

Happenings

JANUARY 2026



Torino Circle
Fort Collins, CO
970-490-1000

ADMINISTRATOR
Andrew Baker

**OFFICE
MANAGER**
Sierra Reilly

**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES
DIRECTOR**
Carlos Medina

**MAINTENANCE
ASSISTANT**
Samuel Medina



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

As we step into a bright new year, we're filled with gratitude for the wonderful community we share here. A new year is a perfect time to reflect on the moments that made us smile, the friendships that grew stronger, and the everyday joys that make our patio home community such a special place to live.

2026 arrives with fresh possibilities—more laughter on sunny patios, more shared stories with neighbors, more activities to enjoy, and more reasons to celebrate each day. Whether you're looking forward to peaceful mornings, lively

gatherings, or simply the comfort of familiar faces, this year holds something special for everyone.

Thank you for being part of a community built on warmth, kindness, and connection. We are so excited to continue creating happy memories together in the year ahead.

Wishing you a New Year filled with good health, happiness, and plenty of reasons to smile.

HERE'S TO 2026—MAY IT BE OUR BEST YEAR YET!

From Andrew & the Staff of the Worthington & Columbine Patio Homes



RESIDENT SHOWCASE: MEET CAROLYN & GLEN DEZEEUW!

Carolyn and Glen DeZeeuw are the new residents at 841 Torino Circle, moving to the neighborhood on August 1 from Windsor. Both are originally from Orange City, Iowa, a small farming community very proud of its Dutch heritage. They have known each other since sixth grade and began dating late in their senior year of high school. After graduating from high school, Carolyn began working as administrative assistant for the City Manager of Orange City, while Glen began his studies at Iowa State University, where he graduated with honors with a B.S. in Political Science in 1969. They were married in June 1968.

After graduating from ISU, Glen joined Northwestern Mutual as a financial representative in Orange City. Carolyn worked for the USDA as an administrative assistant and later became Glen's Office Manager. Success in sales led Glen into a leadership role, and he became the Managing Director for Northwest Iowa. In this role, he continued his own personal sales and recruited others into the business. In 1984 Glen accepted the position of Managing Director in Fort Collins, where he was responsible for sales and recruiting for Northern Colorado and all of Wyoming. Carolyn's administrative skills were again utilized as the Office Manager during this time. While in Fort Collins, Glen earned his M.S. in Leadership from the American College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. He also was active in the Managing Directors Association and served as President in 1995-96.

In 1998 Glen was asked to join the Home Office of Northwestern Mutual in Milwaukee as Vice President of Agency Development, making him responsible for the growth of the Managing Director system nationwide. During his 11-year tenure in this role, sales from and recruiting by the Managing Director system doubled. He was also instrumental in the formation of Northwestern Mutual Leadership University. Glen retired from the Home Office in 2009, and they moved to Windsor. He founded Lifesong Consulting, a leadership consulting firm that consulted exclusively with Northwestern Mutual leaders. This allowed Glen to continue to speak around the country on his favorite topic—leadership.

Carolyn and Glen were blessed with a son in 1975, Christian Marc. Chris and his wife Jen blessed them with two grandsons, Logan (21) and Eli (17). Chris died in March 2020 after a valiant battle with cancer for seven years.



Carolyn and Glen are both cancer survivors; Carolyn has been a breast cancer survivor for 24 years, and Glen is a kidney cancer survivor for four years. They have traveled extensively (love National Parks). Both are avid readers, enjoy pickleball, watching sports, doing crossword puzzles and walking. They are members of Redeemer Lutheran Church where Carolyn is a past deacon and Glen is past President of the congregation. They are happy to be part of the community.

BIG THANK YOU TO VENUS ORTIZ, HER STAFF & MINDY ROMERO!!!

Letter from The Torino Circle Holiday Party Organizing Committee:

Dear Andrew,

The Organizing Committee for the Torino Circle Holiday Party would like to recognize Venus Ortiz, Dining Room Supervisor, and her staff, for their incredible work. We would also like to thank Mindy [Romero], who also helped the day of the party.

Venus took the time from her busy schedule to meet with Committee members several times prior to the party to assure that all requests would be met.

The day of the party, Venus and staff went above and beyond. The dining room was festive, and tables were set beautifully. The serving area was beyond expectations. Plus, Venus made sure that last minute items were available. Mindy made sure party signs were strategically placed and helped greet residents while they waited for the dining room to open.

Thank you, Venus, the dining room staff, and Mindy for your incredible work to make the Torino Circle Holiday Party a success. Your efforts made all the difference.

Sincerely,

The Organizing Committee:

Ellie Aronow
Bob & Mary Clark
Bev Loehrke
Judy Putnam
Kathy Wendland

WHAT'S GOIN' ON?

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. The weather is nice, come out and get some exercise with friends!

NEW! INTRODUCING READERS THEATRE! – YOU ARE INVITED!

By popular request, we’re excited to launch a brand-new activity this month: **Readers Theatre** — a fun and engaging way to spark creativity, connect with others, and bring stories to life!

Readers Theatre offers a variety of benefits for older adults, including cognitive stimulation, enhanced communication skills, emotional expression, and meaningful social interaction — all in a relaxed, enjoyable setting. No memorization is required, and everything you need is provided — including scripts, skits, and reading prompts.

Join volunteer, Michele Shaub, every **Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM in the Worthington Activity Room** and discover the joy of performing without pressure. Whether you’re a seasoned storyteller or just curious, come see what it’s all about!



TORINO CIRCLE DISCUSSION GROUP

Please join us on **Monday, January 12th, at 10am** for our monthly discussion group. We ask that you come prepared to share some of your favorite places of interest or activities in Fort Collins and environs.

