

March 2022 Green Hills Retirement Community Ames, Iowa

The Chimes newsletter is for Green Hills residents to inform one another about current trends and offerings in our community. Inside this issue:

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## **GHRA President's Message**

A big "THANK YOU" to all 50+ people who have been participating on the Strategic Planning Task Forces! The Strategic Plan is our Green Hills guide for the next five years of operation. There are seven task forces working on goals, objectives and action steps to address our needs within this time frame. In the meantime, our Long Range Planning Committee is working to address our perceived needs coming in the next 10-15 years and beyond.

The Strategic Planning Task Forces are: 1) Financial, 2) Staffing, 3) Capital Planning, 4) Marketing, 5) Culture/Amenities, 6) Technology and 7) Grounds. Each task force is contributing to produce the 5-year Strategic Plan in the next few weeks. When finished this plan will be available for review/revision and then presented to the Board for approval at a future (most likely May) meeting.

For those residents not currently participating in the Task Forces, it is not too late to include some burning issue you might have in mind. Just contact one of the task force co-chairs, task force coordinators, Kat, Jessica or me if you feel compelled to do so.

Be advised that the budget process for our next fiscal year has started. Costs are up in almost everything we need for operation of Green Hills. We also have to remain competitive in our staffing wages and benefits. In addition, significant maintenance and repair issues need to be resolved in our aging community. We will need all resources available to meet our budget requirements. This will likely require a larger than usual increase in monthly fees to meet our needs. In any event, be assured we will have a viable plan for GH sustainability.

In future years, to overcome relatively large monthly fee increases, we need to bring in more income. This can only be done by increasing the

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number of residents. This means we need to proceed with the Maples expansion as soon as possible. This will provide an additional \$200,000 or more per year to help with our critical needs.

Our 5-year contract with LCS as our management company expires on June 30, 2022. A Contract Committee is currently active in pursuing/negotiating a new 5-year contract for GH management.

I know these comments may raise a lot of questions as no specific details can yet be provided. The details have not yet been finalized, but will be within the next few months. You will be kept informed by future communications and meetings.

Finally, my best wishes to all at Green Hills! Keep smiling and enjoy our wonderful lifestyle and amenities. We'll work through our issues one step at a time to make Green Hills the best it can be.—Jerry Hall, Feb.17, 2022

### The Green Hills Chimes

#### Publisher:

Green Hills Residents Association <a href="mailto:ghoffice@greenhillsrc.com">ghoffice@greenhillsrc.com</a></a>
2205 Green Hills Drive, Suite 100

Ames, IA 50014 515-357-5000

**Editor**: Molly Ethridge mollydsm@comcast.net

#### **Committee & Proofreaders:**

Jerry Hall, Barbara Munson, Phyllis Seim, Anne Durland

#### **Submissions Deadline:**

15<sup>th</sup> of each month. (No January Chimes)

# Employee Appreciation December Ingathering: Correction:

There was a small error in Jerry's article in the February Chimes. The article mentions residents' generosity in giving over \$118,000 to our employees. The amount actually was over \$128,000!



Our Woodshop has a new sign: Joel Morain, son of Vikki Morain, has crafted a beautiful sign for our woodshop in the Oaks basement. Take a look when you're trekking through the basement labyrinth!

Do you know someone at Green Hills who is ill, in the hospital, or has lost a loved one in their immediate family?



