

Heather 'n Von[®]

February, 2021

Vol. 34, No. 12

The Official Newsmagazine for HG
www.heathergardens.org

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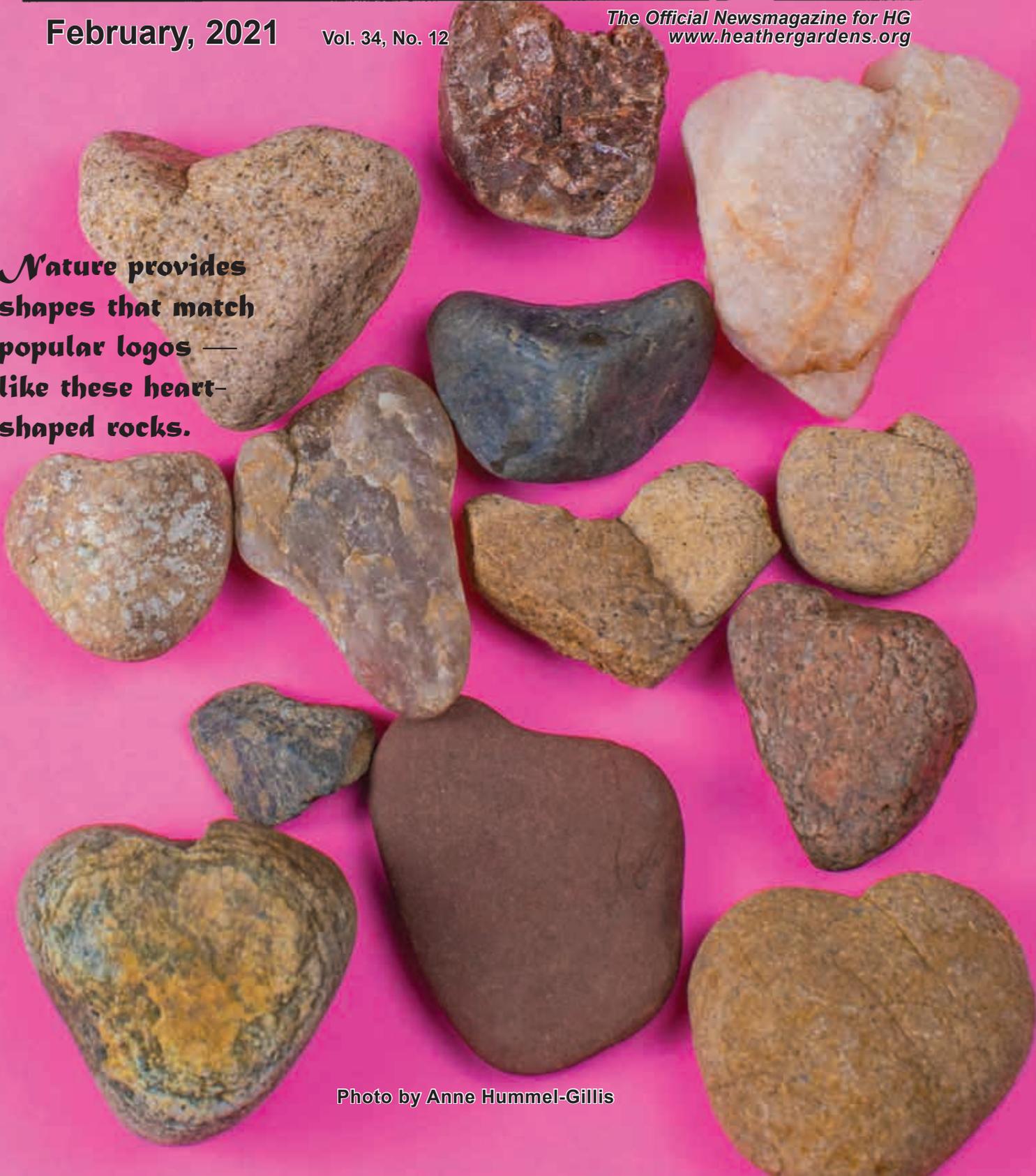


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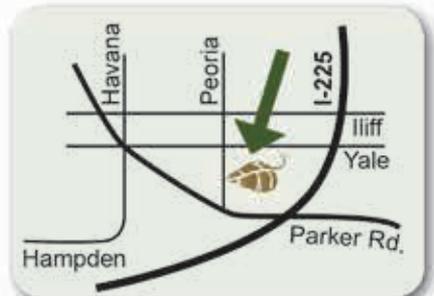
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Heather 'n Yon™ is published monthly for the residents of HG

Trademark Owner: HG Association
 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way
 Aurora, CO 80014 [303/755-0652]

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TO HG RESIDENTS:

It is the intent of the Editors to provide information of interest to its readers, to afford persons with varying and differing views opportunity to air responsible opinions on matters of community interest and to promote community and enjoyable life pursuits.

Heather 'n Yon welcomes letters and other articles concerned with community issues. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's address and phone number. Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.

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Director resigns at special meeting, call for applicants to fill vacancy

The HGMD Board of Directors held a special meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 12, via Zoom, with three directors present: President David Funk, Mike George and Rita Effler. HGMD Attorney Jennifer Ivey also attended.

Funk announced that Effler had called the meeting. "Bylaws call for me to preside," he said. "In my opinion, this topic could have been handled at the regular meeting," which was nine days away. "The topic is not an emergency."

Effler asked that Funk form a special committee to examine the issue of whether HGA and its employees were the best management company to run HG's restaurant, which is owned by HGMD.

Effler had included Profit/Loss data for the Clubhouse, Golf Course and Restaurant from 2015–2020. All three had losses, but the budget for each year anticipated that performance. The losses are covered by the subsidy provided by HG residents in the line item, "Recreation Fee," on their monthly dues. Also in the board packet was a draft "Request for Proposal" that Effler had drafted to solicit a contractor "to manage and operate the food, beverage, banquet, and catering for the Heather Gardens."

"I think we at least need to go back to an outside manager for the restaurant," she said. "We have not been well served."

Since HGMD must give a six-month notice to terminate its management agreement with HGA, Effler asked the committee be formed as soon as possible.

"I'm trying to get something started, to get something done by June." She added she had been asking for such a step since June 2020, but nothing had happened.

Funk showed no inclination to form such a committee, but remarked that Effler was free to make a motion to that effect. Effler moved that the president appoint a special committee to look into the issue.

Ivey suggested the motion include who would chair the committee, how many members, and the duration of its existence.

"I think it is a board action to appoint a special committee, not the president's," she remarked.

Effler's motion died for a lack of second. She stated, "I joined this board, thinking I could make a difference. I can't, so I resign."

Ivey rejoined, "I would suggest you think about that. If not, please submit [your resignation] in writing."

•••

The HGMD Board of Directors convened its regular meeting on Jan. 21, with four directors present. Funk

announced there was an opening on the board, stating, "You don't have to be of a like mind, just have a like purpose." He added that some HGMD committees also have openings for members.

The board approved installing a new 500-gallon above-ground fuel tank at the Maintenance Building, at a cost not to exceed \$59,053. The split tank would hold 350 gallons of gasoline and 150 gallons of diesel fuel. Funk, who chairs the Property Policy Committee, noted the tank would occupy the same footprint as the old diesel tank.

Treasurer Bill Archambault had no financial report, because the HG Accounting Department is behind, due to turnover in that department over the past two years, he said. Controller Jonathan Rapacki joined Archambault in a discussion about the desirability of doing a more extensive audit this year, which Rapacki called "a more in-depth checkup."

Archambault noted a formal request would be needed, to extend the funding authority over 2020 funds for projects that did not finish in 2020, or were started in 2021. Due to the governmental status of HGMD, he explained, "all funds (not expended) die at the end of 2020."

The board approved its annual administrative resolution. Funk remarked the resolution outlines, "our requirements as a board, and how we will met those requirements."

Ivey flagged two changes to the resolution, compared to earlier years. The differences, she said, encompass authorizing electronic records and signatures on documents, and authorizing virtual meetings for the year ahead. With many metropolitan districts quarantined by COVID-19, this accommodation to administrative activities was needed.

Tom Reeber, B204, asked the board for an exception to its rule against feeding wildlife on HGMD property. Reeber has been trying to organize a bird-watching facility at HG, saying that bird watching is the most popular activity in the U.S., particularly among older Americans.

Reeber proposed a 60-day trial at two selected sites, with a small number of bird feeders and other paraphernalia financed by a few enthusiasts — no cost to HG. Volunteers would be responsible for its upkeep, and the sites would function as a community amenity, open to everyone. It would be shut down promptly, or at the end of 60 days, if any problems arise — such as the seed scraps attracting rodents.

Ivey was asked to weigh in. She replied that she was

See HGMD...page 15

Director advocated outsourcing restaurant

Fuel tank

Trial for 2 bird feeders proposed

Extra! Extra! Information for you –

Parking structure vote delay

In mid-November the HGA Board approved and funded a contract with Walker Consultants for development of detailed design documents for repairing the parking structures. Walker staff immediately began a detailed structural engineering review (including computer analysis) of the original parking structure design. They determined that the steel reinforcement of the upper level of the structures was inadequate to handle the weight of the proposed 3-inch repair topping.

Carbon fiber fabric reinforcement of the underside of the upper level will be needed. The topping will need to be increased to 5-inches to accommodate heavier steel (rebar) reinforcement.

Those changes, in turn, brought into question whether the footings for the columns supporting the upper level could handle the additional weight. An extensive study of the soil under and around the footings was needed. That study, and subsequent analysis of data obtained, will delay developing detailed design documents by about a month.

That means that reliable cost estimates of repairs will be delayed about a month. The board will not ask HG Association members (owners) to approve funding for the repairs until those reliable cost estimates are available. We now anticipate mailing ballots some time during March.

There has been some criticism of the board for not

trying to obtain three bids for developing the repair designs. Before the contract with Walker Consultants was issued, a review of companies with expertise in large parking structure repair was undertaken. The board wanted a company with offices in the Denver area, even if their headquarters were located elsewhere. Walker Consultants is a U.S. company with world-wide operations and a substantial Denver office. No other company with similar qualifications could be identified. We obtained references that previous Walker clients were uniformly satisfied with their services.

Our contract with Walker requires them to develop detailed design documents (blueprints and specifications) for the needed repairs. They will then use those design documents to solicit bids from contractors for the actual repairs. They will help screen the bids and recommend a contractor for the HGA Board to consider.

After a contractor is selected and work commences, Walker will monitor the work, assess requests for specification changes, and review contractor invoices to ensure the work was done correctly before payment is made. This is similar to the role played by the architect during the construction of the Clubhouse. It also puts the responsibility to advise the board in the hands of experts who know the job requirements.

– Allen Lindeman
HGA Board Secretary

Vaccine providers for people 70 and older

Many hospital systems in Colorado are now working to schedule vaccine appointments with Coloradans age 70 and over, who are eligible to get vaccinated as part of phase 1B — and many more are working to come online. In some cases, hospitals will reach out to their patients. In other cases, patients of these hospitals may sign up to be contacted about scheduling a vaccination.

The rate at which hospitals are able to vaccinate Coloradans age 70+ depends on the federal supply of vaccine. Because Colorado is trying to move as fast as it can, information will be provided as soon as it's publicly available. Be aware that it will evolve, change, and grow over time.

The following list details how patients of these providers can sign up to be notified when a vaccine becomes available. <https://covid19.colorado.gov/for-coloradans/vaccine/where-can-i-get-vaccinated#top>

Arapahoe County

Centura Health

If you are a Centura Health patient, you will receive an invitation when it is your time to receive the vaccine through MyCenturaHealth, their patient portal. These in-

vitations will be sent based on the state tiering system, starting with patients age 70 and over. An appointment is required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Use their vaccine notification sign-up form to receive additional information and instructions about the vaccine through email and/or text message. Coloradans can take action now by establishing care with a Centura Health Physician Group primary care provider in their area.

Kaiser Permanente

For Kaiser Permanente members 70+ (and others in eligible 1A and 1B categories) visit Kaiser Permanente's vaccine webpage to complete the "COVID-19 vaccine sign up." Upon providing your information to them, you will be placed on a first-come, first-served wait list for the vaccine based on your eligibility.

HealthONE

At this point, HealthONE hospitals (The Medical Center of Aurora, North Suburban Medical Center, Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center, Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children, Rose Medical Center, Sky Ridge

See *Vaccine Providers...*page 10

Board applicants sought, Rea named interim general manager

The HGA Board of Directors held a special meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020, with seven directors attending via Zoom. Mel Rawles and Dave Archer did not attend.

Director Al Lindeman updated directors and residents about “a new set of issues” he said the board is confronting regarding repairs to the community’s four parking structures (PS). Lindeman told the board that Walker Consultants expressed concern that the existing steel structures would not support the additional weight of adding 5 inches of topping that was planned to reinforce the PS concrete and replace post-tension cables. The results of soil testing will help determine whether the existing column footings need to be strengthened.

The board approved authorizing the general manager to sign a contract for soil analysis with Caesar Incorporated Technical Engineers, in an amount not to exceed (nte) \$39,000. Lindeman commented that firm numbers on the total project cost could not be achieved until 75 percent design drawings for the project were completed.

The board also approved the request from the title company for a resolution to sell a CP4 unit and execute proper documents.

The board endorsed an addendum to the agreement with Starry Internet, aimed at protecting HG and its residents from any actions by Starry or its electrical contractor. The language is the same as that in the contract with Comcast, covering its subcontractors.

•••

The Jan. 19, 2021 regular meeting of the HGA Board convened, via Zoom, with eight new and continuing board directors present. An additional 42 residents or management staff were participating. President Jill Bacon announced that Pat Spratt had resigned, saying she had been unaware of how time-consuming a board position was when she applied.

Bacon announced that applications would be accepted for the vacant position, whose term will last through December 2021. The deadline to submit an application is noon, Friday, Feb. 12.

When asked, Election Committee Chair Mark Nading said the ballots from the November HGA election had not yet been counted. Due to the COVID-19 quarantine last November and that there were exactly the number of candidates needed to fill all open positions, the ballots have been secured until it is safe to gather the Election Committee members. This year, the ballot asked residents to vote on how long a term to give each candidate — 3 years, 2 years or 1 year. Nading expected to have the ballots tabulated by the first week in February, he said.

Bacon announced that Operations Manager Jon Rea will serve as HG’s interim general manager, replacing General Manager Calvin White, who has accepted a position in Illinois, and plans to leave in February. A nationwide search will be launched for a replacement. Rea is likely to serve as interim GM for 4–6 months, or longer.

