Pete walked away from Delmonico's, leaving behind a lesson learned in the spirit of Thanksgiving.

O. Henry's "Two Thanksgiving Day Gentlemen" serves as a reminder that Thanksgiving is not only about the abundance of food but also about the abundance of kindness, compassion, and the joy of sharing with those in need.

THANKSGIVING FACTS:

Origins of Thanksgiving: The first Thanksgiving in the United States was celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. It was a three-day feast to give thanks for a successful harvest and the help of Native Americans.

The Turkey Tradition: Did you know that it's estimated that about 46 million turkeys are served on Thanksgiving Day in the United States? That's a lot of gobbling!

Football and Thanksgiving: For many, Thanksgiving wouldn't be complete without a side of football. The tradition of NFL games on Thanksgiving dates back to 1920, and it's been a staple of the holiday ever since.

RECIPE CORNER:

Creamy Butternut Squash Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 large butternut squash, peeled, seeded, and diced
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 2 apples, peeled, cored, and chopped
- 4 cups vegetable broth
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup heavy cream (optional)
- Fresh sage leaves for garnish (optional)

Instructions:

In a large soup pot, heat the olive oil over medium heat. Add the chopped onion and carrots and sauté for 5 minutes, or until the onion is translucent. Stir in the diced butternut squash and apples. Continue to cook for another 5 minutes, allowing the flavors to meld. Add the vegetable broth to the pot, ensuring that the vegetables are mostly covered.

Bring the mixture to a boil, then reduce the heat, cover, and simmer for about 20-25 minutes, or until the squash and apples are tender. Using an immersion blender or a regular blender (in batches), puree the soup until smooth and creamy. If using a regular blender, be sure to let the soup cool a bit before blending. Return the soup to the pot and season with cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, salt, and pepper. Stir well and let it simmer for another 5-10 minutes. If you prefer a creamier soup, you can stir in the heavy cream at this point and simmer for an additional 5 minutes. Taste the soup and adjust the seasoning to your liking. Serve hot, garnished with fresh sage leaves if desired. Enjoy the warm, comforting flavors of fall!

This Butternut Squash Soup is a delightful and nutritious option for the fall season, and it's perfect for warming up on a chilly day. You can also customize it by adding a dollop of sour cream, croutons, or a sprinkle of toasted pumpkin seeds for added texture and flavor.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL HOLIDAYS & DATES:

These November days and holidays offer a mix of cultural, creative, and charitable opportunities to celebrate, reflect, and enjoy the season. Whether you're giving thanks, honoring veterans, or supporting local businesses, November has something for everyone.

All Saints' Day (November 1st): This is a Christian holiday that honors all the saints and martyrs, known and unknown. It's a day to commemorate and remember those who have lived a holy life and are believed to be in heaven.

All Souls' Day (November 2nd): Another Christian holiday, this day is dedicated to praying for the souls of all the deceased, especially those in purgatory. It's a time for remembrance and reflection on loved ones who have passed away.

Daylight Savings Ends (November 5th): That’s right! It’s time to “Fall Back”! Don’t forget to set your clocks back one hour and gain that extra hour of sleep!

Thanksgiving (Fourth Thursday in November - in the U.S.): Thanksgiving is a beloved American holiday that celebrates the harvest and blessings of the past year. Families and friends gather to give thanks and share a bountiful feast, often featuring turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie.

Veterans Day (November 11th): Veterans Day is a day to honor and thank all military veterans for their service and sacrifice. It commemorates the end of World War I and is a time to recognize the contributions of veterans to their countries.

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo): Throughout November, writers from around the world participate in NaNoWriMo, aiming to write a 50,000-word novel in just 30 days. It's a fun and challenging creative writing event.

World Kindness Day (November 13th): World Kindness Day encourages acts of kindness, big and small, to promote goodwill and compassion. It's a reminder to be kind to others and spread positivity.

Universal Children's Day (November 20th): This United Nations observance promotes international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare. It's a day to advocate for children's rights and well-being.

Black Friday (Friday following Thanksgiving - in the U.S.): Black Friday marks the beginning of the holiday shopping season, with retailers offering significant discounts and deals. It's a day for bargain-hunting and holiday gift shopping.

Small Business Saturday (Saturday following Thanksgiving - in the U.S.): This day encourages consumers to support local and small businesses. It's a way to boost local economies and communities by shopping at independently-owned stores.

