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## Susman Unleashed by Steve Susman

Picasso, Van Gogh, Monet – even if alive, wouldn't be here around July 7. However, our own painting contractor will then be starting our own project -- painting half of our community. Thus, Bldgs. A through W, inclusive, will be the subject of his artistry now; the other half of Pelican Pointe in summer 2015. Persons residing in #A through #W will have received a letter from our HOA, detailing the painters' procedures and the residents' responsibilities. Take a few minutes to observe the professionalism of these contractors as they help us preserve our physical assets and, therefore, our property values.

Little Miss Moffat sat on a tuffet (whatever that is). That resting place was certainly safer for her than parking her car, even for only a couple minutes, in front of the (single) mail kiosk. Too many of our residents, too absorbed with al-Quaeda's advances in Iraq, or with their daughter's choice of a mate – are parking briefly “around the bend.” They should be parking in the plentiful spaces virtually adjacent to the kiosk itself. This is almost a blind corner. It's difficult to see such a temporarily-parked car when turning into that road; a collision is just “waiting to happen.” Please, let's be considerate and thoughtful when stopping for our mail.

“Repo man” is one of the most dangerous of occupations. [In one of my past business ventures, I accompanied these guys through scary trailer parks in the dark of night]. Occasionally, one of our residents or guests will violate our specific parking Rules, thereby initiating a “notice of imminent towing.” Until now, your management has relied on tips from other residents to “squeal” on errant parkers. Now, though, the Board is considering engaging a towing company to assist in providing the initial warnings. Then, if that notice is disregarded (which is fairly infrequent), the offending vehicle can be towed away. The resulting shock to the vehicle's owner, seeing an empty space where his vehicle once sat – could result in a myocardial infarction. Moral: You all know the Rules. If your recollection is rusty, grab your set of Rules and re-read Rule II. This is to Pelican Pointers as the Ten Commandments were to Moses.

In this digital age, with the “cloud,” the Internet, credit- and debit-card data thefts, an occasional dishonest waitress, some people are reluctant to authorize the publication of their phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses. Nevertheless, Pelican Pointe has always published a Directory for the use of its residents. Many times, the data in this Directory have enabled a neighbor to reach another resident with warnings of a garage door left open; or smoke wafting from a window; or other problematic situations. Colorado law now requires that all persons consenting to the inclusion of such personal data in our Directory must sign a form so stating. You will soon receive that form; please fill it out; sign it; and return it as directed. Of course, you may opt-out, too. But the more inclusions in the Directory, the more helpful is its uses.

Charles Beaudelaire (1821-1867), the controversial French modernist poet, was known as “Evil Flowers Charlie” (Les Fleurs du Mal). On the contrary, at Pelican Pointe's entrance and in its planters near the directional sign, our Landscape Committee has caused some brilliantly-colored flowers to be planted this season. A primary characteristic of homeowner associations is the omnipresence of multiple opinions – in this case, about the flowers. One school maintains that our flower beds should be planted in brilliant, orderly rows, with symmetry at both the entrance-and-exit beds. Another opinion supports a more random planting, with the colors presenting themselves in a seemingly haphazard fashion, without military-style rows and columns. This summer, our Committee opted for the latter approach. The Board solicits and welcomes your opinions on this subject, held either strongly or meekly.

Meanwhile, it's an ongoing battle to deter the ever-reproducing rabbits from eating our flowers and some bushes. They think this is Elway's restaurant. Voles are a threat, too, eating the roots as if they were Beluga caviar.

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## Susman Unleashed

"A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," says one of the great verities of investing and other human endeavors. I don't know about birds in a bush, but do know that we have (it's true) thousands of bushes of all sizes and shapes in our complex. Some die. If you observe a bush whose now-dormant spirit appears to have risen to that Great Garden in the Sky, showing no further signs of life on this Earth – you can contact Paul Jones [paul@withcpmg.com], our community manager, preferably by e-mail, providing a precise location where this lump of twigs is situate. Paul can notify Sonny, who can effect a replacement (when weather is appropriate for planting) if he agrees that artificial respiration would be futile. In some instances, no replacement is recommended, since some landscaped areas are, indeed, too overgrown or dense already.

In London's Hyde Park on Sundays, one can regularly observe someone "preaching" his/her opinions, standing on a box or stool. This old tradition derives from such amateur orators' standing on a crate formerly containing soap or other goods. Hence the expression "preaching on a soapbox." Your Board welcomes and encourages all homeowners and tenants to attend our monthly Board meetings. It's the perfect open forum for voicing one's constructive criticisms (or praises, if you wish) about HOA matters of general interest to our *entire* community. Of course, tirades are prohibited, as are attempts at lengthy discourses on the origins of the Magna Carta. Gripes about a matter involving *only one's own* townhome or its environs should, though, be directed privately to our Manager.

Tiptoe through the tulips. Dance around the Maypole. We have neither tulips nor a Maypole. However, any homeowner/tenant in Pelican Pointe can reserve our picnic area for his/her exclusive use. Please send your request to Paul Jones, specifying your requested date; beginning and ending time of the function. Paul will advise you if there's a competing previous reservation. He may request that you fill out and return a form to him, or e-mail the information to him. He may send you a form of Notice, which you must post prominently at our picnic area (preferably in more than one spot). Please remember that (i) activities are prohibited which could substantially damage the lawn or landscaping there; (ii) there is an electrical outlet there for your use; (iii) there is no water outlet or trash receptacles at or near the area; (iv) you must leave the area in clean and tidy condition.

### Weird:

- This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.
- Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

### **July Book Club**

The next meeting of the Pelican Pointe Book Club will be on the third Tuesday of the month, July 15, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is at the home of Marcia Helfant, N104, and Nancy Williams will be leading the discussion. The book to be discussed is "The Invention of Wings", by Sue Monk Kidd. The bestselling author returns to South Carolina for the setting of this novel of historical fiction, and to the thorny topic of race relations. The story of slave and slave owner plays out in the alternating narratives of Sarah Grimke, the white daughter of a plantation owner, and Hetty, nicknamed Handful, the slave given to Sarah as a "birthday present" at age 11. As the girls grow into women, each develops her own voice and struggles with the bonds imposed upon them by society. Sarah's bonds limit her ambitions and abilities; and Handful's bonds are the severe cruelties of slavery. Sarah is based on an historic figure. But to reveal her future is to spoil one of the pleasurable surprises of the book. Everyone is welcome. Please call Marcia at 303-722-0053 to let her know if you will be attending.

# **Reminder!**

*Painting will begin on July 7 at Buildings A thru W.  
Please make sure your areas prepared.*

## **Trash Pickup**

**Trash pickup:** Every Wednesday

**Recycling pickup:** Every Other Wednesday

For information regarding recycling pickup, visit the link below:

[http://www.denvergov.org/Portals/709/documents/Wednesday\\_A.pdf](http://www.denvergov.org/Portals/709/documents/Wednesday_A.pdf)

## **Summer Events**

On July 19, the Denver Mart (451 E. 58th Ave.) will host a Senior Law Day, a series of more than 30 seminars on topics ranging from estate planning to Social Security, and much more.

More information is available at <http://seniorlaw.annualcle.com/denver/>.

The event is free, but with a suggested donation of \$10. To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2014-denver-senior-law-day-registration-11651256221>

A list of topics for discussion that day is at [http://seniorlaw.annualcle.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/0612Senior-law-topics\\_flyer.pdf](http://seniorlaw.annualcle.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/0612Senior-law-topics_flyer.pdf)

Each attendee will receive a free edition of the Senior Law Handbook.