A search committee/screening group will be formed, comprised of a subset of HGA directors and HGMD directors with a few residents, Bacon continued. The full HGA Board will make the final selection of the successful candidate.

In response to about 30 letters sent to board directors when the GM White’s departure was announced via Pitera, Bacon had included a discussion about hiring a property management company as an alternative to advertising and hiring a new general manager.

Bacon noted, “Board members have evaluated having a management company run HG for two decades, and has decided it was not a good idea.”

“Does anyone want to make a motion on studying property-manager companies?” she asked. No director made the motion.

The 2021 chairs of HGA committees had assumed their positions prior to the meeting, but were announced by President Bacon.

Architectural Control: Mark Nading will continue

SEC: Bev Havens will continue

Budget & Finance: Treasurer Terry Hostetler

Civic Affairs/Communications (Public Relations):

David Baxter and Larry Dávila, co-chairs

Maintenance (merges Structure Maintenance, Roads & Grounds, and Long Range Planning):

Mike Pula and Al Lindeman, co-chairs

– Campus Technology remains a subcommittee under the Maintenance Committee.

After a discussion about whether the motion was being made too early, the board approved a mail-ballot vote of HGA members on a Declaration amendment and financial plan for financing repairs of Parking Structures (PS) with one director, Mark Nading, voting “no.” The amendment will be required because the site map will be changed when the PS are repaired.

Lindeman commented the motion was “to let the public know we will be proceeding with a vote, when we get our ducks in a row. The motion doesn’t commit the board to anything,” adding the approval would give the board the authority to submit the revised survey to the city.

White commented that, the last time HG conducted a mail-ballot election, it cost about \$10,000. Costs of the PS-repair project could not be estimated until 75 percent design drawings for the project were completed.

Residents will be given the details on costs and how the board proposes to do the repairs to the Parking Structures when the ballots are mailed. This approval simply prepares the proper sequencing of actions without delay.

Bacon announced the second newly built CP4 patio home was under contract (cash offer). Sale of the first one (cash offer) was expected to close in February, and the second one in March or later.

Parking Structures

See HGA...page 10

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Vaccine providers...from page 6

Medical Center, Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital and Swedish Medical Center) only have enough vaccine for their colleagues, physicians and their staff members, and other providers in the community. They are currently providing first and second dose vaccinations to those groups with the limited number of resources they've received.

HealthONE will begin contacting patients age 70 and older. These communications will be consistent with the state of Colorado tiering system and based upon vaccine availability. Because of the limited supply of vaccines, we are asking that individuals wait to be contacted by us rather than come to our facilities looking to be vaccinated without an appointment. Please check HealthONE's website for updated details.

UC Health Vaccine Plan

Vaccines have arrived and we are implementing the distribution plan in coordination with the State.

– If you have a My Health Connection account, you are added to the vaccine list and will automatically receive updates (via email and in the app) regarding the vaccine.

– If you do not have a My Health Connection account or are new to UHealth, create a My Health Connection account to be placed on our list to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it is available for your phase, according to the state's plan.

In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to keep our patients and staff safe, visitors are allowed under limited conditions. Before visiting a UHealth facility, please be sure to read our visitor policy. www.uhealth.org

An appointment is required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

UHealth is currently focusing efforts on vaccinating people ages 70+

The first FDA-authorized vaccines for COVID-19 are now being administered. Clinical trials have shown the vaccines may be 94 to 95 percent effective after the second dose in preventing COVID-19 for those who have been vaccinated. Given this, UHealth experts recommend that everyone get a COVID-19 vaccine when it is available to you.

All COVID-19 vaccinations must follow the distribution guidelines from the state of Colorado. At this time, there is not enough of the COVID-19 vaccine to offer it to

everyone. As UHealth receives shipments of the vaccine, we are providing it as quickly as possible according to the state's plan.

How to get on our COVID-19 vaccine list

UHealth is using My Health Connection, our online patient portal, to provide vaccine updates to patients.

If you have a My Health Connection account, you are added to the vaccine list and will automatically receive updates (by email and in the app) regarding the vaccine. If you do not have a My Health Connection account or are new to UHealth, create a My Health Connection account to be placed on our list to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it is available for your phase, according to the state's plan.

Community providers:

- Affiliated with UHealth: Please contact your account manager.
- Not affiliated with UHealth: Contact your local public health agency.

VA: Eastern Colorado Health Care System

We've worked with the CDC and other federal partners to develop a phased plan. Our goal is to do the most good for the most people during this time.

Under this plan, we're now offering vaccines to these 2 groups:

- Veterans living in our long-term care facilities, and
- VA health care personnel. Vaccinating our VA health care personnel helps us continue providing care for Veterans.

We based this plan on these criteria from CDC guidelines:

- Risk of becoming infected with the virus
- Risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19
- Risk of spreading the virus to others
- Risk of harm to society if essential workers, including health care personnel, are unable to work

After these first 2 groups, we'll begin to offer vaccines to more Veterans who are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

If you're eligible to get a vaccine, your VA health care team will contact you. You don't need to reserve a vaccine, or come to a VA facility to request or receive a vaccine until we contact you. Our staff will only provide vaccines to Veterans who are currently eligible for one based on VA and CDC risk criteria.

www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/

HGA...from page 7

Following the regular meeting, the board adjourned into executive session to discuss a covenant violation, personnel issues, and to discuss PS issues with HGA's attorney.

Other actions by the board:

...approved purchasing a 2020 Dodge truck from Christopher Dodge (nfe \$40,000), to replace a 2011 model truck. The purchase, a 2020 budget item, is \$10,000 under budget.

...added Vice President Dávila, Treasurer Hostetler, and Rea as authorized signers on checks for the Key Bank account. They removed White, and outgoing directors John Coil and Susan Lambert, as signers. Bacon continues as an authorized signer on the account.

...HG is attempting to establish a COVID-19 vaccination clinic at HG through University of Colorado Health; however, residents are urged to take advantage of earlier opportunities to get the vaccine through their health provider.



HGA Board President Reports

By Jill Bacon

We have made it through the first month of the New year. This year, once again we are met with many challenges and new experiences here at Heather Gardens. Just before Christmas, Calvin told me of his resignation. He has a wonderful opportunity to move on in his career and to move closer to his family who are in Vermont. That is a great step for him, and an even bigger step for the Board of Directors and residents of Heather Gardens. With that being said, we have asked our Operations Manager, Jon Rae, to step in as Interim General Manager.

Jon was hired a year ago partly for just such an eventuality. He has been working closely with Calvin all year, so that should something happen, he could pick up the reins and Heather Gardens will continue to move forward.

We, as a board, as well as staff, ask for your assistance with the many projects that are facing us. We will

begin the search for a new General Manager, which will take around four to six months to complete. We will conduct a nationwide search as well as seek assistance from several recruiters.

We also have the parking structure project, which everyone should be aware of by now, due to the many meetings, articles in Heather & Yon, and much website information that has been made available to everyone.

Now that Jon Rae is moving into the temporary position, it means that there will be many smaller issues that will arise as these two major projects are worked on. In addition to all of the issues that the board deals with day to day, we, along with Management and employees are requesting assistance from each one of you.

That assistance is to: Be aware of the “learning curve” that comes with change. We are asking that everyone be as patient as possible with the changes that are taking place. We will be moving forward, perhaps a bit slower at times, and at times in a “different” way than has happened in the past, but moving forward nonetheless.

We can do this. I have great faith in the residents here. After all we have made it this far through a Pandemic. Now we are going through some internal changes.

I thank all of you in advance for working with us to best serve each one of you every day of 2021, and hoping for a much better year than the last one.



HGMD Board President Reports

By David Funk

2020 is over. I stayed up late on Dec. 31; not to celebrate the arrival of 2021 so much, but to make sure 2020 left. Thinking that significant changes will occur merely by turning the calendar page is folly. The changes that a New Year confidently brings are the anticipation of the New Year itself and that the New Year will bring many new challenges.

2020 brought challenges most of us did not anticipate. Even if some people anticipated the pandemic — the extent and intensity were and are unprecedented. A good Marine will tell you that, when confronted with such circumstances, the response must be to “improvise, adapt and overcome” the obstacles that are presented in the situation.

Managing our community’s response to COVID-19 became the foremost effort of management, staff and the leadership of both boards. One of the goals of the Heather Gardens Metropolitan District (HGMD) for 2020 was

to partner eagerly with the Heather Gardens Association (HGA) to improve communication between the leadership and members of the two boards to benefit the community as a whole. Interestingly, the challenges of COVID-19 and the technologies and strategies applied to handle the issues helped to improve our professional relationship.

During the year, the usual business of the boards continued. Security enhancement efforts were initiated for the RV storage lot after an unwelcome break-in. While these enhancements are still in progress, it will include surveillance cameras, perimeter sensors and a new lot alignment for safer parking of the stored RVs.

The parking area at 13692 E. Marina Drive was improved with new markings and rules for use when needed for onsite staging of materials for future large projects.

The long awaited pedestrian cross-walk from the Clubhouse parking lot to the Maintenance Building on South Heather Gardens Way was suddenly completed by the City of Aurora after months of delay.

The old, and no longer approved, underground gasoline storage tank was suc-

See HGMD President...page 27

IN MEMORIAM

- Bob Avis (214)
- Wayne Brogden (213)
- Mary Cox (former CP2)
- Jan Flint (CP2)
- Dottie Gravning (220)
- Carol Harkins (204)
- Barbara Lesar (210)
- Grace Morris (220)
- Jewell Spears (218)



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Publisher's Corner

COVID-19 vaccines; theater trivia

by Lynn Donaldson, Editor of Heather 'n Yon

Probably the best news that some HG residents had this month was to be scheduled for the coronavirus vaccine. My husband had his first shot on Jan. 10 through the Veterans Administration (Pfizer-BioNtech). Friends in HG got their first shot the following week through the University of Colorado Health Connection.

These appointments were made via phone calls (VA) or email (UCHealth). While I have heard of others who signed up with multiple providers (to increase their opportunities to get on a short list), you should not just go to a hospital or health care facility. For more information on providers to residents in Arapahoe county, see the story, "Vaccine Providers," on page 6 of this magazine.

...

On a lighter note, I think I have mentioned before that one of the things I have missed the most is going to the theater. Here are some amusing comments by patrons that were overheard at the theater. See if you know these shows without my notes.

"I hope no one else dies now' from a very shocked lady on my row after the first character died in *Les Mis*." {A side story in *Les Misérables* is a failed uprising in France after General Lamarque dies 1832. Revolutions are usually marked by many deaths.}

"Heard in the interval of a *Wicked* performance — an elderly chap complaining that he kept getting the two leading ladies confused..." {*Wicked* has two leads: In the land of Oz, before Dorothy, there is a girl with emerald-green skin and a blond who become friends before they become the witches of the "Wizard of Oz."}

"When we went to see *Jesus Christ Superstar*, during the interval the ladies behind us said 'I wonder when they'll sing about his coat of many colours... I love that one'."

"At Jennifer DiNoia's last show in *Wicked* in London, she runs on stage, audience erupts in cheering,

guy behind me says, 'oh she must be quite popular' ... Oblivious."

"As we exited the theatre where *Evita* had been playing an American approached an usher and asked 'so IS *Evita* dead?'" {Eva Peron, second wife of Argentine President Juan Perón, died in 1952, age 33.}

"My favourite I heard was 'what time does the 7.30 pm show start?'"

"A few too many children in this show, they should get more experienced actors.' Production was *Annie*." {Musical was based on *Little Orphan Annie* comic strip.}

"Scar was backing Simba up on Pride Rock, menacingly, with the band getting louder and louder... tension builds... Scar gets more fierce and just before the band stops, Scar shouts: 'TELL THEM WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MUFASA'S DEATH!!'. Brief pause, then a little London kid shouts: 'YOU DUN IT!!' A slight bowing of heads from the cast, along with shoulder shakes, trying desperately not to laugh." {*Lion King*}

"Took my son to see *Jesus Christ Superstar* and he looked at me horrified when the woman next to him shouted really loudly 'Oh My God, they've crucified him?!' Not sure what she was expecting."

Please chaps, keep them coming. We all need a pick-me-up. (www.whatsonstage.com)

...

BBC Radio 2 has launched a fun search for the nation's favorite musical song. Spearheaded by theatre icon Elaine Paige, the radio station is inviting listeners to vote from a shortlist (chosen by a judging panel).

Paige said: "Like me, millions of Radio 2's listeners are huge fans of musicals — whether on stage or screen ... I can't wait to play the Top 20 on my show, Elaine Paige On Sunday, in January!" (Jan. 29)

Here's the list of candidate songs. For many of us, this is a lifetime of musical theater memories. The oldest shows were launched in the 1930s (*Girl Crazy*). *Hamilton* was

first presented in 2015; *Dear Evan Hansen* in 2016.

Which song would you vote for? Maybe an easier question is — how many of these shows have you seen? (Of the 50 songs listed, and noting that some shows have two songs listed, I have seen 37 of the shows. What great memories!)

"Alexander Hamilton" — *Hamilton*

"All That Jazz" — *Chicago*

"America" — *West Side Story*

"And I Am Telling You" — *Dreamgirls*

"As If We Never Said Goodbye" — *Sunset Boulevard*

"As Long As He Needs Me" — *Oliver!*

"Beauty And The Beast" — *Beauty And The Beast*

"Being Alive" — *Company*

"Bring Him Home" — *Les Misérables*

"Cabaret" — *Cabaret*

"Circle Of Life" — *The Lion King*

"Defying Gravity" — *Wicked*

"Don't Cry For Me Argentina" — *Evita*

"Don't Rain On My Parade" — *Funny Girl*

"Electricity" — *Billy Elliot The Musical*

"Everything's Coming Up Roses" — *Gypsy*

"Food, Glorious Food" — *Oliver!*

"Friend Like Me" — *Aladdin*

"Gethsemane" — *Jesus Christ Superstar*

"I Am What I Am" — *La Cage Aux Folles*

"I Could Have Danced All Night" — *My Fair Lady*

"I Don't Know How To Love Him" — *Jesus Christ Superstar*

"I Got Rhythm" — *Girl Crazy / An American in Paris/ Crazy for You*

"I Know Him So Well" — *Chess*

"If I Loved You" — *Carousel*

"I'm Here" — *The Color Purple*

"Let it Go" — *Frozen*

"Losing My Mind" — *Follies*

"Luck Be A Lady" — *Guys and Dolls*

"Maria" — *West Side Story*

"Maybe This Time" — *Cabaret*

"Memory" — *Cats*

"Not While I'm Around" — *Sweeney Todd*

"One Day More" — *Les Misérables*

"Over The Rainbow" — *The Wizard Of Oz*

"Seasons Of Love" — *Rent*

See Donaldson...page 26



Management

A final column as General Manager: Farewell

By Calvin White
General Manager

As most of you probably know by now, after long and careful consideration I will be leaving Heather Gardens (HG) in a few short weeks. When I began this journey more than 10 years ago, I did not foresee the day I would be writing this article — but here we are. Although I am looking forward to the next chapter of my life, it is with a heavy heart that I extend my best wishes to all in the Heather Gardens community.

