



HOUSING & BUILDING  
ASSOCIATION  
OF COLORADO SPRINGS

4585 Hilton Parkway Suite 100, Colorado Springs, CO 80907  
Phone: 719-592-1800 · Fax 719-260-8398 · CSHBA.com



For Immediate Release

Contact: Mike DeGrant – President, HBA Cares

719-382-9433 | [mdegrant@desertviewhomes.com](mailto:mdegrant@desertviewhomes.com)

## A Tale of Gratitude Comes Full Circle after 59 Years

HBA of Colorado Springs gives back to a man who gave a hand to another

COLORADO SPRINGS – March 30, 2016

When Chuck Armstrong received a letter of recognition from the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs in 1957 (known then as the Colorado Springs Home Builders Association) for a heroic act he performed at a local pool, he didn't imagine that 59 years later he would in turn be thanking the HBA for extending a helping hand to him.

On June 18, 1957, a 13-year old Armstrong saved a child from drowning at the Antlers Hotel in downtown Colorado Springs. His actions of bravery and quick thinking were recognized by the Home Builders Association in a hand-typed letter. Now, Armstrong is thanking the HBA for what he may also consider an act of heroism. Through HBA Cares, the HBA's philanthropic arm, a much-needed ADA-accessible ramp was built for Armstrong and his wife, Helen, at their home in Manitou Springs. A substitute teacher in the Colorado Springs area for three decades and counting, Helen isn't ready to let her mobility issues stop her from living her life. The new ramp will help her continue to be active outside of the home, as well as enjoy the Armstrong family home of over a half-century even longer.

"We sorely need this access as we age in the fourth quarter of our lives and ailments are springing up," commented Armstrong. The ramp was built entirely with volunteer labor, donated materials, and other costs that were covered by HBA members and HBA Cares. Armstrong gave special thanks to Larry Gilland (owner) and Dawn Streb (project architect) at LGA Studios, and Lain Chappell's crew at Solid Rock Custom Homes, for designing and building the ramp in a manner that preserves the look and feel of his unique home, which was designed in 1957 by Frank Lloyd Wright's granddaughter, Elizabeth Wright Ingraham.





"HBA Cares is honored to be a part of this project in helping to make a positive impact to the Armstrongs' quality of life," said Mike DeGrant, President. "It's always gratifying to be involved in projects that help out people in our community, but this story has an extra special ending to it," he added.

Though its name has changed over the years, the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs' commitment to building community through its membership and philanthropy remains the same. From praising local heroes to helping neighbors stay in their homes through their golden years, the HBA is proud to be part of the stories that come full circle in such a positive way.

DeGrant echoed that sentiment. "HBA Cares is fortunate to be associated with the numerous members of the HBA who never fail to step up with their time and talents to give back to our community on projects that make a difference in people's lives," he remarked.

The following companies and organizations helped make this project possible:

American Institute of Building Design  
BMC  
Budco Electric  
City of Manitou Springs  
Colorado Springs Utilities  
Groninger Concrete  
Kanzler Foundations Inc.  
K-Rand Painting  
LGA Studios  
HBA Cares

Pedersen Construction  
Pikes Peak Regional Building Department  
Pro-Build Lumber  
Pro-Ex Contractors  
Pryor Floor  
RMG Engineering  
Sherwin Williams  
Solid Rock Custom Homes  
Timbers Diversified  
Transit Mix Concrete

