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CENTENNIAL • CHERRY CREEK • CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE • ENGLEWOOD • GLENDALE • GREENWOOD VILLAGE • LITTLETON
 Volume 26 • Number 25 May 22, 2008 (303) 773-8313 • Published every Thursday • 75¢



Marilyn Geertsen and Lou Harding get creative with their container gardens at Holly Creek Retirement Community in Centennial.



Viola Breitzkreuz and Ruth Matzigkeit create colorful flower planters.



Annie Huston of Englewood-based Columbine Design, left, donates her time and horticulture expertise to teach Holly Creek Retirement Community residents. Lou Harding gets some advice from Houston at a container gardening workshop May 15.

Photos by Jeffrey V. Smith

Flowers, horticulturist brighten Holly Creek residents' day, homes

BY JEFFREY V. SMITH

Several residents of Holly Creek Retirement Community in Centennial were able to bring colorful gardening indoors at a special container garden workshop May 15.

Annie Huston, who co-founded Englewood's Columbine Design with her husband Scott in 1985, donates her time, flowers, dirt and expertise to provide Holly Creek residents with an enjoyable activ-

ity, as well as an opportunity to rediscover gardening despite no longer having space outdoors to do so. Essentially, Huston takes the "Tupperware party" concept and transforms it into a hands-on container planting demonstration.

Huston demonstrated to the seniors how to plant, what to plant and a quick overview of planting design, color, texture and contrast. Even before Huston finished teach-

ing the residents about the concept of container gardening, it was obvious they were eager to get started.

One of the more than 12 residents in attendance was more than happy to get her hands dirty and plant fresh flowers because she misses tending to her roses. Others were simply happy to have the opportunity to bring fresh, colorful flowers indoors.