I feel that the community has accomplished so much in what now seems like a short period of time. HG is an amazing community. The residents, staff, and facilities

create a lifestyle that can only be experienced here.

The new Clubhouse, the improved capital funding plan, and the sustained attention to maintaining a property over 40 years old have been trademarks of the last 10 plus years.

Before my departure I want to convey my appreciation to the greatest residents and the finest colleagues. I could not possibly name everyone individually who has made my experience with HG so amazing.

Over the years, the board directors, committee members, volunteers, and all the residents have made this a special experience for me. I will leave with many fond memories.

And lastly, but not least by any means, is the staff. My co-workers have been the real heroes in maintaining and improving the property. Their dedication and devotion to the community are incomparable. Please continue to give them your thanks and support as they do care deeply for Heather Gardens.

Thank you again for allowing me to be a part of the wonderful HG family.

Meet & Greet with General Manager Calvin White:

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 8–9:30 am, Zoom Meeting — Join Calvin White for a roundtable discussion on a variety of topics. This is your opportunity to ask your burning questions.

HGMD ...from page 5

herself a bird watcher. She mentioned a slippery-slope possibility, should HGMD sanction this specific exception to the no-feeding-wildlife rule.

Funk asked the board if anyone wanted to make a motion approving the 60-day trial of the activity and/or the rule exception. No one did.

General Manager Calvin White announced that COVID-19 restrictions were starting to ease further.

Management hopes to reopen the restaurant to indoor dining in March. They also are trying to restart patio dining, weather permitting.

In response to a question from John Recob, B236, Funk said the board has traditionally not made board packets available to the public prior to a meeting — as HGA does — but that was likely to change in the future.

Following its regular meeting, the board adjourned into executive session, for private discussions with the attorney.

Buckley AFB Military Retiree Activity Office

The Buckley AFB military Retiree Activities Office (RAO) exists to provide support to over 28,000 military retirees, and spouses or widows of military retirees, in northern Colorado. We provide support to military retirees from all Services, not just the Air Force. RAO staff can help retirees/surviving spouses with questions and/or problems they have related to their military service and/or military related benefits. They typically assist with issues such as DEERS/ID cards, casualty assistance, Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), TRICARE/Medicare, the Veterans Administration (VA), retired pay, military records, wills, powers of attorney, prescriptions, base services, etc. While the main customer base is military retirees, we are also happy to assist any veterans with less than 20 years of service who have issues related to their military service time and/or military related benefits.

We publish a “newsletter” each month which typically has information on various Buckley AFB facilities, articles on subjects of potential interest to military retirees, etc.

We post this to our website and notify retirees on our e-mail distribution list when it is available. You can see the latest newsletter on our website (link below):

<https://www.buckley.spaceforce.mil/Units/Retiree-Activities-Office/>

The RAO on Buckley AFB is in Building 606, Room 104. It is completely staffed by volunteers, mostly military retirees themselves. Because we are staffed by volunteers, there is not someone in our office during all regular working hours Monday–Friday. In general, there is someone there during some part of the day on weekdays. You can reach us by calling our office, 720-847-6693. If no one answers, please leave a voicemail. Someone will return your call, usually within 24–48 hours. If anyone is interested in volunteering in the RAO, they can contact us for further information on what is involved.

– Lt. Col. Steve Young
USAF, Ret
Director, Buckley AFB RAO



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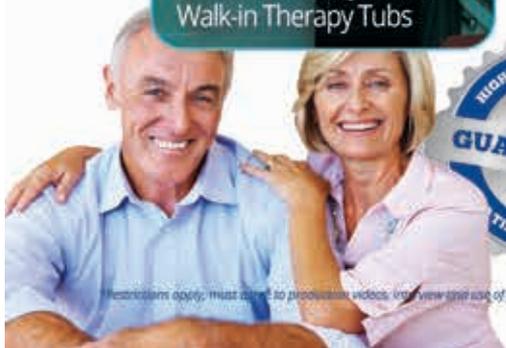
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A year like no other

Unlike some prominent event, many of us cannot relate to a specific date that stands out in 2020. Yet, we will never forget the whole year.

The COVID-19 pandemic brought a way of living that few expected. Those of us still living probably became mentally stronger than we thought possible. However, many of us lost some loved ones or friends for whom we did not expect that 2020 would be their last year.

Other virus victims pulled through, but are still trying to gain back all their strength and energy.

The first part of March 2020 changed my life when it was determined that the United States had a pandemic. It was running full speed ahead. Warnings were issued by government agencies and public health organizations to take precautions.

My Heather Gardens community got serious about protecting residents. They shut down everything on March 15. Residents began a long survival lifestyle. Does that sound familiar?

Since I am in the high-risk category, I stayed at home. I wore my mask when I left my unit. I stayed at a distance from others. I did my best to protect others as well as myself.

I ordered my groceries and anything else I needed. My children brought things to me while we all wore masks and stayed our distance — no hugs or touching. The *Denver Post* left the newspaper down in the lobby. My good neighbor brought my paper to my door for me.

In the summer, I did meet with four friends, but out at the picnic table by the tennis court and pool on the Seville grounds. I brought my walker,

so I could sit at a distance and not cause us to crowd together.

I had no one except my children in my unit. Nor was I invited into someone else's unit. I think everyone in my building took serious precautions. I have yet to see anyone without a mask — except once when a couple forgot theirs and pulled their shirts collars up over their mouths!

On Easter, Mother's Day, all family birthdays, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, I celebrated alone. My family "gathering," including grandchildren, was on the computer with Zoom. At least it was nice to "see" the family and visit. In the fall, I also finished my novel about WW1, titled *The Last War*, and published it mid-September. Then I tried to stay busy one way or the other.

All of 2020 has captured our memory in its own way, but I won't forget this year, especially my class reunion. By mid-October, things perked up for me with planning, calls, and many emails. A classmate and I started the ball rolling for our 65th high school virtual class reunion (Cathedral High School in Rapid City, South Dakota). We had planned to meet in person last fall, but COVID-19 changed everything.

Not accepting defeat, we decided to use Zoom for our celebration — a virtual gathering on our computers. Then on Dec. 12 and 13, my classmates and I met on Zoom each day for two to three hours. It was a big success. At least 13 were able to join that anniversary reunion each day.

About 10 classmates have disappeared. (Nobody knew how to contact them.) We had hoped a few others would join us, but they were not familiar with computer programs,

or did not want to try something new.

They missed out because our two-day reunion on Zoom gave us a feeling we were "home" and together once again. We 80-some-year-olds had fun telling stories about our childhood days, teenage "coming of age" experiences, our lives as we moved on through the years, our children and grandchildren, and much more.

I wrote and compiled a book about our reunion. Each classmate will receive their copy soon. I tell about our big 1955 year, the times, and historical facts. I included old and newer pictures including 80 regular-sized photos and 45–50 miniatures. The book also remembered those who we know have passed away. My classmates and I had a special virtual reunion that helped brighten the year. Now we can remember that 2020 was not all bad!

The COVID-19 pandemic taught me many things. One was that I can survive without the life I want, but with the life of necessity. Also, I can do what is necessary to help others, not just myself, to survive this virus.

I quickly learned to wear a mask, stay at least six-feet distant from others, and to not gather in groups. 2020 was a learning period, a waiting period, a sad or anxious period, and a thankful period of staying in good health. It still is. I will make it through 2021 with these lessons.

I pray that all others who have survived this pandemic are thinking of their own 2020 and how they survived. Write it down. It is history! You made it through.

— Joanne Brand
B233

HG Clubhouse On-line Reservation System

CourtReserve, an online reservation system was started on Jan. 18. Residents could make your reservations online to any Clubhouse amenity from this system: swimming pool, tennis courts or fitness room.

<https://app.courtreserve.com/online/portal/index/6763>

Once you create an account, using your name, password, and email or phone number, you will receive a welcome email. Reservations for the week of Feb. 1 will open the week before, Jan. 25. In this way, you do not have to leave a message to the Clubhouse, or dial multiple times to make reservations.

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ACTIVE- Somerset A Golf Course View \$277,900
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Coming Soon- Somerset A Gorgeous Mt Views
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U/C- Atrium M Rare 1 Bedroom \$195,000
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Sold- Atrium K Golf Course Views \$259,900
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U/C- 52 Showings- 9 Contracts \$426,000
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SOLD- Somerset A Mountain Views \$270,000
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SOLD- Somerset A Glass Enclosed Lanai \$269,900
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Zebulon Pike: Soldier, explorer, spy

In August 1814, the first steamboat to arrive in St. Louis came chuffing up the Mississippi river. Named the "Pike," it heralded a new era in transportation and profoundly affected the fame and fortune of St. Louis. It would be interesting to know how many St. Louisans, watching from the bluff that day, could reflect upon the man for whom the boat was named.

Who was Pike? At the time, most Americans could draw a rough map of the route that the Lewis and Clark Expedition had taken a few years before to the Northwest United States. They probably could name one or two of the men accompanying the group. By contrast, few historians, if challenged, could name a single individual who accompanied Zebulon Pike on any of his journeys.

The only remembrance we have of Pike is a mountain in Colorado which bears his name. Whether he ever saw it, or climbed it, remains a mystery to most Americans.

Pike was born in 1779 into a military family. His father was an officer in George Washington's army, engaged in fighting the British for American independence. The elder Pike continued to serve in the military after the war, bringing his family to live in Cincinnati, Ohio, while serving with "Mad Anthony Wayne."

Young Pike entered his father's regiment as a cadet after limited education. He and his family moved further west to Illinois. Turning 20, Pike was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the 1st Infantry Regiment, stationed in western Pennsylvania. A zealous and efficient soldier, Zebulon maintained strict discipline with other officers. He liked outdoor sports, had great physical endurance and was a crack shot. These traits were likely a result of his childhood on the frontier.

One of his early duties along the Ohio frontier was as regimental paymaster.

During that time, he became familiar with General John Brown of Kentucky, his paternal uncle and his family. Zebulon and his first cousin Clarissa ignored the objections by both families — they eloped. The couple moved to Fort Vincennes (lat-

er renamed Fort Knox), Kentucky.

A year later, in 1803, Pike moved to a new post at Kaskaskia, Illinois. While there, Merriweather Lewis came through with his keelboat, recruiting several men from Pike's regiment to go on the westward journey.

The turning point of Pike's very ordinary career came when he became the protégé of James Wilkinson, the Senior Officer of the U.S. Army when John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were presidents. Wilkinson was a spy for Spain, having been paid by Spain for mostly inconsequential information!

When the Louisiana Purchase was made with France (1803) in New Orleans, Wilkinson and Governor William Claiborne officially took possession. Attendees at the transfer were treated to lavish gifts at government expense. For resumption of a pension from Spain, Wilkinson kept Spain apprised of the Lewis and Clark expedition and other expansion plans.

In the summer of 1805, Wilkinson ordered Pike to reconnoiter the upper Mississippi River. The assignment would prove difficult from the start. Far to the west, the Lewis and Clark expedition was well under way. They had knowledge, experience, men and equipment. Pike had none of these.

Pike was to map and chart the land, barter with the Indians for land on which to build forts and strike deals to bring back a few important chiefs. He was to determine the headwaters of the Mississippi River. Ill prepared, ill equipped, and inexperienced in dealing with all the assignments, winter came early. The party was hit with a terrific early winter storm.

His men had little to eat, no winter clothing and suffered serious frostbite. Had it not been for the aid of a few widely scattered British forts, where they were given help, the men could have died. The forts were technically on American soil — Pike told them so — but it made little difference to the British. The Indians in the north Louisiana territory had good relations with the British, in contrast with the Americans. This Indian loyalty to the British created trouble for

several years to come between all three groups.

When the complicated journey ended, Pike returned to St. Louis in April 1806. The results were "disappointingly meager." Pike had failed. Maps were drawn poorly. A small bit of land had been secured for forts. And, to beat all, the source he claimed as the headwaters of the Mississippi was not accurate.

Pike hoped to have some time off to recover from his travels. But Wilkinson had other plans. He ordered another mission with a questionable itinerary.

This second journey had many objectives in the Southwestern Louisiana territory. He was to escort several Indians who had been held as hostages back to their people, negotiate a peace settlement between the Kansas and Pawnee tribes, make contact with the Comanche and explore the headwaters of the Arkansas River. He was to then find the source of the Red River, following it to the Mississippi. His real mission was to be a spy!

The expedition was set up without the knowledge of either President Jefferson or the War Department. It was approved retroactively. Tensions were high at this time with Spain. What Wilkinson was actually planning has never been clear. Pike was ordered to gain intelligence information on Spain using Army officers in disguise as traders.

It has never been determined whether this traitorous movement was designed to separate the western territories from the Union, or a plot to conquer Texas.

Either way, Pike needed information on the Spanish military who were jealously holding on to their land. Now that France was no longer in the territory, Americans were flooding into the eastern borders of the Spanish held territory like rats!

Pike set out in July 1806. Again, his men were badly prepared for what awaited them.

Heading out west, Pike led his men across the plains of what is now Kansas. He described the area as "a hunters paradise" — thick with game.

See Pike...page 26

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The Month (January)

On Dec. 29, HG sent an email blast to the community, reporting that General Manager Calvin White is leaving HG. White's last day with HG will be Feb. 12. White relocated to Denver from Vermont, 10 years ago, to accept the GM position with HG. The December email noted that White is returning eastward to Illinois for a new career opportunity.

...

The Clubhouse is gradually reopening areas and services for use, with daily hours extended to 6 pm. Coffee, copying and computer availability have resumed.

The pool, fitness center and woodshop reopened for use by appointment only. For ease of appointment making, HG has launched an online reservation service, in which residents are encouraged to enroll. Create an account by going to <https://app.courtreserve.com/online/portal/index/6763>.

...

