



Spring 2026

Martin Acres VOICE

Newsletter

Vol. 48, No. 1

MANA Steering Committee is at a critical crossroads!

Since 1977, the Martin Acres Neighborhood Association (MANA) has worked to protect and enhance the quality of life in our community. From monitoring local zoning and code enforcement to publishing The Voice newsletter and hosting special events, this association has been the heartbeat of our neighborhood for nearly 50 years.

MANA is managed entirely by a volunteer Steering Committee. Per our bylaws, we must **elect a new committee** every March. If we do not recruit volunteer officers for the upcoming 2026 term, it will be exceptionally difficult for the association to continue its operations. We would potentially lose our official voice with the city, our ability to manage neighborhood funds, and the organized community programs we all enjoy--such as the annual Eggstravaganza.

We need you! Roles include:

* Executive Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

* Committee Chairs: Special Events, Voice Content/Advertising, Zoning/Code Enforcement

How to Volunteer:

If you are a resident 18 or older living within our boundaries (Baseline, Broadway, Table Mesa, and US 36), you are already a MANA member and eligible to vote and run! For questions, please reach out to us at steeringcommittee@martinacres.org.

The **Formal Election** will take place at **our Annual Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2026** at 7:00 pm.

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87404770925?pwd=gWuhWnKQa0u5UORFbfu3MJbmPyEE2z.1>

Martin Acres Neighborhood Association website

<https://martinacres.org>.

MANA email list: To subscribe, go to:

http://martinacres.org/mailman/listinfo/manalist_martina or send an email message with the subject "subscribe" to manalist-request@martinacres.org. You can sign up for a once-a-day digest.

MANA Eggstravaganza:

Saturday, Apr 4, 2026, at Martin Park.

Get ready for the most eggs-travagant event of the season! We hope to hold an expanded all-ages event with food and games.

This event requires a lot of volunteer help. Tasks include publicizing event, mating egg-halves and filling eggs with candy, hiding eggs, managing hunts, and cleaning up. Please consider volunteering!

(steeringcommittee@martinacres.org)

Join the Martin Acres Garden Club!

If you love plants -- or just enjoy wandering through beautiful yards -- you'll fit right in. The Martin Acres Garden Club meets on one Sunday each month (March-October), starting at 9 am, hosted by a different neighbor who opens their garden for a relaxed, friendly gathering. We swap stories, compare notes on what's thriving, troubleshoot pests and plant problems, and share inspiration from our backyards. We will also have the annual free Plant Share on Sunday, May 17 from 9 am - 11 am at Martin Park. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting your hands dirty for the first time, you're always welcome. Email Lesley.L.Smith@Colorado.edu to find out when/where the next meeting is. Come grow with us!

New Boulder Landlord Tenant Handbook!

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/landlord-tenant-handbook>

Highlights include:

- Lease & Licensing Requirements
 - In Boulder, all leases for 30 days or more must be in writing.
 - All residential rental properties in Boulder must have a valid rental license and undergo safety inspections. Advertisements must include the rental license number.
 - Most leases include "joint and several liability," meaning each tenant is individually responsible for the full rent and any property damage.
- 2026 Financial Transparency (Junk Fee Ban)
 - Total Price Disclosure: Starting January 1, 2026, all rental advertisements and leases must display a single "total price" that includes all mandatory fees.
 - Banned Fees: Landlords are prohibited from charging tenants for property taxes, general maintenance, or habitability compliance.
 - Utility Limits: While utilities can be billed separately, administrative mark-ups are capped at 2% or \$10/month, whichever is lower.
- Enhanced Security Deposit Protections
 - Normal Wear and Tear: Effective January 1, 2026, landlords cannot deduct for "normal wear and tear," which now explicitly includes light carpet staining, paint scuffs, or carpet older than 10 years.
 - Boulder Interest Rates: For 2026, the City of Boulder requires landlords to return interest on security deposits at a rate of 2.08%.
 - Return Timeline: Deposits must be returned within 30 days (or up to 60 days if specified in the lease) with an itemized statement.
 - Right to Inspection: Tenants can request a final walkthrough before moving out to address potential deductions.
- Habitability & Repairs
 - Warranty of Habitability: Landlords must provide a home with working plumbing, heat, and electricity.
 - Repair Timelines: Landlords must generally address emergencies within 24 hours and all other uninhabitable conditions within 72 hours.
 - Privacy: Except in emergencies, landlords must provide 24 hours' notice before entering a unit.
- Conflict Resolution
 - Free Mediation: The City's Community Mediation and Resolution Center (CMRC) offers free mediation for landlord-tenant or roommate disputes.
<https://bouldercolorado.gov/community-mediation-and-resolution-center>
 - Eviction Defense: Tenants facing eviction can seek legal assistance from Bridge to Justice:
eviction@bridge2justice.org

The **Boulder TimeBank** is a neighbor-to-neighbor exchange network that makes it easy to share skills, meet people, and get help -- without spending money. Instead of paying for services, members trade time. For every hour you spend helping someone you earn one TimeDollar. You can then "spend" those TimeDollars when you need a hand. It's part of a global network of timebanks, so exchanges can extend beyond Boulder.

What makes the TimeBank special is everyone's time is valued equally, and everyone has something meaningful to offer. Members request a variety of support, such as basic sewing tips, decluttering, craft companionship or computer help. It's open to people of all ages and abilities.

The exchanges are practical, but they also build connection, confidence, and community resilience.