Cyber Monday (Monday following Thanksgiving - in the U.S.): Cyber Monday is a day dedicated to online shopping, with many retailers offering special discounts and promotions on their websites. It's a way to find great deals from the comfort of your home.

National Adoption Day (Saturday before Thanksgiving - in the U.S.): National Adoption Day celebrates and raises awareness about the importance of adopting children from foster care. Many adoption events and celebrations take place on this day.

WHAT’S GOIN’ ON?

SOCIAL COMMITTEE!!

Contact our social committee with suggestions, ideas or to plan a special event.
Victoria Benson – 302-593-2286; email: s_d_benson@hotmail.com
Aaf Schafer – 970-689-5501; email: aafschafer@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DONATIONS

Every December, we have a Christmas raffle at the Worthington. The raffle monies are used to add to the fun here at the Worthington. We are taking donations for homemade items such as quilts, Afghans, artwork, wall

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div><div><div>November</div></div><div><div>LOCATION KEY:</div><div>AR – Activity Room; DR – Dining Room; PDR – Private Dining Room; L – Lobby; TH – Town Hall; SR – Sunroom; FL – Front Lawn; BP – Back Patio</div></div></div>			<div><div>1</div><div>All Saints' Day!</div><div>10am – Rollers & Strollers</div></div>	<div><div>2</div><div>All Souls' Day!</div><div>11am – Prayer Group - PDR</div></div>	<div><div>3</div></div>	<div><div>4</div></div>
<div><div>5</div><div>Daylight Savings Ends!</div><div>10am – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>6</div></div>	<div><div>7</div><div>11am – Chaplain Hymn Sing- TH</div><div>3pm – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>8</div><div>10am – Rollers & Strollers</div></div>	<div><div>9</div><div>10am – Kevin Cook Lecture Series - AR</div><div>11am – Prayer Group - PDR</div></div>	<div><div>10</div><div>10am – Kevin Cook Lecture Series - AR</div><div>11am – Prayer Group - PDR</div><div>10am – Valentine's Chorus - DR</div></div>	<div><div>11</div><div>Veterans Day!</div></div>
<div><div>12</div><div>Diwali/Festival of Lights</div><div>10am – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>13</div><div>World Kindness Day!</div><div>10am – Discussion Group – PDR</div></div>	<div><div>14</div><div>11am – Chaplain Hymn Sing- TH</div><div>3pm – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>15</div><div>10am – Rollers & Strollers</div></div>	<div><div>16</div><div>10am – Jim Collinson Lecture</div><div>11am – Prayer Group – PDR</div><div>2:30pm – Legacy Writing</div></div>	<div><div>17</div><div>No Men's Breakfast!</div></div>	<div><div>18</div></div>
<div><div>19</div><div>10am – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>20</div><div>10am – Book Club at the home of Barbara Hagen #847</div><div>1:30pm – Key Bank Financial Wellness Class</div></div>	<div><div>21</div><div>11am – Thanksgiving Service – TH</div><div>3pm – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>22</div><div>10am – Rollers & Strollers</div></div>	<div><div>23</div><div>Thanksgiving Day!</div><div>11am – Prayer Group - PDR</div></div>	<div><div>24</div><div>3pm – Patio Home Social - PDR</div></div>	<div><div>25</div></div>
<div><div>26</div><div>10am – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>27</div></div>	<div><div>28</div><div>11am – Chaplain Hymn Sing- TH</div><div>3pm – Quarter Bingo - TH</div></div>	<div><div>29</div><div>10am – Rollers & Strollers</div></div>	<div><div>30</div><div>11am – Prayer Group - PDR</div></div>	<div><div><div>Columbine Patio Homes</div><div>All activities are subject to change.</div></div></div>	

hangings or other handcrafted items. We also take gently used items that people may like to give to a good home. The raffle is at the beginning of December, so you have plenty of time to donate an item to the cause. It is a fun way to add to our party coffers!

LARIMER COUNTRY FOOD DRIVE

Please join us in supporting the Larimer Country Food Drive as we collect food to help in their needs for the upcoming holidays. Every year, the food bank is greatly strained by the needs of the community. Please help us by bringing a non-perishable item to the lobby for donation. Andrew will deliver the food prior to the holidays.

SENIOR SERENADERS

Come and start your Wednesday and November right by listening to the Senior Serenaders on Wednesday, November 1st at 10:30 am in the DR. The Serenaders are a group of seniors that practice and perform seasonal themed music from years past for local senior living facilities. They would love to see all of you there.