Starry Internet completed much of its work during January, to offer Internet services within HG. Implementation of Phase 1 of the equipment installation on HG property is a precursor to offering lower cost Internet to the community at large.

At the Jan. 19 meeting of the HGA Board, Linda Savage, B243, asked if Starry had signed an indemnity agreement, noting that she had to do so on two occasions when renovating her unit. White responded that in-

demnification was part of the contract signed with Starry, but it might not cover individual owner issues. It covers HG property.

Savage expressed dismay because one installation of a "sled" with equipment was directly above her bed. She wondered if it couldn't be moved to the hallway.

White tasked Operations Manager Jon Rea to ask Starry about changing the location about eight feet.

...

At the same Jan. 19 meeting, CP1 AR Steve Everitt asked White if the "mess" in front of CP1, left by Comcast, couldn't be cleaned up prior to the announced March 1 date?

White responded, "We can't touch their stuff," noting that Comcast has been granted an easement.

...

Area Representative Organization (ARO) President Betty Bergeron told the HGA Board that she plans to keep ARO meetings to one hour, followed by a Q&A session. The organization will hold an in-person training meeting for new ARs or Assistant ARs on Thursday, Feb. 11, in the Clubhouse. Further details to be announced.

...

Byron Macdonald, B232, was elected the new President of Seville Recreation Association. bmacdonald606@gmail.com

...

Celebrate with us! Owner Mark Nading
HG Resident, HGA Board Member



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That Was...

United States deaths in past/current conflicts or pandemics, compared to COVID-19 (as of Jan. 20, 2021).

No. Died	Year	Event	Source
404,898	2020-21	COVID-19	Johns Hopkins U.
675,000	1918	H1N1 virus	<i>cdc.gov</i>
~655,000	1865	Civil War	<i>wikipedia.org</i>
117,466	1918	WW1	<i>wikipedia.org</i>
419,400	1945	WW2	<i>wikipedia.org</i>
58,209	1975	Vietnam	<i>wikipedia.org</i>

{Editor's note: Wikipedia does break out the number of combat deaths and deaths from "other" causes for each war. However, these numbers represent the total deaths during the conflict.}

...

Coloradans voted in record numbers last November. Based on numbers on Nov. 4: 3,303,265 ballots were returned out of 3,780,115 active voters. Turnout was 87 percent.

- 1,246,120 Unaffiliated
- 997,835 Democrats
- 928,993 Republicans

This put Unaffiliated voters at 39 percent of the vote, increasing from 32 percent in 2016.

David Flaherty, CEO Magellan Strategies, a voter opinion polling firm, said, "That is stunning. That is such a high participation rate and it's unprecedented. At the same time, Republican voting strength has declined significantly."

The other surprising trend in turnout was that young voters surpassed senior voters. Voters 18–35 cast 27 percent of the ballots; voters 65 and older was 23 percent in 2020. (*cpr.org*)

...

On schedule and without incident, despite warnings that another violent protest could happen on Jan. 20 (similar to the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol), a new administration was inaugurated in Washington, D.C.: President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. and Vice President Kamala Harris. The inauguration did not have the cheering throngs of people typical of previous inaugurations because of the coronavirus pandemic and enhanced security. There were no Inaugural Balls, but a virtual musical program, called "Celebrating America" entertained TV audiences.

Subscriptions: To accommodate owners, who wish to receive *Heather 'n Yon* while away, the publisher has a subscription policy. Provide a forwarding address, plus a check for \$3 (payable to *Heather 'n Yon*) for each issue desired. Annual subscription is \$36. You may drop off your check with address information and what month the subscription should start at the HG Management Office. Alternatively, mail to *Heather 'n Yon*, c/o Lynn Donaldson, 13731 East Hamilton Dr, Aurora, CO 80014. Past issues (2008–20) are available on www.heathergardens.org/Resource.Center.



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Dog owners don't get a reprieve in cold weather — walks are necessary!

Clockwise, from right: Samson and Delilah with Rita and Ray Crompton, B208; Cici is carried by Rick Rosen, CP1; Bear is carried by Mark Keast, B250; Whiz with Bob Rubinson, B201; Reggie with John Bender, B250; and Baily with Mike Boyd, CP2



Photos by Anne Hummel-Gillis, who walks Puppy (page 3)



Left: Charlie with Selby Myers, B204
 Above: Rufus with Matthew Netzger, B250
 Right: Angel and Ajeeth Komar, B220



When this photo feature was first discussed, it was thought that the dogs would be sporting winter sweaters or other wraps. Instead, as these photos show, the owners had more interesting outdoor clothing.

Below: Meggie (aka Nutmeg) with Karen Beddia, B204



Right: Max with Colleen Patton, CP3

Left: Gracie with Brandy and Mike Steffens, CP2

Below: Tucker with Mike Miller, B213



Photos by Anne Hummel-Gillis

Right: Jackson with Jim Sparks, B250

Left: Lucy with Ginny Anthony, B204



Above: Otto with Carolyn Bolden, NTH

Right: Kaize with Louise Bodnar, B203



Above: Duchess and Chelsea keep Inez Galloway, B203, alert!

Pike...from page 19

On the Republican River, he noticed a Spanish flag at a Pawnee village. Having the flag replaced with the Stars and Stripes, he had no concern that the mission might be compromised. In fact, the Spanish were intensely looking for him and his men.

Pike headed his men west up the Arkansas River at the end of October! In mid-November, Pike had the sense to realize he was not equipped for a winter campaign. Reaching today's Pueblo, Colorado, he was smitten by a mountain farther west. He and three men set out to explore it. When they reached the top of a nearby mountain, he declared that the distant mountain, "I believe no human being could have ascended to its pinnacle (sic)."

He never climbed what is known today as Pike's Peak, nor did he name it. The name came later in 1818 when a medical doctor on Pike's expedition, named Robinson, used the name.

With winter surrounding them and totally lost, Pike's expedition thought the river that they were following was the Red River. (It was the Arkansas.) Realizing they had gone in a circle, Pike's men faced grim conditions. Feet were freezing, socks were down to nothing and food was minimal. Nine of the 14 men suffered frostbitten feet and were left behind.

Pike continued on, dealing with cold, hungry and unhappy men. Finally, by February 1807, what was left of the party came onto the Great Sand Dunes and another river that they thought was the Red River. It was of not.

The men built a small stockade there. Dr. Robinson was dispatched to Santa Fe to contact Spanish Governor Alencaster, telling him that he had run away from the par-

ty and hoping the Governor would send troops to find Pike. When the Spanish found Pike and his men, he pretended that he had no idea where he was.

Taken by the Spanish troops, they were treated well and moved south through modern New Mexico. Eventually in Chihuahua, Mexico, Pike and his men could freely move about as guests. During this time, Pike made notes, observed villages, troop numbers and forts. Pike's notes were reviewed by authorities, but the Spanish did not want to cause trouble with the Americans.

After being interrogated, the party was escorted east through Texas. Pike was told he could not take notes since it was so close to the United States. He continued to take notes, rolling the papers up and putting them in gun barrels.

After finally reaching the U.S. on July 1, 1807, serious political troubles developed between Spain and the U.S. Political upheaval in Spain developed, in part, due to Governor Alencaster allowing Pike to see what he did, make notes and travel through New Mexico and Mexico. He was reprimanded by the Spanish king for releasing Pike before an apology for trespassing was received from the U.S. government.

On his return, Pike was met by his wife. They traveled to New York. He was not received with a glowing welcome in Washington by President Jefferson. Pike was judged to be a competent military man but not an explorer/scientist on the level of Lewis and Clark.

Congress did not reward Pike or his men. They did not get extra pay or grants of land for their service (as Lewis and Clark's men did.) Pike even tried billing the government for extra pay as a surveyor with no success.

The Pike expedition ultimately ended relations with New Spain. Other expeditions were planned, but canceled by Congress, either intentionally or not, forgetting to appropriate funding.

Pike returned to the routine duties of a career officer in the U.S. Army. He wrote a book about his travels that was a biased compilation of what he had seen and how he felt about the West. He hoped his poor description of the west would discourage any movement in that direction.

Pike's chance for personal glory came when war was declared on Great Britain in 1812. Promoted to brigadier general in 1813 and given immediate command of troops to assault York (today's Toronto) in Canada, he ferried 1,700 men across Lake Ontario and prepared to attack the 800-man garrison. The British commander, Major General Sheaffe, had constructed a huge concealed explosive mine. He hoped to lure the incoming troops off the beach and onto the mine before it went off. Unfortunately, it was set off prematurely, killing 42 British soldiers, 52 American soldiers and Pike. Payback came a year later when British troops burned both the White House and the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Pike was remembered for a period of time, but fame is fleeting. He should be remembered as a frontier patriot, an army brat, a determined military commander, an outdoors man, a leader of men, a mediocre explorer, and a daring, observant spy for the United States.

– Denise McCammon
B242



Groundhog Day
Tuesday, Feb. 2

Donaldson...from page 14

"Send In The Clowns" – *A Little Night Music*

"Shallow" – *A Star is Born*

"She Used To Be Mine" – *Waitress*

"Singin' In The Rain" – *Singin' In The Rain*

"Sit Down You're Rockin' The Boat" – *Guy and Dolls*

"Somewhere" – *West Side Story*

"Summertime" – *Porgy and Bess*

"The Impossible Dream" – *Man Of La Mancha*

"The Room Where It Happens" – *Hamilton*

"This is Me" – *The Greatest Showman*

"Waving through a Window" – *Dear Evan Hansen*

"What I Did For Love" – *A Chorus Line*

"You Can't Stop The Beat" – *Hairspray*

"You Will Be Found" – *Dear Evan Hansen*

{Note: *A Star is Born* and *The Greatest Showman* were movies only, never a musical play.}

HGMD President...from page 11

cessfully removed and disposed of. The parking lot was repaired. A new, safe, updated tank will be installed above ground, which will serve both gasoline and diesel fuel needs for HGMD and HGA vehicles and equipment.

A community-wide survey on the Rendezvous Restaurant was completed that gathered information regarding a myriad of topics. Many hours of work by various committee and community members produced a preliminary plan with an extraordinary financial planning tool that will serve as a touchstone for a re-imagined Rendezvous Restaurant. Many decisions remain. But discussions, which began in earnest in January 2020, continue on how best to change Rendezvous for the better.

The Management Agreement is the negotiated accord that governs the restaurant management. Sessions to plan and develop strategies for potential amendments to the Management Agreement will soon be underway.

The Management Agreement has existed for many years, but was most recently renegotiated in August 2018. It is important to understand several key elements of the Agreement:

1. The existing Agreement is in effect through this calendar year (2021).
2. Neither party (HGA nor HGMD) may unilaterally abandon the Agreement without specific written notice.
3. The Agreement provides a number of remedies for disagreements arising from the execution of the Agreement;
 - a) amendments as may from time to time be negotiated, and
 - b) a specific dispute resolution process.
4. Some sort of Management Agreement must exist to define the relationship of the two entities.

These and other considerations in the Agreement require that careful timing and planning be utilized to effectively negotiate important changes to the agreement. It is not simply a case of saying "this is how we want to do things now;" the negotiation of change requires positive, constructive collaboration. It depends on preparation, information sharing, bargaining and executing the agreed upon changes.

In the instance of HG, that means at least 14 people (board directors), and perhaps others such as attorneys, consultants, or even affected staff, must concur with any proposed changes. There is structure and process for how negotiations should occur. This important work will continue into the 2021 New Year.

When the COVID-19 restrictions required closing the restaurant, construction to replace the HVAC system continued. The new system will include improved air handling and an air purification system, using Ultraviolet-C (UVC) light and designed to help eliminate bacteria, viruses and molds in the processed air.

The Clubhouse was closed and opened with varying restrictions numerous times during the waves of COVID-19 in the spring and in the fall. New reservation procedures and rules ensured that members of the community can be safe when using the facility. Many of these had to be adjusted throughout the year. Gathering sizes were coordinated carefully, considering the Governor's directives and those of the public health departments.

The Golf Course was the star attraction during the 2020 pandemic season. Record attendance demonstrated that this outdoor activity could maintain social distance between participants. The "COVID friendly" Golf Course provided golfers a change of pace and something exciting to do during quarantine.

Our caring community continued to donate and provide memorial gifts to the Foundation. The Foundation responded by planting memorial trees and recognizing the community efforts of the "Mask Warriors" by helping to install a memorial bench to be done this spring.

The 2021 New Year began with even more change to HG. HGA and HGMD learned that General Manager Calvin White was leaving HG to follow new professional opportunities. I wish him well and will miss working with him daily.

In the next episode of "adapt and overcome," HGA has invited the HGMD to participate in the selection process for the new General Manager. I wish to thank Jill Bacon, President of HGA, for inviting our involvement. I would also like to thank the many community members who shared their ideas and suggestions about how this process should go forward.

Some residents requested that outside, commercial management firms be considered. Others emphatically stated that the internal management approach was why they chose to live in HG. Still others suggested various combinations of these two options.

It might surprise you to learn that the Management Agreement requires that HGA employ an "Association Manager" and shall require the Association Manager to "responsively and responsibly serve the District." I look forward to this important undertaking.

Change is important. If we embrace change, we may find that our situation does not have to last forever. We will progress on to something bigger and better. If we reject or resist change, we may find that experiences and opportunities will likely pass us by.

The hallmark of 2020 was the emerging cooperation between HGMD and HGA. The aspiration for 2021 is to build an exceptional partnership between the boards that can serve to make HG more than a great place to live.

– David L. Funk, President
Heather Gardens Metropolitan District
david.funk@heathergardensmail.com



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Limited activities have resumed, requiring reservations.
Where the schedule and venue for an activity are known, it is shown here.