If you're looking for a simple way to strengthen community while sharing what you enjoy doing, the Boulder TimeBank is a wonderful place to start.

Learn more at timebankboulder.org

2026 is an important election year. Register to Vote!

Online: Use the official GoVoteColorado.gov portal. You will need a valid Colorado driver's license, state ID card, or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

By Mail: Download and print the Colorado Voter Registration Form

(<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/VoterRegFormEnglish.pdf>) fill it out, and mail it to your County Clerk and Recorder.

In Person: At any Colorado Driver License office while applying for or renewing a license, and at Boulder County Clerk & Recorder Office, 1750 33rd St, Boulder, CO 80301

THE MARTIN ACRES NEIGHBORHOOD ECOPASS

See if you are eligible at MARTINACRES-ECOPASS.org. For more info Contact Scott (MA2) – martinacresecopass@gmail.com or Jennifer (MA3) – ma3ecopass@gmail.com

Steering Committee

The MANA Steering Committee meets at 7 pm on the first Monday of most months. MANA is currently meeting online. For info, concerns, or inquiries, please email steeringcommittee@martinacres.org.

Do you have any ideas for 2026 events? Let us know!

2025 Steering Committee Members:

President: Jan Trussell 303-549-4409

president@martinacres.org

Vice President: Open Position

Secretary: Dorothy Cohen 303-494-0458

secretary@martinacres.org

Treasurer: Steven Racz 303-518-7109

treasurer@martinacres.org

Zoning/Code Enforcement: Open Position

Special Events: Samir Singh

specialevents@martinacres.org

Voice Newsletter Content and Advertising: Lesley Smith

303-499-7878 voice@martinacres.org

Voice Newsletter Distribution: Open Position

Communications: Ron DePugh 303-494-5650

communications@martinacres.org

Important Dates in 2026

MANA Annual Meeting: 7 pm, March 2, 2026 on Zoom.

MANA Garden Club Plant Share: May 17, 2026

Stay tuned for more Plant Share info in the next Voice.

Boulder Valley School District Calendar

Spring Break: March 16–20, 2026 (No school).

Last Day of Spring Semester for students: May 21, 2026

CU Academic Calendar.

Spring break: March 16-20;

Last day of spring semester classes: Apr 24;

Reading days: Apr 25-26; Final exam period: Apr 27, May 1.

University Commencement: Saturday, May 2.

Boulder Events

March 29: Taste of Pearl on Pearl Street Mall.

April 3–11: Boulder Arts Week, citywide.

April 9–12: Boulder International Film Festival, downtown.

April 13–16: Conference on World Affairs at CU Boulder.

April 18–19: Bluebird Music Festival at Macky Auditorium.

April 26: Tulip Fairy & Elf Festival on Pearl Street Mall.

May 25: BOLDERBoulder 10K.

RADON TESTING KITS AVAILABLE FROM MANA

MANA purchased two Radon monitors, available to Martin Acres residents by loan, on a rotating basis for one week at a time. A \$5 donation is requested to defray the cost of the devices. To borrow Radon detectors, please contact Ron DePugh at 303-494-5650 or email communications@martinacres.org.

MARTIN ACRES VOICE CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads are \$15.00 for the first 3 lines, \$3.00 per line thereafter. Contact Voice@martinacres.org to place an ad. Payments via check to Treasurer, MANA, PO Box 3514, Boulder, CO 80307

MCLEAN FORGE AND WELDING is your local metal shop. We specialize in railings, but also do repairs. Ray@mcleanforge.com, www.mcleanforge.com

TAYLOR ARCHITECTURE STUDIO

Live in a smaller Boulder home and thinking about an addition or renovation? Whether you're adding space for a growing family or reimagining how you live, we bring creativity, clarity, and years of Boulder-area experience to every project -and we know our way around City of Boulder zoning and building code. Let's make your home feel like it was *made just for you*. taylorarchitecturestudio.com | nicole@taylorarchitecturestudio.com | 303-815-3463

Professional Dog Walker & Pet Care you can trust. 15+ years experience with lots of 5-star Yelp referrals. Visit furrybabiespetsit.com for more information.

DOG WALKING, PET CARE, HOUSE-SITTING

since 2013! Reasonable rates. We love animals! Paula and Al, paulafmoseley@gmail.com

Local Pet Portraits! JAMISHIMON.COM

Jami Shimon is a pet portrait artist who creates custom, hand-painted portraits that capture the personality and spirit of our beloved companions. Code MANA for \$50 off.

YOUR AD HERE

Do you have a business or other venture that would benefit from a classified ad? Consider placing an ad in the next issue of the VOICE.

Happy Spring!



Vernal/Spring Equinox March 20, 2026

Meteorologists consider March, April, and May to be spring. Astronomers say spring begins in the Northern hemisphere on March 20 with the vernal or spring equinox. This occurs because of Earth's constant axial 23.5° tilt, pointing at the North Star. As Earth completes its orbit around the Sun, it reaches a 'side-on' position where the tilt leans neither toward nor away from the light. At this specific point in our orbit, the Sun hits the equator directly, resulting in nearly equal day and night across the globe.

Scientists believe Earth's 23.5° axial tilt, or obliquity, was caused approximately 4.5 billion years ago by a collision with a Mars-sized protoplanet known as Theia. The Moon's gravity helps stabilize this tilt, preventing extreme climate variations, although the angle slowly shifts between 22.1° and 24.5° over a 41,000-year cycle.