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 7th is an off-year election that includes both gubernatorial and state legislative elections in a few states. There are at least three special elections for the US Congress which have been scheduled due to unforeseen vacancies. Here in Colorado, our statewide election concerns two propositions that address tax revenue. Fort Collins residents will be voting for mayor and some districts will be voting for city council representatives as well. Ballots were mailed the week of 10/16/23 to all Colorado registered voters and must be returned by 7pm on election day in order to be counted. The nearest 24-hour ballot drop-off box is at the Senior Center on Raintree Drive. If you have any questions about your ballot, please call the Worthington and ask for Denise.

THE TORINO CIRCLE WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB

November’s book club will meet on November 20th at my house #847! Our book is KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON by David Grann

In the 1920s, the richest people per capital in the world were members of the Osage Nation in Oklahoma after oil was discovered beneath their land. This is a true story of greed, serial murder, and racial injustice that exposes an extremely disturbing episode of American history and the birth of modern law enforcement. The current movie of the same name, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, is now playing at

local theaters. Also, at this meeting, I will pass out our list of books we will read next year. Finally, put our December meeting on your calendar for December 18! We will meet at OLIVE GARDEN for our annual holiday luncheon.

Happy reading!
Barbara Hagen #847

A big thank you to Barbara for continuing to facilitate our Book Club, contact her if you would like to join!

HYMN SING

Come join our Chaplain, Rebecca McFee, every Tuesday at 11am for Hymn Sing in the Worthington Town Hall. This month, on November 21st, there will be a short Thanksgiving Service. All are welcome!

ROLLERS & STROLLERS

Join the patio home residents **every Wednesday at 10am** as they “Roll ‘n Stroll” around the circle. A great way to get some fresh air and connect with your neighbors. We will walk throughout the Winter months, always weather permitting.

GUEST SPEAKER: NATURALIST KEVIN COOK

Our monthly lecture series with Kevin Cook continues with his 11th lecture in his wildlife Window series. The lecture is entitled, “Unexpected Little things.” Four different sponges and a tiny jellyfish, a five-inch centipede, and a freshwater-mussel big enough to support a short-term clam shell button industry, a few carnivores, plants, and a couple of worm-eating fungi. Colorado certainly has its share of wildlife assumed to live elsewhere but not here! Join us **November 9th at 10:00am** in the Worthington Activity Room. **Sign up required! Call 970-490-1000**

VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the USA. It is observed annually on November 11th, and it is for honoring military veterans of the US Armed Forces. It will be observed here at the Worthington a day early on **Friday, November 10th** with Patriotic songs by the Valentine Chorus at **10 am in the Worthington Dining Room**. Reception to follow.

If you would like to observe the holiday on the 11th in the greater community, citywide events are being held throughout the day. There will be a free breakfast at the nearby Senior Center in honor of our veterans. Breakfast is from 7 am to 11 am, just show up for this free event.

TORINO CIRCLE DISCUSSION GROUP

Please join the group this month on **Monday, November 13th, at 10:00am** in the **Worthington Private Dining Room**. This monthly get-together gives patio home residents a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other and build community. **A great chance to exchange information and ideas.** If you would like – bring a topic of your own to discuss! **COME JOIN US!**

A RACE TO NORTH POLE

Come to the Worthington Town Hall on **Thursday, November 16th at 10am** to hear another informative lecture from our resident paleontologist, Jim Collinson!

In 1895, the 6th International Geographical Congress (London) proposed “...the exploration of the Antarctic regions is the greatest piece of geographical exploration still to be taken...” This was followed by several scientific expeditions in the 19th and early 20th centuries inducing attempts to reach the South Pole by the British and Norwegians. Amundsen and his skilled skiers from Norway were the first to reach the South Pole in 1911. Scott’s men arrived a month later but did not return.

Great leaders such Otto Nordenskjold, Robert F. Scott, Ernest Shackleton, Douglas Mawson, and Roald Amundsen are part of the Heroic Era of Exploration in Antarctica. In addition to helping define the geography they added much to our knowledge of the science of the continent. They did all this without benefit if dependable motorized vehicles, and airplanes. For transportation, they depended on dog teams, ponies, and man-hauling of sleds. **Sign up required! Call 970-490-1000**

Jim Collinson is an emeritus professor in the School of Earth Sciences and Bryd Polar and Climate Research Center of the Ohio Starte University. His research has taken him through the Transantarctic and Ellsworth Mountiains. After retirement, he served as a lecturer on Antarctic cruise ships.