Mon 1	Bayer Ear Clinic (every Monday, by appointment)	Arts & Crafts Room	9 am–noon
Tue 2	Pickleball (every Tuesday) Ping Pong (every Tuesday)	Tennis Courts Game Room	11 am–2 pm 2–3 pm
Wed 3	Meet and Greet with General Manager Calvin White CP1 Happy Hour	Zoom Zoom	8–9:30 am 4 pm
Thu 4	Pickleball (every Thursday) Ping Pong (every Thursday)	Tennis Courts Game Room	11 am–2 pm 2–3 pm
Fri 5	HG Indivisible	Zoom	1–2 pm
Sat 6	Pickleball (every Saturday) Ping Pong (every Saturday)	Tennis Courts Game Room	11 am–2 pm 2–3 pm
Sun 7	HG Chapel (by reservation, every Sunday) HG Chapel (by reservation, every Sunday)	Sandberg Auditorium Sandberg Auditorium	9 am 11 am
Wed 10	Clubhouse Event: History of Skiing	Zoom	2 pm
Thu 11	ARO Orientation Meeting	TBD	TBD
Fri 12	Green Team Birding Nature Club	Virtual meeting Zoom	noon 1 pm
Mon 15	President's Day Holiday — Management Offices closed HG Photo Club	Zoom	3:15 pm
Wed 17	Clubhouse Event: Data Breaches, ID Theft, and You Resident Open Forum CP1 Happy Hour	Zoom Zoom meeting Zoom	2 pm 3 pm 4 pm
Thu 18	Clubhouse Event: Rare Paper Money	Zoom	2 pm
Fri 19	HG Indivisible	Zoom	1–2 pm
Mon 22	Low Vision Support Group	Conference Call	1:30–2:30 pm
Tue 23	HG Republican Club HG Democratic Club	Zoom meeting Zoom meeting	1:30 pm 4–5 pm
Wed 24	Resident Orientation	Zoom meeting	10 a

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On Christmas eve, Rendezvous Manager Cormac Ronan got into the spirit of the season for residents who picked up their carryout dinner for Christmas. As Santa Claus, Ronan handed the packaged meals to residents in their cars. (Was the beard positioned to substitute as a mask?)

Also available at the contact-less pickup was single serving bottles of wine (\$5 each), or larger bottles if you wanted Ronan's recommendation for a wine pairing to your meal.



On New Year's Eve (not photographed), patrons could select from different sizes of champagne. Each dinner included beads, a horn and a colorful headpiece or hat.

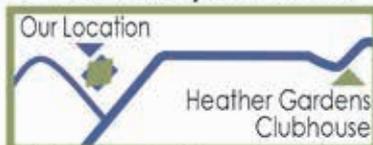
Rendezvous had a virtual New Year's eve toast by the staff at the fireplace in the Clubhouse. Customers could join the festivities by Zoom.

Photos by Janis Farrell

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Bible Study (women), call Carolyn Morris, 303-885-7807, B217/103.

Catholic Mass - You need to sign-up for Saturday and Sunday public Masses. If you have not contacted the parish office to be scheduled for a Mass, please do so. It is very important for you to understand that we cannot allow "drop-ins" at limited attendance public Masses. We continue to provide livestream daily Mass, Monday through Friday at 9 am, and on Saturday, 5 pm. Here's the livestream link: <https://tinyurl.com/ycaog7o3>.

Chapel (Interdenominational Church Service) - 9 am and 11 am, Sunday, Sandberg Auditorium. Reverend Bill Cheyne. Masks must be worn at all times. Attendance is limited to 50 people per worship service, 9 am and 11 am. Front doors will open 25 minutes before each service. Temperature checks will be taken. Social distancing will be enforced. Reservations can be made by calling Jane King, 720-535-7238, for the 9 am service and Beverly Nelson, 303-750-6632 for the 11 am service.

Heather 'n Yon Deadline - 2/16

• Monthly Meetings • Boards and Committees

Listed meetings will be via Zoom
until further notice

- SEC – 1 pm Mon, Feb. 1
- Commun/Civic Affairs – 10 am Tue, Feb. 2
- Personnel Policy – 10 am Fri, Feb. 5
- Campus Tech – 9:30 am Tue, Feb. 9 (TBD)
- ~~— Golf – 1 pm Tue, Feb. 9 —~~
- ~~— Clubhouse/Restaurant – 3 pm Tue, Feb. 9 —~~
- ~~— Foundation – 1 pm Wed, Feb. 10 —~~
- Budget & Finance – 10 am Tue, Feb. 16
- HGA Board – 1 pm Tue, Feb. 16**
- Resident Open Forum – 3 pm Wed, Feb. 17
- HGMD Board – 1 pm Thu, Feb. 18**
- ACC – 3 pm Thu, Feb. 18
- Maintenance – 10 am Tue, Feb. 23
- Resident Orientation – 10 am Wed, Feb. 24

Canceled
Canceled
Canceled

FYI

St Michael's Catholic Mass

St Michael's Catholic Mass will not be resuming Saturday mass at HG until May of 2021. Residents will be notified when they begin.

HG Chapel

Sunday services are in-person and on Zoom. Please send an email to Carolyn Morris at motoringmorris@gmail.com with your name and telephone number requesting Zoom links.

AAA Magazine Photo Contest

AAA Colorado accepts photography of Colorado destinations from AAA Colorado members only. No professionals please. *Encompass* magazine selects two winners per edition. Each winner receives a \$60 check. Entries are accepted online at AAA.com/photocontest or by email at photocontest@colorado.aaa.com. Images must be in a *.jpg or *.tif format and at least 300 dpi. Only high-resolution images are eligible to win. AAA Colorado will hold seasonal images for consideration in seasonally appropriate future editions. AAA Colorado reserves the right not to select any photo for any reason, without notification. AAA Colorado reserves the right to use all entries in its marketing materials (in print, online and social media) without compensation.

Denver Architecture Foundation

For history buffs, you can elevate your next downtown amble by tuning in to one of two audio tours (available online). You'll learn stories and secrets about the Mile High City's most iconic structures, such as the Ellie Caulkins Opera House and the Colorado State Capitol. Free. denverarchitecture.org.

CherryArts Shop

Don't wait for the Cherry Creek Arts Festival: CherryArts Shop is a virtual platform that sells works from the annual event's bench of creatives, such as Lindsay Locateli, a jewelry maker in Longmont. Her work starts at \$113. Also available are artist tours and websites. Enjoy browsing... cherryartshop.org

62 Annual Colorado Garden & Home Show

This year's event will be held virtually, Feb. 13–21. Get ideas, inspiration and advice for your home from more than 400 companies participating in the Virtual Show. Research, compare, and choose from thousands of products and services, and take advantage of show-only specials right from the comfort and safety of your own home. Denver. 303-932-8100, coloradogardenfoundation.org.

Scam Risks for Seniors

5280 Magazine interviewed Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser in its November 2020 issue. One question asked, "Everyone is susceptible to fraud, but are there people who are particularly exposed?"

Weiser said, "There are so many traps out there. Everyone can fall into one, but the elderly are especially vulnerable. About six times a year, I do presentations in conjunction with AARP for its ElderWatch program. People of my generation and older are trained to answer the phone. It rings, you answer. Millennials let everything go to voicemail — it's annoying but smart. The fewer interactions you have with unknown sources, the better. And during the pandemic, scammers have been preying on all of our vulnerabilities. Scammers use fear and panic to their advantage in selling things like ineffective COVID-19 antibody tests."

Weiser goes on to advocate "constant vigilance."

1) "When you open an email — constant vigilance."

2) "When you answer the phone — constant vigilance."

See FYI...page 42

Letters

Heather 'n Yon

Heather Gardens Optimist has been making face masks and pillowcases to give to local nonprofit agencies since September 2019. This December we provided 200 handmade masks and 12 pillowcases to Children Hospital.

We also delivered 50 masks and 50 pillowcases to Ready to Work. We have five people who enjoy volunteering to do the sewing.

We are interested in adding more people who want to volunteer. What is needed: fabric to sew. If you have any fabric and/or used bed sheets to donate, please call Karen Thomas, 303-819-4907.

**Darlene Park
B218**

Heather 'n Yon

{Editor's Note: This letter was sent to HG Clubhouse Manager Linda Aluise, then copied to Heather 'n Yon.}

Recently, I received a call from a former Denver City Council colleague and Windsor Gardens resident, Kathi Anderson, asking me whether Heather Gardens had any plans to expedite COVID-19 vaccinations for its residents now that at-risk persons 70+ have been added to the Phase 1-B eligibility list. I told Kathi I hadn't heard anything about that here but would check with the HGA administration, thus this email.

Given that both Heather Gardens (HG) and Windsor Gardens (WG) have at-risk populations and have Clubhouse facilities with accessibility, along with its resident communications capabilities, both HG and WG are in unique positions to expedite the COVID-19 vaccinations to the combined populations of 7,100 seniors (3,500 in HG, 3,600 in WG).

I believe that both Aurora and Denver officials, Tri-County Health

Department, and the Governor's Office would be supportive of this cooperative effort. There is an urgent need to get shots-in-arms to senior populations asap.

I'm hoping HG management and board directors are already considering such a collective and coordinated effort that could literally save lives and prevent needless deaths. If not, I hope that you will agree to give it your immediate attention and consideration. My wife Kathi and neighbors Eloise and Harry have urged me to send this suggestion.

**Dave Walstrom
B209**

Heather 'n Yon

I resigned from the HGMD Board on Jan. 12 because I believe I can be more effective serving this community by not serving on this board.

I spent five years attending committee meetings of both boards and the monthly board meetings. I also served on committees. I was prepared and ready to serve.

Heather Gardens Association (HGA) was formed as a management company — headed by nine volunteers. HGMD hired HGA to manage its recreational facilities: a restaurant, Clubhouse, Golf Course, a large maintenance facility, RV storage lot and small park areas.

HGA hired a general manager who hires all staff and manages all departments and employees of HGA. The general manager oversees all cost centers and staff for HGMD. Each entity assesses the owners in the association and the voters of the metropolitan district. HGMD IS managed by a management company.

The restaurant and Golf Course lose more every year. The budget given management has increased every year. It is exceeded, substantially, every year.

There is an answer — a way to fix this — that will allow each board to serve their constituents responsi-

bly. Co-operation and transparency should assure members of the association and of the district, who are almost the same, that they are benefiting.

The HGMD Board should control their own checkbook! HGMD can decide whether to run, and staff, the restaurant, Golf Course and Clubhouse. Or it can contract out any, all, or none of these facilities.

HGMD has minimal payables. One administrator and one bookkeeper can handle it. A Clubhouse receptionist can handle calls to the district. The district is a separate entity. It should have its own website with a link to the Heather Gardens Association website.

Management companies do work for profit. Tell me there isn't profit in the \$1,100,000 current administration budget for a professional management company using their own employees?

I have time for pickleball again.

**Rita Effler
B232**

Heather 'n Yon

The Special HGMD Board Meeting Jan. 12 was all too familiar. HG boards' obstruct discussion when a director questions HG's finances. Director Effler requested an agenda item concerning the management agreement repeatedly from President David Funk. She was ignored.

She called the meeting attended by Funk and Director Michael George to move that HGMD study options for restaurant management. Neither director chose to second. The motion failed.

Rita was chair of the Restaurant and Audit Committees. The restaurant loss had decreased to \$53,084 in 2017. Since then, the restaurant deficit has increased to \$176,424 in 2019! Rita was unable to get financial information to determine the cause. Her committee was tasked with cre-

See Letters...page 33

Heather 'n Yon welcomes letters concerned with community issues. Letters must be signed, dated and include the writer's address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarity. The HGA Board requires that letters do not exceed 300 words. Letters will not be run from the same individual in successive months. Writers may publish only 4 letters per year, but not in consecutive months.

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Letters *...from page 31*

ating a business plan, but she was summarily removed for speaking with employees.

Do residents know that directors of either board can't speak with employees or the board attorneys? No director can ever verify what the general manager or board president has told them.

The boards are responsible for the operation and oversight of each entity. They cannot perform this function if they only hear what the GM chooses to tell them. We have no checks and balances!

Directors receive financial summaries, not accounting system reports. Last week, a well-respected management company said the salary for a GM of an HOA our size should be between \$90,000–120,000.

Good directors have resigned because information is hidden, and procedures circumvented. Even the audit committee never sees a bank statement. We have zero transparency. Our director's code of conduct needs to be rewritten. Directors should be able to tell the residents what is going on in our community.

Our employee turnover epidemic means we don't have experienced, professionals to step in. I believe that it is the boards' fiduciary duty to investigate all options to replace the GM, including a property management company.

**Daniel Taylor
B217**

Heather 'n Yon

Were you one of the 50 plus people who attended the Jan. 12 HGMD special meeting?

Former Director Effler had been unsuccessful in getting options for running the restaurant on the regular HGMD agenda for quite some time. Being ignored, she called said special meeting, as per statute, after asking the President David Funk to do it. He was unresponsive to her request.

First, President Funk spoke, chastising her for calling the meeting

and wasting everyone's time. Director Effler, although ambushed, remained professional throughout his harangue.

Remember the restaurant survey that HG residents did? Many people wrote that we should explore an outside vendor. Prior to our current GM taking the restaurant in-house, it was a concession. A sister community, Windsor Gardens, recently contracted with Nonna's Bistro as their concessionaire. Our restaurant subsidy has tripled, except for the short time Kevin Olson managed the restaurant. You may recall the nasty way he was let go.

Director Effler presented a professional Request for Proposal as an example for the search for a concessionaire. Two of the directors "couldn't make it" to the meeting, so her motion to look at options could not get a second in support. The motion was not considered further. Many of the folks attending wanted to speak, but did not realize that Mr. Funk's announcement of open forum was the same as public comments. The meeting was adjourned.

Being between general managers, now is the ideal time to explore other ways of doing things. My guess is that both HGA and HGMD will ignore requests from the residents to do so. Some things never change.

**Deb Smith
CP2**

Heather 'n Yon

With the recent announcement of the General Manager's resignation, I believe it is time to explore the possibility of retaining a Property Management (PM) company to see if they could serve our community more effectively.

Everyone has an opinion about companies; however, I would ask the HGA Board to put aside personal opinions and look at this from a community standpoint. I believe if we had the expertise of a PM company, the B217 situation would have been resolved more efficiently and quickly. Perhaps a PM company would have demanded more oversight of Comcast's subcontractor.

With a PM company, we would not have such a high turnover of employees.

Regarding the recent "repairs" of Parking Structure 2: the crew only worked four days a week. It appears it wasn't done well since there are now tarps covering up the areas "repaired" so the residents' cars aren't damaged. The stairwell was removed last spring. It has yet to be replaced.

Now residents are being asked to approve a 12–14 million dollar project based on ONE bid. Our community needs someone with expertise to obtain and fully evaluate three bids, as required, and hire appropriately.

I think we're all appreciative of the HGA board for their time and service, but we have unique issues that we now have to pay for with an attorney and consultant fees. Perhaps that money could be saved.

We have nothing to lose by requesting proposals from several management companies — possibly a great deal to gain. I urge the board to approve this action. Allow residents to be involved in this process. Please let your board directors know if you would like them to explore this option.

**Karen Buss
B206**

Heather 'n Yon

A nasty letter was sent to one of our party's officers. I want that coward (only cowards do that kind of thing) to know that you seem insecure to me. You were clever to use the Club's banner to get the recipient to open the letter. The vulgar language was unnecessary.