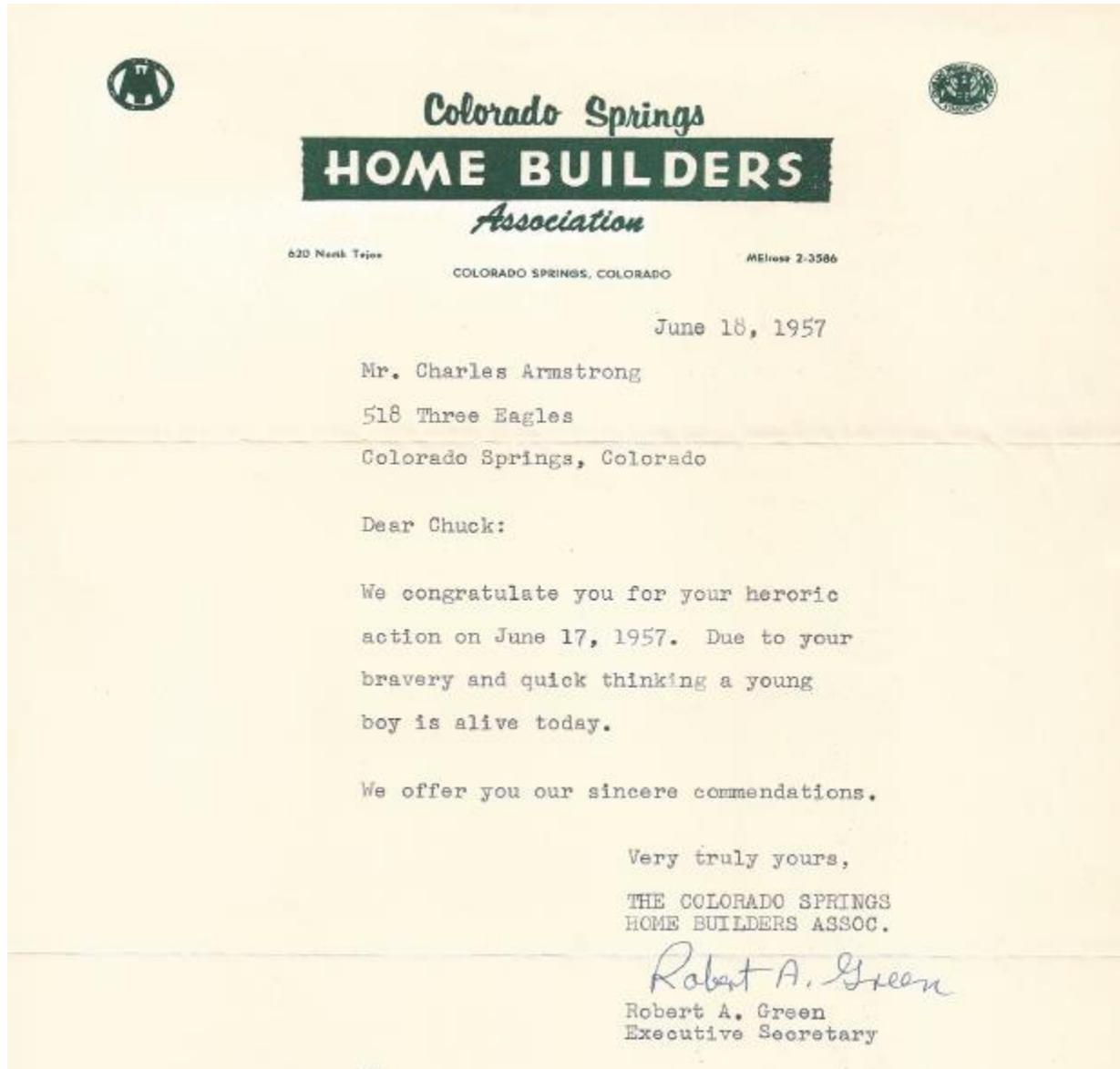


*HBA Cares President, Mike DeGrant (bottom right), and members of the project team came together on March 24 to celebrate the new ramp built for Chuck and Helen Armstrong (top center). Photo: Amy Cox  
More photos available at [hbcacares.org](http://hbcacares.org).*





Below: The letter that Chuck Armstrong received from the Home Builders Association in 1957.



#### About HBA Cares

HBA Cares, Inc. is a non-profit organization that connects needs within the community to the skills and abilities of the local housing and building industry. Through projects such as the John Zay Guest House, Mountain Shadows Park & Pavilion, and the Griffith Center for Children, the organization provides support to individuals and families in the Pikes Peak Region. Learn more at [hbacares.org](http://hbacares.org).





### About the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs

The Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs is a member trade association made up of companies that include not only builders, developers, and remodelers, but also trade contractors, materials suppliers, mortgage lenders, Realtors, title companies, interior designers, architects, landscapers and more. Our members play a vital role in building community through their economic and philanthropic contributions within the local construction industry. CSHBA is committed to promoting policies that allow for the production of safe and affordable housing and to enhancing the environment for the housing and building industry in Colorado Springs and all of El Paso County. Learn more at [cshba.com](http://cshba.com).