Hosts: TBD

Address: TBD

Phone: TBD

NATURALIST KEVIN COOK — PART 1 OF HIS NEW NATURE SERIES

Join Kevin on **Thursday, January 8th, at 10:00 AM in the Worthington Activity Room** for the 1st installment of a new, always-popular nature series!

This installment is entitled “Old Timer Trees, Poisonous Mushrooms & Living Out of Place.” As he states, “Old age differs among species, but we have trees growing here since before Humanity knew the world was round. We also have a mushroom that produces an interesting toxin plus four species we typically assume should live far, far away.”

This unique and thought-provoking presentation is perfect for anyone curious about how nature and humanity shape each other across the Centennial State.

DON'T MISS IT!

Sign-up required!
Call 970-490-1000

THE TORINO CIRCLE WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

“So many books, so little time”!

What book have you read that you would like to discuss? What book would you like to read and have our group discuss?

We will be meeting on **Monday, January 19th, 2026**, to put together what books we will be reading and discussing this next year. **We will meet at the home of Carol Herbert (#862) at 10:00 AM.**

All are invited. Just bring your list of books and what the book is about. The only “rule” is that you have read the book!

Barbara Hagen and Carol Herbert, *Co-Organizers*

If you are new to our community or would like to join our group, but haven’t read the book, join us anyway. We’d enjoy having you there.

Any questions about joining, or anything else about the group, **please contact Barbara Hagen at (970) 219-9600 or e-mail her at bhagen6NT@gmai.com**



TORINO CIRCLE GENTLEMEN'S BOOK CLUB

More Than a Book Club – A Time to Connect

Calling all gentlemen of Torino Circle! You’re invited to join a new monthly gathering that’s not just about reading—it’s about sharing, connecting, and enjoying great conversation with fellow neighbors.

Reading the book is optional—your life experience, thoughts, and stories are what truly make the group special. Whether you’ve read every chapter or just come for the coffee and camaraderie, you’ll be warmly welcomed.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 19th, 2026

Time: 10:00am

Location: Home of Dan & Kathy Wendland #827 Torino Circle

Book: [Breakneck: China's Quest to Engineer the Future](#)

Written By: Dan Wang

Questions? Contact Bob Clark at (970) 420-0318

We look forward to seeing you there—bring your thoughts, your stories, and a smile!

GUEST SPEAKER EVENT: ONCE UPON A YEAR WITH JIM WILLARD -

Thursday, January 15th, at 11:00 AM

We're excited to welcome back Jim Willard for his popular series, Once Upon a Year! **Join us on Thursday, January 15th, at 11:00 AM** for a nostalgic journey through time.

In this engaging program, Jim will take us on a trip down memory lane—exploring notable moments from years past, including highlights in world events, politics, pop culture, music, and entertainment. It's a fascinating and fun look at the decades that shaped our lives.

This event fills up fast, so sign-ups are required!

Reserve your spot today by calling 970-490-1000.

Don't miss out on this entertaining and enlightening stroll through history!

TORINO SHARING LIBRARY

The current library stewards are Dan and Kathy Wendland (#827). **You can reach them at 970-377-1235 if you have questions or concerns.** Bob Clark (#863) has provided our magazine sharing rack at the library. Thank you to all who donate books and magazines to keep our selection interesting and diverse!



TORINO CIRCLE LUNCH BUNCH

Please join us this month when Barb Branstad hosts our next gathering:

Thursday, January 8, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

Snack Attack (120 W. Stuart Street, Unit A, FoCo); limited parking available in the lot facing Stuart...**please carpool if possible.**

Menu available at snackattackit.com

RSVP: Contact Barb no later than January 6 at barbara.branstad@colostate.edu or (907) 481-5406 (text only, no calls)

Carol and Skip Herbert have graciously offered to host on February 12th, and we invite you to host in March, April...or later. Here's what the host does:

- Choose a restaurant (list available from Ellie Aronow) and contact them about date availability and final headcount deadline.
- Let the restaurant know that the group usually numbers 10-16 people and ask whether they have a separate room. If not, ask if they have a "quieter" spot for our group.
- Ask what table sizes are available. Tables of six or eight usually work best; but tables of four seats have also worked.
- Inquire about parking availability.
- Accept RSVPs in person or via cell phone, text or email (your choice).

Questions? Contact Ellie (in person or by phone at 480-993-7910). As coordinator, she will post a Lunch Bunch notice on the community bulletin board, submit information to the Happenings, and send a reminder email.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON JANUARY 8!

PLANTS & VEGETATION DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

Mary and her crew are monitoring our plants throughout this dry Winter. She is confident that things will survive, and we will hope and cross our fingers for some precipitation soon. I want to thank you for your concern in helping to keep the neighborhood beautiful.



REMINDER: POTTED PLANTS AND PLANTERS

Please remember that during the Winter months, all pots and planters must be stored in your garages to ensure safe and efficient snow removal. Please do not dump soil into the Buffer Zone or drainage canals.

FURNACE FILTER CHANGE-OUTS

Carlos and Sam have started changing out furnace filters. If they haven't changed yours yet, they will get to you very soon. Thank you for your patience!

IMPORTANT MAINTENANCE & LANDSCAPING REMINDER:

To ensure your maintenance needs are handled efficiently, **please remember to always call the Worthington Front Desk at (970) 490-1000 to place a work or landscaping order—especially during evenings, weekends, or after hours.**

A few helpful tips:

- Our maintenance team follows a scheduled list using an app called **Limble** and may not have time to take on additional requests during a visit.
- For the best service, **please avoid adding extra tasks in person** while they are working in or around your unit.
- To keep everything organized, we kindly ask that you **do not email or text work orders to the Administrator**, particularly outside of business hours.

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.

Thank you for helping us serve you better by following these simple guidelines!



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