If you are sure of your views, you don't need to hide behind the cloak of anonymity. Openly declare your point of view. Have the courage to face someone, then talk openly.

Note that I have signed this letter. I challenge you to meet me face-to-face in the Clubhouse to discuss. The letter recipient can be there as well.

**Dick Laslo
B213**

Clubs and Organizations

In January, the Clubhouse announced it was continuing to reopen slowly. Coffee, copying and computer access resumed. Clubhouse hours were extended to 6 pm. The Rendezvous Restaurant continues to offer pick-up service.

Please contact your club representative directly to learn about alternate plans to gather, such as in Zoom meetings.

Joppa Daylight Lodge AF & AM

All Master Masons living in HG are invited to attend Joppa Daylight Lodge. We meet the first and third Tuesdays of the month at Radiant Temple, 225 Acoma St., Denver. Lunch is at 11:30 am; Lodge is at 12:15 pm.

We are the only lodge that meets during the day in the Denver metro area. For information, call Bill Rapp, 303-953-1021.

The NoteAbles Mixed Chorus

For some people, music can be a passion. It's a burning desire to play an instrument of choice or sing the latest ballad, as the lyrics tell a story in song. Even humming a tune as you walk the perimeter of HG represents that irresistible pull music has on your heartstrings. It's a blessing that music, a fulfilling activity, can last a lifetime.

The enthusiastic participation of HG residents in the Karaoke Club is an example of the desire to sing our favorite tunes. The NoteAbles support the activity. We don't compete. We compliment.

The "sequester" has put the NoteAbles into a holding pattern until the Clubhouse opens for normal use. The desire to sing together once again remains a priority. We invite you to join us in our passion of singing good music on Thursdays at 3 pm, when the class and activities schedules begin once again.

CP1

In January, CP1 launched Zoom happy hours. The virtual get-togethers were at 4 pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Some snowbirds from Arizona were able to attend the online CP1 gathering.

OPOCS Singles Club

Do you need to meet new friends and find new activities? Call JoAnn Cunningham, HG resident, 303-751-5195, and ask to receive the monthly newsletter of A Circle of Friends, the original Ports of Call Singles (OPOCS) club, 60+.

Our meet-and-greet social time is at Senior Ric's, 4–6 pm, second Monday, and at Darcy's, fourth Thursday of the month, 4–6 pm. We also have coffee time at Panera's (Aurora), 9–11 am, on the third Monday.

We also have social card groups twice a month: pinochle, bridge and poker. (If you want to learn, we can provide instructors.) Our social director does a great job of finding fun things to do. She is glad to hear suggestions.

Dues are \$30 yearly, and you can attend three events, if you wish, before joining. Believe me: seniors can have fun, too! – JoAnn Cunningham

TOPS

Are you ready to stop dieting and start making real changes? TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) can help you reach your weight-loss goals by providing the tools, information, and support to be successful.

TOPS has been a winning formula for members over the last 60+ years. TOPS is also the least expensive weight-loss group around. When you join TOPS, you will have fun with other members while you learn how to Take Off Pounds Sensibly.

The HG TOPS Club meets 8:30–9:30 am every Thursday, Blue Spruce Room. Both men and women are welcome. Come in around 8:15, so we can say "hi!" For information, contact Bernie Radakovits, 720-397-1388, or visit www.TOPS.org.

HG Breakfast Optimist Club

This club is a service organization that has been part of HG since 1978. The focus of the group is to make a difference in the lives of youth in the local community.

Our current projects include 6th Avenue Elementary School, Pillowcases for Kids, the Salvation Army, Optimist International Oratorical

Contest, and Type 1 Diabetes camp. If interested in more information, contact Nikki Tennant, tennantnikki@yahoo.com.

HG Writers Club

Whether you're just beginning to put pen to paper or you are a published author, we invite you to join us for a time of education, fellowship and inspiration. New members are always welcome.

We meet 1–4 pm every Thursday in a Clubhouse room. Contact Joanne Brand, 303-750-9722, for further information. We look forward to meeting you.

CP4

In-person socials have been postponed during this Pandemic. We may consider Zoom meetings. Please check your emails and the Bulletin Board for any updates. Keep safe and wear your mask. – AR Beverly Nelson

Kiwanis Club of Aurora

Kids Need Kiwanis, and Kiwanis Needs You. The Kiwanis Club of Aurora is part of a community-based international service organization whose main focus is making the lives of children in Aurora better.

We have meetings on the first and third Thursday of the month, 6 pm, in the Skyview Room. The fourth Thursday is a service project.

For more information, email us at Kiwanis.auroraco@gmail.com, or call James Martin, president, 720-297-3282. We also are on the web: Aurora-co.kiwanisone.org. Membership is open to all HG and Aurora residents.

American Legion Post 2012

This post meets in HG, 6:30 pm on the first Thursday of the month in the Mountainview Room. We would love to have you join us, helping us help your community grow stronger.

The Legion Family would like to welcome you to join an exciting, patriotic family of great people. What ideas do you have that we may bring in to your community? If you are interested in learning more about The American Legion, please contact Post Commander Steve Stratton, B204, 720-519-3955.

Men with Purpose

A group of men, with diversified backgrounds, gather to discuss time-

ly topics regarding healthy aging and purposeful retirement. Books and articles relating to these topics are discussed by group members.

Leadership is shared. Men With Purpose meets the first and third Fridays of each month, 10–11 am, in the Skyview Room. For further information, contact Gene Dawson, 720-535-9672.

Heather Gardens Indivisible

The purpose of HG Indivisible is to protect and preserve our democracy by empowering active citizens in taking actions that will impact public policy. We are nonpartisan and inclusive — more issue-oriented rather than candidate-oriented.

Currently, we meet via Zoom on the first and third Fridays of each month at 1 pm, to discuss issues, actions to take and share articles, books, thoughts. In February, our meetings will be on the 5th and 19th.

Be sure you are on the email list to get notifications of meetings. You don't have to live in Heather Gardens to join. Call or email Linda Champ at 720-252-7324, lindachamp91@gmail.com. – Linda Champ

Uke Crew

Are you interested in playing a fun instrument — the ukulele — and having a great time singing? Members get together on the first and third Friday afternoon, 4–5 pm, B218, #407. New members are always welcomed. All you need is a ukulele, and to be willing to learn and practice the music. Call Darlene Park, 303-798-5088.

Parkinson Support Group

This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, 1–3 pm in the Aspen Room. Please contact Meredith, 303-731-4620, with questions.

B203, B204, B205 and B206

The four buildings have combined to do a joint happy hour for drinks and dinner, at 5 pm on the second Tuesday of each month, Rendezvous. We meet in the Banquet Room. Contact: Laurel McClaren, 303-337-2685.

HG Aviation Club

The club is not having in-person meetings due to COVID-19, but we are emailing stories, pics, and links to videos on interesting aviation top-

ics. If you would like to join in the fun, give me a call. – Rudy Morris, HG Aviation Club, 303-506-8070

The Green Team

Masks have become the latest style accessories. They have also become an environmental problem. You may see discarded masks on sidewalks, floating down streets after a rainstorm, floating in local lakes and rivers. Please throw your disposable masks in the closest trash receptacle, not in a recycle bin. These masks contain plastic and are not meant to be recycled nor available for local wildlife consumption. Please cut the elastic ear loops before you discard them appropriately.

We will meet Feb. 12, always the second Thursday, at noon via Zoom. Call Wendy, 303-306-0066, for more information.

RV Lot Club

Our club is open to all who RV, not just those who rent space in the HG RV lot. At our meetings, we share information and experience about RV-ing. We lobby to improve conditions in the RV storage lot. We also anticipate having social, travel and camping activities.

We meet the second Thursday of each month, 5–6 pm, in the Arts & Craft Room. For additional information, please contact Forrest McClure, 720-979-4707, or Paul Spoutz, 303-564 1877. Happy trails and safe travels!

Birding Nature Club

The club meets at 1 pm on the second Friday, via Zoom. To join this meeting, send email to Tom Reeber, treeber48@gmail.com.

Karaoke Club

During COVID, the Karaoke Club gatherings are TBA. For information, call Paul Spoutz, 303-564-1877, or email pspoutz@aol.com.

Women with Dreams

We meet on the second Saturday of each month, 2–4 pm, in the Mountainview Room. – Charlotte Haymore

Photo Club

The club meets 3 pm on the third Monday, via Zoom. Anne Hummel-Gillis will send out the email invitation to attend the meeting.

All are welcome to join us, to discuss our photos, and how we

can improve our techniques with our photography. If you want to sit in and join our club, send your request to anne@hummelgillis898.com for an email invitation.

B201 and B202

B201 and B202 hold a combined social at Rendezvous on the third Tuesday of each month, 4–6 pm, for drinks and/or dinner – Nancy Grossman, 714-470-5660.

CP3

The CP3 Social is held the third Wednesday each month, 5:30 pm, in the Rendezvous. We order off the menu. – Robin O'Meara

Wine & Cheese Social Club

We meet on the third Saturday, 3–5 pm, in the Aspen/Blue Spruce Room. Everyone is welcome.

Bring a bottle of wine and a snack. Enjoy socializing with other HG neighbors. Entertainment is provided. If you have a talent you want to share, we invite you to join in. – Debbie Brooks, 303-923-3809.

SRA

The Seville Recreational Association meets the fourth Monday of every month, 10 am, in a different Seville building each month. For information: Vicki Wolfe, 360-589-9502.

HG Republicans

The club holds meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at 1:30–3 pm, via Zoom. Our next general meeting is Feb. 23.

Andy Peth will speak on, "Choice vs. Control: Where Do We Go From Here?" Peth is a dynamic speaker with fresh ideas that make sense. He spoke to our executive team in January. We have been inspired with possibilities and hope.

The executive team want everyone to experience the same thing! Be encouraged and motivated — find out where you can participate.

We support any choice that does not take away any person's choice. Want to join the movement? You can for only \$15/year. We have a membership packet waiting for you.

For more info or Zoom Link: send email to: hgrclub@gmail.com, or call 720-500-4047. – Janet Yoder

HG Democratic Club

The HG Democratic Club meets

See Clubs...page 38

Renewal by Andersen

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Brad C. ★★★★★
 a week ago-
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Pam R. ★★★★★
 a month ago-
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Allison L. ★★★★★
 a month ago-
 We needed new windows, ours were over 30 years old, you could feel the cold and hear the traffic. So thankful we called Renewal by Anderson and that they assigned the BEST installers to our home!! From the salesman, to the guy that measured our windows, the scheduler, to the installers, we have beautiful new windows and the entire process was seamless!

Darren O. ★★★★★
 3 weeks ago
 The installers were very professional, very polite and integrity. They arrived almost to the minute they promised to star work. When they left the cleaned up like there was never anyone there. I would highly recommend.

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Sports and Recreation

The Clubhouse is continuing a slow reopening, with some areas again available for use, and Clubhouse hours extended to 6 pm. A number of Sports and Recreational groups have resumed meeting, often outdoors, with strict limits on number of participants, and – often – by reservation only. With specific questions, please call the representative for each sport or activity directly.

Men's Bridge

This group meets every Monday, 11:30 am–2:30 pm, in the Skyview Room. Call Maris Kuga, 720-748-0590.

Men's Poker

We welcome all interested men poker players to join us at our regular poker sessions. On Monday and Wednesday of each week, we play Texas Hold 'em in the Blue Spruce Room. Ladies are invited to join us at the Wednesday sessions.

On Fridays, we play friendly, small-stakes poker, in the Skyview Room, usually including a variety of "dealers choice" games. All play is 5-9 pm. Please call Larry Hill, 720-272-7765, or Milt Merrick, 303-829-7188.

Mah Jongg

We meet 12:30–4 pm every Monday, Blue Spruce Room, except the

third Monday of each month, when the VNA has Blue Spruce. Then we meet in the Arts & Crafts Room, where three card tables are set up.

You must have the latest Mah Jongg League card. We play for a maximum of \$3 — bring your nickels, dimes and quarters. All HG players are welcome. For information: Bobbie Klapp, 520-743-6849.

Ping Pong

Fun and free, great exercise. Come join us in playing ping-pong doubles, 2 pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in the Game Room. Beginners may meet on Fridays at 2 pm, but you must call Bob Schlageter, 303-751-2205, to make arrangements, and you will need to bring someone to play with. See you there. — B. Schlageter

Pinochle

Evening Pinochle meets 6:30–9:30 pm Monday nights in the Mountainview Room. For information, call Ann Gagliardi, 303-332-2163.

Afternoon Pinochle meets Wednesdays, 1:30–3:30 pm, Mountainview Room. We only play for fun and entertainment. With questions, call Diane, 707-799-6449.

Pickleball

Please Note: this is very important. Right now, the Clubhouse is

slowly opening. Some activities are beginning. Even though we are still going through the pandemic of the COVID-19 virus, Pickleball is taking place with new strict rules that will need to be followed.

There is a new On-Line Reservation System to make to reserve a time for Pickleball, called Court Reserve. You will need to create an account.

Before playing, you also need to have a signed Heather Gardens COVID Release form. This is needed in case we ever have to do contact tracing when someone who plays pickleball tests positive for COVID!

The February times to play Pickleball outdoors on the HG Tennis Courts will be Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, 1–3 pm, when the weather is favorable. There may be earlier times based on the weather.

All courts are available. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE per the Clubhouse policy. We will also play indoors when there is available time and the clubhouse allows it!

Since we have Pickleball players at all skill levels of play, our players have been able to choose playing "gentle" Pickleball with players of a similar skill level on one court, and those more advanced can play with the "competitive" Pickleball players.

We hope to have Pickleball lessons again this spring. For more info on Pickleball, visit our web page at: <https://plaidflannel.com/pickleball/lessons.html>. If you want to learn

Clubs...from page 35

the fourth Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting will be Feb. 23, 4–5 pm, via Zoom. A link will be sent in the newsletter prior to the meeting. We have interesting speakers who keep us updated on local, state and federal issues. Let's have a lively discussion, and look at the coming year. — Marty Karnopp, Chair, 303-353-9640, mjkarnopp@gmail.com.

HG Grief Support

Our support group is here to help those who have lost a loved one. We offer eight-week structured sessions in the spring and in the fall. We combine an educational and supportive approach with the focus on healthy grieving and coping with your loss.

Normally, we would meet from 4-6 pm for eight weeks on Tuesdays at the Clubhouse. If we continue to have the COVID virus restrictions, we will meet virtually and still be able to give the support you need.