LEGACY WRITING

Come to the Worthington Private Dining Room for Legacy Writing with Columbine Chaplain Rebecca McFee on **Thursday, November 16th at 2:30pm** in the Worthington Private Dining Room. This month, write about a veteran or sacrifice made by someone in your family. Some families were conscientious objectors; if this is your tradition, please write about that. See you then!

KEY BANK: FINANCIAL WELLNESS FOR SENIORS

Please join us for a talk by Francine Hudgin, financial advisor from Key Bank, on **Monday, November 20th at 1:30 pm**. Francine will give a talk entitled, “Spending and Saving Wisely for Seniors.” **Sign up required! Call 970-490-1000**

PATIO HOME MONTHLY SOCIAL

Let’s gather! **Friday, November 24th at 3:00pm** in the Worthington Private Dining Room. Bring your own food and drink! See you there!

TORINO SHARING LIBRARY

Located next to the mailboxes, The Torino Sharing Library is kept fully stocked. Feel free to borrow two books at a time and return them to the drop box beneath the library when you have finished reading. If you would like to donate, we accept paperback or hardback in all genres. Please no DVDs, VHS, Magazines or CDs. Worn or damaged books will be discarded.

Our current Steward for the library is Katie Fletcher #872
Contact Katie at 970-875-4927 with any questions or concerns. Thank you, Katie!

MAINTENANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maintenance can assist with hanging personal items as time allows and will provide basic hardware. Any hardware



BEAUTY

Unique's Regions of Hair

Tuesday-Saturday by appointment only call Unique 303-591-9527

- Shampoo and Set \$25.00
- Hair Cut \$17.00
- Shampoo, Cut and Set \$40.00
- Wash and Wear \$10.00
- Beard Trim \$7.00
- Wax Services \$10.00

beyond what we consider basic (shelves, nuts, bolts, hangers, TV mount, etc.) for personal use should be supplied by the tenant. Grab bars are supplied and installed free of charge.

Reminder: Maintenance is available on-call for emergent needs on weekends and after hours. Some examples of a maintenance emergency include: Air conditioning or heat not working, no hot water, water leaks or flooding, and egress related issues. **Note:** If your smoke detector is alarming and saying “fire” or “carbon monoxide”, please contact 911, do not contact the front desk.

Please do not put nails in any of the doors, woodwork, or cupboards. You may find which hooks are acceptable by checking with maintenance first.

Maintenance is not allowed to work on personal appliances, move tenants’ furniture, flip mattresses or work on residents’ automobiles or electric scooters.

SNOW REMOVAL

Just a reminder that Columbine is responsible for plowing, shoveling and sanding/salting Torino Circle, the sidewalks, your front walkways, front patios and driveways. We do this in the timeliest manner possible. These same crews are also doing all Columbine facilities on the Fort Collins campus. During large snowstorms and blizzards, we will normally wait until much of the snow has fallen before doing any major snow removal. In these cases, we ask that you stay indoors and try not to venture out. And as always, on icy days, **WALK LIKE A PENGUIN!**

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & DECORATIONS

Yes, you may put of Christmas lights and decorations! We ask that you **DO NOT** nail anything into exterior walls of the units. Thank You and enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

MAINTENANCE REMINDERS AND NOTICES:

We are using a new Maintenance Application to hopefully better serve you, for all work orders please dial the **Worthington Front Desk at 970-490-1000** so we can enter it into our system

Remember, Pest control from EnviroPest occurs once a month on the 28th of each month. This continues throughout the Winter months.

Please remember to ask your guests and caregivers to park in the designated parking spaces at the East and West ends of the neighborhood.

Please remember to call the Worthington for all work orders 970-490-1000. We ask that you allow **24-48 hours** for call and email responses from Andrew.

Furnace filters are on a 6-month cycle and will be replaced accordingly, if you notice a large build-up of dust around the vents, please give us a call.

For a maintenance request or any further questions, call The Worthington front desk at (970) 490-1000.

For all maintenance requests, concerns, complaints or any further questions please call The Worthington front desk at (970) 490-1000.



Columbine Patio Homes is dedicated to preventing the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and all other infectious diseases. The primary source of information for prevention and management is found on the Centers for Disease Control and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment websites. Social distancing means keeping a physical distance between yourself and others when you are feeling ill. The CDC recommends a distance of at least 6 feet to prevent the spread of germs. Thank you for helping to keep our community healthy and safe. Please call the Worthington front desk if you are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19.