Contact either Joanne Brand, 303-750-9722, or Marcie Jordon, 303-805-1881, for more information. — Joanne Brand

Caregivers Support Group

This group meets on the last Tuesday of the month, 7–8:30 pm, in the Aspen Room; however, as long as the Clubhouse is closed, we will not be meeting. Online resources are available at Alz.org. For more information, call Nancy Fuhr, 303-337-4890.

Sevillians

The Sevillians monthly social is held the fourth Wednesday of the month, at 5 pm. A sign-up sheet is posted in the mailroom of each building. — Patt Clark

Low Vision Support Group

Until we can gather in person, we are meeting on the fourth Monday of each month 1:30–2:30 pm, via Free Conference call. Call Marsha Bengen, 720-535-5224, for the meeting access number.

more about Pickleball, or get on the roster, call Rosalie, 303-751-1226, or contact Phil Hughes by email, phdenver@comcast.net.

Fun (Gals) Golf

Golf without handicaps, score keeping. No pressure, record keeping or dues – just fun golf! We will resume play in April. Email Linda with any questions: LSHileman1958@gmail.com

Hand and Foot

Hand and Foot is a card game that is fun, and easy to learn. We meet every Tuesday, 12:30–4 pm, Mountainview. With questions, call Phyllis Lann, 720-535-8531.

Mah Jongg

We meet 1–4 pm every Tuesday, Blue Spruce Room, except the second Tuesday, when we play in the lobby (behind fireplace).

All players welcome, including beginners. You must have the latest Mah Jongg League card. Social game: we do not play for money, only glory.

Never played Mah Jongg? Come and observe, to see if you wish to learn. Call Carol, 720-628-4051, or Pat, 720-535-4603, for information.

Billiard Club

The members of the HG Billiard Club will continue with tournaments as soon as the Clubhouse opens again for play. We will play Co-ed 8-Ball on Tuesdays at 7 pm. A Men's group plays 9-Ball on Thursdays at 7 pm. Please contact Rita Cusack, 720-535-8637, or Connie Burns, 303-695-0766.

Ladies Golf Club

The leadership and members of the HG Ladies Golf Club are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Spring and its warmer weather, so that 2021 league can get underway. January's snowy weather limited the number of days available to enjoy a round of golf, and everyone is looking forward to hitting the links and seeing friends that we've missed due to COVID-19 restrictions and the colder weather.

As we gear up for 2021 league play there are several important dates to mark on your calendar.

- Feb. 15: Non-resident dues of \$55 must be received. This date is earlier than in past years. It allow us to notify those on the waiting list if spots

become available. League rules allow for 30 non-residents. Please be sure to remind your non-resident friends of this critical date, so they don't lose their place in our league.

- March 3: First membership meeting of the year. The time and location of this meeting are still being worked out.

- March 10: Resident dues of \$45 must be paid if players want to be included in the league's golf directory. The money can be dropped off in the Pro Shop. Please mark the envelope "Attention: Mary Jo Prichard." If any of your information has changed, please download a membership application from the HGLGC website, and include it with your payment.

- April 7: Pre-season play begins.
- May 5: Formal league play commences. A comprehensive 2021 calendar with tournament dates and social activity listings will be published in March.

All women who are interested in league play are invited to join HGLGC, regardless of skill level. Detailed information and membership applications are available at the Heather Gardens Pro Shop and on our website, www.heathergardensladiesgolfclub.com.

Winter Practice: Has your game gotten a bit rusty over the winter? If so, you might want to try the golf simulator, which is now available. To make a reservation, call the Pro Shop at 303-751-2390.

The next HGLGC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 24. Time and location to be determined. All members are welcome.

Golf Trivia: The origin of the word "golf" is thought to have come from the Dutch word "kolf" or "kolve," meaning "club," and then passed into Scottish language, where it became to "golfe," "gowl" or "gouf," because of the eccentricities of Scottish dialect. Many people wrongly believe that its name came from creating an acronym for "Gentleman Only, Ladies Forbidden," but that is merely an Internet myth.

– Suzi Stolte, Publicity Chair

HG ACBL Duplicate Bridge

This club plays 1 pm Wednesdays in the Blue Spruce Room. Help setting up is appreciated.

For more information, call Merrily VanZevern, 720-282-3199, or John

Osterberg, 720-535-1038. For partnership information, call Linda Harder, 303-369-2032.

Square Dancing

All Square Dancing has been postponed during this Pandemic. We hope to start again sometime in 2021. If you have any questions, feel free to call Beverly Nelson, 303-750-6632.

Bunko

Bunko is played 1–3:30 pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the Blue Spruce Room. For information: Debbie Brooks, 303-923-3809.

Thursday Open Bridge Club

The club will not be meeting until social distancing is no longer required, to protect us from spreading COVID-19. A new leader is needed. Please call Freddie Schroeder, 303-437-4255, to volunteer.

Tennis Club

We are back on the courts, when weather allows. Call Wendy, 303-306-0066, for information.

Men's Golf Club

Hello Fellow Golfers: the new year is here, and our thoughts are turning to the coming golf season. I want to let you know that the Men's Club is also thinking about and planning for the 2021 season.

If you are an existing member, you were sent the 2021 membership application via email. I encourage you to get it filled out and returned to the Golf Pro Shop ASAP. If you are new to the Heather Gardens community, there are application forms at the Golf Pro Shop.

We will start our season late in April and play well into October – Ed Bradley

500 Club

We want you! Do you like to play cards with a fun, easy-going group of people? Then you must join us for 500. We play at 1 pm every Friday in the Skyview Room. Don't know the game? It's easy to learn, and we are happy to teach. See you Friday! Linda Serio, 303-368-8123.

Mexican Train Dominoes

We play noon–4 pm every Saturday, Arts & Crafts Room. Games start at noon and at 2 pm. – Donna Hudziak, 303-833-3115.



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13961 E. Marina Dr. #112 - \$213,000

2br /1ba – 1080 sq.ft. Atrium K – Wonderful ground floor end unit overlooking private courtyard & golf course! New paint. Updated cabinets. Walk-in tub in bath.

13609 E. Cornell Ave. #204 - \$375,000

3br /3ba – 2130 sq. ft. Alpha AE – Stunning remodel w/perfect location over golf course, pond & fountain. 3 beds + custom office. Remodeled kitchen. Wood floors.



13901 E. Marina Dr. #308 - \$255,000

2br /2ba – 1230 sq.ft. Atrium K – Atrium location on 5th hole of golf course, plus mountain views. Stainless Steel appliances. 2 newer A/C's. Coveted Atrium building.

Under Contract

14000 E. Linvale Pl. #203 - \$285,000

2br /2ba – 1380 sq. ft. Somerset C – Remodeled w/perfect location on greenbelt. 5" engineered hardwood floors. Granite counters in kitchen. Remodeled baths.

Under Contract



14091 E. Marina Dr. #601 - \$350,000

2br /2ba – 1560 sq. ft. Somerset C – Remodeled top floor unit w/golf course & mountain views! Open kitchen w/granite counters & luxury vinyl floors. 2 lanais.

Under Contract



SOLD – 14152 E. Linvale Pl. #304

SOLD – 14001 E. Marina Dr. #308

SOLD – 13931 E. Marina Dr. #602

Happy Groundhog Day!

If you are thinking about selling, it's time to get your head out of the ground and put your home on the market. Contact me for a market analysis and let me help get your home sold too!



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Residents do not have venture into grocery stores, etc. risking exposure. Residents are observed several times during the day, and if needed, medical expertise is available to offer preventative interventions.

For seniors sheltering in place, it is difficult for family members or friends to access them without risking exposure.

They also do not have a quick access to medical professionals who can ensure preventative and direct medical interventions are utilized effectively.



ISOLATION

Garden Plaza of Aurora offers a variety of exciting activities that engage the body, mind and spirit.



Residents enjoy being with others, and positive peer pressure encourages people to try new activities. Laughing often and consistent movement enable our residents to live their best life with us.

Loneliness and isolation can increase the risk of physical and emotional health challenges in older adults.

Research shows that isolation can cause feelings of distress and loneliness, which in turn can lead to physical and cognitive declines, as well as depression.



We are able to accept MOVE-INS



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FYI...from page 30

3) When you click on an advertisement — constant vigilance.”

“...we can work after the fact to help consumers who’ve been scammed, but it’s not always easy to right the wrong. You have to be proactive. You have to defend yourself with constant vigilance.”

•••

“Rules to follow:

a. “**Don’t answer the phone** unless you know the person calling you. This is why God created voicemail, people. Use it.

b. “**Do not send sensitive information via email or text**, even to a trusted source. If you need to provide your social security number (to your children) or credit card number (to a trusted vendor), call it in.

c. “**Always use virtual private networks**, or VPNs, when you’re out and about. Consumers should not use unsecured public wireless networks to conduct any sensitive personal matters, especially financial transactions. They should set up a VPN — which encrypts data — instead of using their internet service providers’ servers if they need to look at, say, their credit card purchases while they’re at a coffeeshop or the airport.

“Furthermore, users should not log into any accounts — even email and social media — over public Wi-Fi because login credentials can be captured and exploited,” says the FBI’s Scott Schons.

d. “**Check your credit**. The Fair Credit Reporting Act requires the credit bureaus to provide you with a free copy of your credit report every 12 months. Even if you put a freeze

on your credit, you should still check to make sure that no one has been able to open a fraudulent account — making purchases that aren’t paid for, hurting your credit — in your name.

e. “**If you don’t recognize the sender of an email or text, do not open it**. (Also watch for misspellings in the sender’s email address: *amazon.com* instead of *amazon.com*.) And definitely do not click on any links or download any attachments to your computer.

“There are lots of scams involving commonly used services and big, national brands,” says Lawrence Pacheco, director of communications for the Colorado Attorney General’s Office. “We see AppleCare scams, US scams, Netflix scams. Criminals are often phishing around for saved password information”

f. “**Be smart about login information**. Select strong, unique passwords that don’t use common number combinations or personal information, like your date of birth or address. Even more important, don’t use the same password for multiple logins. If you use skibum12345 for your credit cards, your bank accounts, and your investment accounts, a scammer who figured out your password for one login can now infiltrate all of your accounts. If you can’t remember seven different login combinations (and who can?), try a password manager app like Dashlane, LastPass, or Bietwarden.”

Reporting scams is the only way to help law enforcement investigate these crimes — and potentially save others from being victimized.

- Stop Fraud Colorado. stopfraud-colorado.gov
- AARP. aarp.org
- Federal Bureau of Investigation.

ic3.gov

• Better Business Bureau. bbb.org/scamtracker

•••

Under the title, Know Thyself, several vulnerabilities are listed.

• **Loneliness** make you susceptible to Romance scams. Scott Schons, supervisory special agent, FBI: “The scammer starts by meeting someone on a legit dating site and then often moves to another form of communication. They develop the relationship over weeks and months. Invariably, the scammer says he or she wants to meet in person but can’t afford it because of unforeseen medical bills or a lost job. The victim, believing he or she is in love, sends the money.”

• **An online shopping habit** when stuck at home during a pandemic. You are susceptible to non-delivery-of-merchandise schemes after you have paid for items. Ezra Coopersmith, investigations coordinator, Better Business Bureau says, “In these pet scams, you’ll go to a website that looks like a legitimate breeder. There are pictures of adorable puppies. It’ll say ‘Adopt Jax! He’s so excited to meet you!’ They’ll ask you to first send money to purchase the pet; then they’ll get you again when they ask you to wire money for them to ship the pet through private transport. When you go to the airport to pick Jax up, there is no Jax.”

• **Generosity** — someone who has given to charities in the past. Charity fraud: fake nonprofit will use your goodwill by asking for donations. Martha Paluch, chief of economic crimes section, U.S. Attorney’s Office says, “There are things called ‘lead lists’ that fraudsters buy and sell.

See FYI...page 51



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HGMD Foundation

Happy New Year! Hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season.

I have been updated on the current membership for this committee. There are three spots available. If interested in serving on this committee, go to the Heather Gardens' webpage, www.heathergardens.org. Then go to "Committee Vacancies." Download the attached form, fill it out with your information, then return it to the Management Office.

Donations to the General Fund: December 2020

- B213 in memory of Norma Rachlin
- B221 in memory of Jane Mahnken and Douglas Vap
- Judy Brehmer in memory of George Nuessel

– **Eloise Laubach**
HGMD Board Director
Chair, Foundation Committee



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To celebrate Valentine's Day Month
Dr. Becky, formally the nutritionist from
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improve your heart health. She will discuss
techniques to calm your nerves and the
connection between a healthy heart and mind.

Please RSVP to hostess Aleta Antoinette

at homesthatgive@comcast.net

or call 303-229-9210

by February 9

to be entered into
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The Zoom link will be
sent to all attendees
on February 10.



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Watch Dee's full video story on why senior living is the **best and safest choice** for her wants and needs at watermarkcommunities.com/BTS/DEE or [#watermarkBTS](https://twitter.com/watermarkBTS).

Call 303-696-0622 for availability of either virtual or in-person private consultations and tours.



Dee Levin, a Watermark resident for seven years

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HG Clubhouse Events

Phone 303-751-1811, x5
Clubhouse Manager Linda Aluise

From HG Clubhouse Manager Linda Aluise: Welcome to the brand new Reservation system, CourtReserve. You can make your reservations on-line.

<https://app.courtreserve.com/online/portal/index/6763>

I encourage you to create an account. Then getting signed in is easy: your name, password, and email or phone number are all that is needed. Once you register, you will receive a welcome email.

Once you log in, go to Events to make your reservations for the pool, fitness center or Woodshop. If you need assistance, please call the Clubhouse Reception Desk, 303 751-1811 x 5.

We ask you to honor the three times a week limit for reservations to use the swimming pool and fitness center. You are welcome to call about additional time availability. If space allows, the staff at the Reception Desk will be happy to add you in.

Thank you to everyone for your patience while we reopen the Clubhouse in a safe manner. HG is following Tri-County health guidelines. It will continue to follow and open more areas and amenities in the Clubhouse as restrictions loosen. Thank you for your patience as we transition to the new online reservation system. Change is scary and hard. One thing I learned, it's never too late to learn something new. The technology world is here. The possibilities are endless.

Active Minds presents History of Skiing

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2 pm, via Zoom

There is evidence that humans have been skiing as far back as 6300 BCE. Skiing has been a means of transportation, utilized in combat, enjoyed for recreation, and an international competitive sport. Join Active Minds as we review the origins and history of skiing as well as explore current issues facing the industry. We will discuss the emergence of Colorado towns as ski resorts and how that impacted them. This program is being brought to you by Heather Gardens, Cherry Creek Retirement Village, Garden Plaza of Aurora, Springbrooke Senior Living, Five Star Residences of Dayton Place, and Active Minds®.

To connect via the Internet:

1. Go to www.zoom.com, click "Join a meeting"
 - Enter this Meeting ID: 871 0626 8280 and click "Join"
 - Click OK if it asks to launch Zoom
 - Enter meeting Password: 550869
 - Follow the prompts to join the meeting. Join audio by selecting computer or internet audio (do not select dial-in)
2. Connect by phone: dial this number (audio only):
 - 720-707-2699

When prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 871 0626 8280

(spaces are for easy reading)

Then press # again. When it asks for participant number, enter the password: 550869 #

You will be connected to the meeting.

Consumer Fraud Protection and Senior Scams

Wednesday Feb. 17, 2 pm, via Zoom.

FREE

It Happens. Fraud does not discriminate. Data breaches are real. ID Theft can take years to resolve. The damage impacts everyone, young and old. You, your family, and your life. Breaches are often the root cause for the everyday scams we are currently seeing. Prevention and protection are controlled by you and your actions. Simple steps can position you towards safety and empowerment. Attend via zoom. Presented by the District Attorney office, 18th Judicial District. Call 303-751-1811, x5, for an email to get the link below digitally.

Join Zoom meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92183939993?pwd=REo3R1cybG9D-QkZzV28vUmNuQmZwQT09>

Meeting ID: 921 8393 9993

Passcode: 508805

Via phone, dial: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 921 8393 9993

Passcode: 508805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aoHUDgctQ>

Rare Paper Money

Thursday, Feb. 18, 2 pm via Zoom

If you enjoyed Kathleen's programs on Rare Stamps and Coins you may want to tune in for her History of Paper Money in America discussion. Early American paper currency went through stages of development during the colonial and post-Revolutionary history of the United States. Join Kathleen for a look at American's monetary history through the artwork on some of our countries rarest paper currencies. Presented by Cherry Creek Retirement Community.

<https://zoom.us/j/93870361644?pwd=WmdPa3ZVZkox-QXg4SW1vOXJMYUtqQT09>

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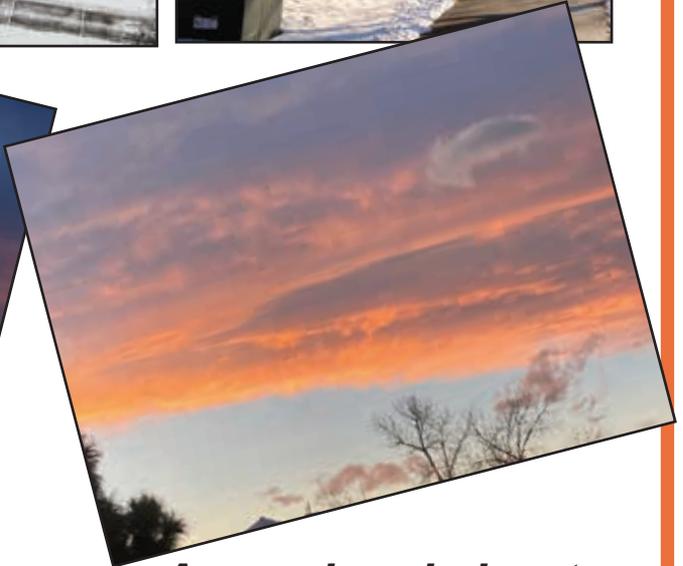
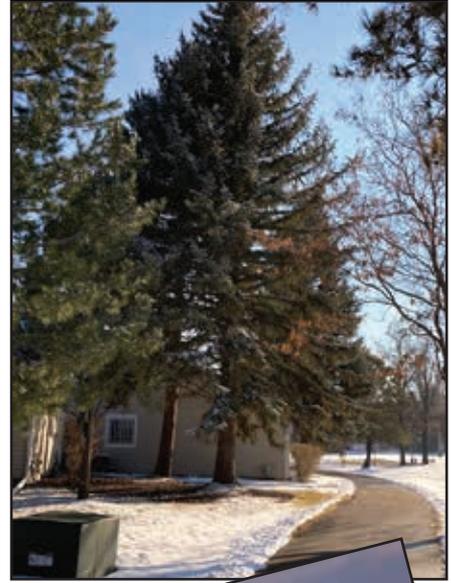
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Around and about...with Bonnie Williams, B232

Bonnie Williams shared photos of HG after a recent snow storm. From her window on the fourth floor, she noted the HG snow plow clearing the sidewalks across East Marina Drive. She also photographed along the walkway surrounding the Golf Course.

Below: Bonnie captured some startling colors in the sunset with interesting cloud formations.



Around and about... with Janis Farrell

Janis Farrell, B201, took a walk through Cherry Creek State Park after a snow storm. She photographed the landscape in the j51 wetlands area and got a good photo of a bald eagle sitting among the bare branches of a tree.



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PROPERTY FOR SALE

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Atrium 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath. 1,400 sq. ft. End unit with 2 enclosed lanais. New carpet, new plank floor, fresh paint, new appliances. Move-in ready. Call 303-699-7177.

FOR RENT

Corner Condo. 1,560 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 2 bath on 6th floor with two screened in balconies overlooking the Golf Course. New kitchen appliances. New washer and dryer in the unit. Underground parking spot next to elevator. Extra storage. Long-term lease available. Available February. 303-777-2261.

Somerset A-B223. 6th floor. 1,200 sq. ft. 2 Bedroom/Den, 2 Bath. New plank floors/carpet, fresh paint, newer appliances. Screened lanai. \$1,400/mo. Call Cathy, 303-870-6448.

FOR SALE

Avon Is Calling! Johnnie Wilson, 720-334-0759, jmwilson3K@yahoo.com.

Help! Do You Know Anyone selling a truck, or SUV? Original owner preferred. I will pay book value, cash, and I wear a mask. Rick, 720-333-2120.

Metal Shelving Unit. 4 foot x 6 foot for garage or basement. Cost \$100, sell \$20. Cliff Spratt, 720-203-2306.

TIRES: Bridgestone, Dueler H/L. All season, 235/70R16/106H, M+S, Tubeless Steel Radial. (3) at \$25/each. Call: T.L., 303-514-1406.

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I Love Animals. Experienced, dogs walked and pet sitter. Reference available. Over 13 years experience. Call Carrie, 720-325-3461, lewisa658@gmail.com.

Dog Walker, Overnight Pet Care. Also companion, light housekeeping, grocery shopping. Reasonable! Janet, 303-987-2661.

Just Call Jill. I'm here to help. Any task, just ask. Airport drop off and pick up. Dependable rides. HG resident senior concierge. Last-minute appointments OK. 303-929-6351.

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Experienced, Loving Caregiver Available. Housecleaning, light cooking, grocery shopping with you or can deliver. Transportation for doctor appointments or errands. Any day of the week. References available. Call Cindy, 303-910-7405.

In-Home Aging Consultant. (I'm COVID vaccinated.) Would you like help finding quality care in your home? Does insurance pay for this? What about veteran benefits? How much care do we need? Are we doing the right things to stay independent in our home? I offer local solutions. I can help. Angela, 720-315-4140.

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Electric Scooters. Wanted to buy. Alan, 303-232-1212. HG resident, serving HG 16 years.

Wanted to Buy. I am searching for old coins and coin collections, silver and gold jewelry, tea sets, flatware, antiques from China and Japan. Old watches, more. A collector and dealer of fine antiques. Can't have estate sale? I also purchase entire estate contents. Please call Ted, HG resident, 720-327-7867.

Wanted: Knives and Military Items. Alan, 303-232-1212. HG resident, serving HG 16 years.



New home for Roo, a sweet indoor cat. She has small, deformed front legs and paws, cannot defend herself outdoors. 13 years old. Excellent companion. Roo loves to watch TV and thrives on personal attention. Watches neighborhood from window. Currently no other pets. Call Bob, 720-681-0912.

FYI...from page 42

When you donate money to legitimate charities, your name can end up on a list that scammers can use to reach out to people who they know have donated before. My advice: Never give to anyone who solicits you until you have done your due diligence."

• **Being a grandparent** who is likely to do whatever it would take to help your grandkids, no questions asked. In this scam, a con artist uses social media or other methods to find out the name and age of one of your grandkids, who likely lives in another state. The scam develops when he/

she calls you, posing as the police or a bail bondsman, explaining that your grandchild has been arrested for drunk driving and needs you to wire bail money.

Craig Alexander, detective, major crimes fraud unit, Denver Police Department, says, "My biggest heart-breaker are those grandparent scams. They paid \$8,000 to get their grandchild out of trouble. Then they find out it was a scam, and they're so, so upset."

{5280 Magazine, November 2020}

AARP Common Scams

- **Medicare cons**

A crook will tell you that

you can get a free DNA swab test for cancer, or medical devices or services. To get the free health care, you just need to provide your Medicare number. The approach is via phone or email. Prevention: Never give your Medicare number to anyone but a trusted medical professional.

- **Phishing Amazon**

Scammers pretend to be Amazon representatives, taking advantage of the fact that the company sent more than 3.5 billion packages last year. You're told a package can't be delivered until you "confirm" your credit card number. These crooks send out

millions of random emails with a link that, if opened, places malware on your computer to harvest data. Prevention: Don't give information via a link. Go to Amazon's website directly.

- **COVID-19 Cons**

You get an email offering a coronavirus vaccine or access to critical medical equipment. You are urged to protect yourself. Some email ask for credit card information, then bill you for products that never arrive. Others include a link that will install malware to steal your passwords. Prevention: Visit government health agency websites for updates.

{AARP Bulletin, April 2020}

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Overheard @ HG

Humans need to “cat up”, and grow some whiskers

by Tytus Hafka

It's gray, dismal February, Dear Readers. You know what that means? The usual columnist, Mary, never works this month. She declares she has Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), and spends her time binge-watching nine seasons of “Call The Midwife,” or some such nonsense.

This year is worse than usual. She has the excuse of observing COVID-19 protocols, to give her even more cover for emulating a couch potato.

This year, she's so lethargic, I'm not sure she's even going to complete her other *Heather 'n Yon* assignments. She often reports on some HG governmental meetings. The dog and I might have to assume this task for her, as well. Thank heavens for Zoom. If we tried to break into the Board Room to cover these meetings in person (or rather, in feline), I have a feeling we'd be cruelly repelled, as pets aren't allowed in the Clubhouse.

Humans can be very rule bound about such matters. All the dog and I would be doing was trying our level best to ensure that our human/columnist doesn't get herself canned from her job.

Speaking of cans, I guess the dog and I should count ourselves lucky that, in her semi-comatose state, she still remembers to feed us. Luckily Morticia and I are well versed in cunning ploys to remind the human that the focus of her life is to fill up the food dish. We nudge her, to say it's past our mealtime, when it's actually before our mealtime, because this human needs a lot of reinforcement.

While Mortie and I are able to man (animal) the writing tasks that keep the money coming in to pay for our pet food, we rely on the human to actually operate the can opener. There are just some jobs that call for opposable thumbs.

I don't know when human beings

got to be such a bunch of wussies. It seems that all my human does, these days, is whine. Wah-h-h-h-h, I can't go to the thrift store to buy a bunch of unnecessary items some smarter person gave away.

Wah-h-h-h, I have to have my groceries delivered. They keep substituting Diet Coke for the Diet Pepsi.

Wah-h-h-h-h, I have to do my own housecleaning, because we're in quarantine — and I'd rather drink Diet Coke than do housework. Wah-h-h-h-h, wah-h-h-h-h, wah-h-h-h-h!

Admittedly, things got rocky last year: 2020 was The Year of the Rat on the Chinese calendar. This comes as a surprise to no one who thinks 2020 was a low-down, rotten, stinky year.

It seems that any tiny setback is enough to send people into a spiral of angst and anxiety. Around Christmas, I read in the newspaper that horticulturalists are in a tizzy because the corpse flower, which blooms annually at the Denver Botanic Gardens, is becoming inbred.

Called the corpse flower, *Amorphophallus titanum* — which means large, misshapen penis — gives off a terrible scent when it blooms. It has the largest flower of any plant in the world. With the small number of such flowers available, there is a risk of losing the genetic variety needed to raise healthy corpse flowers.

The Chicago Botanic Garden is taking the initiative to maximize the plants' genetic diversity, extracting plant DNA from those at other states' botanic gardens. Storage of the DNA is a problem, though, and z-z-z-z-z...

(Sorry, I'm awake now. It was just a cat nap.)

Humans expend their energy, time and resources on amazing things. With apologies to those who donate hard-earned money paying for a membership in the Denver Botanical Gardens — why? All self-respecting cats know you could

sit under a bush anywhere in HG, and achieve the effect of communing with the regional floral.

My human is a patron of the Denver Zoo. With a nod to my zoologically housed felines, plus other animals, I don't see why my human saw fit to send money to them, when she could have spent those dollars making my life more comfortable.

And all humans worth their salt should own a cat. That's just a fact.

The digital world even has made it easy for lazy people to pretend to own a cat, without the actual hassle and expense of maintaining one. Apps such as Cat Game! Cat Condo, KleptoCats, and Cat Café allow a human to complete tasks, which enables them to earn hearts (approval) from cats. The hearts translate into currency that can be spent buying better digital toys and comfort for the game cats. (Animal Restaurant uses codfish as currency.) This generates more hearts, and the circle continues.

I recommend these apps, with a grain of catnip. I suppose, if a person doesn't have the talent and ingenuity to properly keep a cat in the style to which it would like to become accustomed, caring for a digital cat is better than nothing. Marginally.

Obviously, an actual flesh-and-fur cat is far superior. You know the old adage: Happy cat, happy life. My human could improve her own situation by making mine better. An electric cat-massaging machine wouldn't have gone amiss. The holidays have come and long gone, though — no massager under the tree.

I can see I'm coming to the end of my allotted space, so let me close with this. Humans are stupid.

Okay, that wasn't very tactful. I am a cat, though, and subtlety isn't our strong point.

Let me try again. Humans have misguided tendencies. They focus on minutia, missing the finer things in life.

Luckily, pets are patient. Most truculent pet owners can be redirected. Humans can be hard to train, though. I've found that hiding the TV remote can be a good incentive, when all else fails.

Here, hooman-hooman-hooman. Time to operate the can opener. Good human!

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