The Friendship
Committee Co-Chairs:
Paula Toms x5141
Anne Durland x5398

### The Friendship Committee

Please call the following committee members if there are occasions when a contact should be made to recognize illnesses and deaths:

### Contacts for March 2022:

Apts: Shala Ludley, x5250

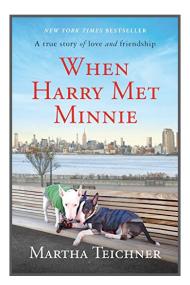
Town Homes: Carole Magilton, x5113



# New Books in our Green Hills Library on the countertop by the windows

AUTHOR	TITLE	CATEGORY
Busjeet, Vinod	Silent Winds, Dry Seas: A Novel	Fiction
Cheville, Norman F.	Pioneer Science and the Great Plagues: How Microbes, War, and Public Health Shaped Animal Health	lowa
DeLong, Lea Rosson	All the Evils: Christian Petersen and the Art of War	Art
Graff, Garrett M.	The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11	History
Kingery, Karlene	Iowa Barns: Yesterday and Today, Including Silos, Corncribs, Homes and Businesses	History
Morrison, Toni	The Bluest Eye: A Novel	Fiction

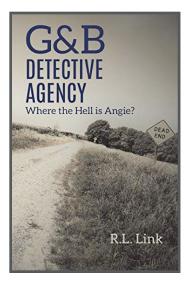
### TWO BOOK REVIEWS by Jerry Lee Hall "When Harry Met Minnie" by Martha Teichner



This is a true story by Martha Teichner, a correspondent for CBS "Sunday Morning" since December of 1993. This story unfolds as Martha is walking her Bull Terrier, Minnie, early one Saturday morning through Farmer's Market at Union Station. She was somewhat dejected from the recent loss of one of her Bull Terriers. In a chance meeting with a friend she was told about Carol, a woman dying of cancer, who was looking for a home for Harry, her Bull Terrier.

This story is about the meeting and friendship developed between Martha and Carol and the courtship of Harry and Minnie. It is humorous, sad at times, but definitely heartwarming. As a story about love and friendship, in my view this is a good read for anyone who

# "G & B Detective Agency — Where the Hell is Angie?" by R. L. Link



This story is written by a long time policeman, R. L. Link, and is about two Ames police officers who win the lottery. They quit the Ames Police Force and start a detective agency but don't have any cases until their secretary, Monica, gets a late night phone call from her stripper friend Angie. This triggers the B & G Detective Agency into action to find Angie. This quest takes them on the trail of bikers, and one biker in particular who was known to own Angie.

Following leads, the detectives travel to various towns in Iowa to gather information and clues as to Angie's whereabouts. The detectives end up in Boone County, and in conjunction with the Boone County Sheriff and other law enforcement officers, discover a gambling and prostitution ring operating in a secluded house north of Boone.

The book is serious at times, humorous at times, and realistic as the time runs short toward finding Angie alive. You'll have to read the book if you want to find out if Angie was found alive or not.

### ART GALLERY NEWS



A full house in our theater greeted Joe Geha for his artist's talk on February 18. Our Art Gallery walls hosted Joe's wonderfully bright colors all month.





### Next in our gallery:

Our March artist is Isaac Prior, an abstract line artist. Are you curious? You'll see when you take some time in the gallery hall. Prior is also a full-time jeweler in Ames.

# In April, the Art Gallery committee will host "Honoring the Art of Indigenous People of the World," curating pieces from GH residents' private collections.

What is Indigenous Art? We are using this definition:

"Indigenous art refers to the art of people and cultures who belong to the place where they originated or were found at the time of written records, rather than coming from invaders from other places. The GH exhibit will feature (1) the art of native people of North America, Central America, and South America; Africa, the Near East, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific, and (2) contemporary art by indigenous artists using new forms and media."

Some other words for "indigenous" are native, original, and aboriginal.

Contact David Gradwohl or Rae Reilly about the indigenous art in your collection.

### A VISIT TO THE ISU SPORTS PERFORMANCE CENTER

Last January, the Green Hills bus took a group of residents to the ISU sports Performance Center (next to Jack Trice Stadium) for a guided tour of this new facility.

Here are some iPhone images to share the jaw-dropping impressions left from this tour. We were lucky to be there during winter break, so no athletes were using

Weigh



Weight Room: Each athlete has an iPad on the machine where the personal workout is ready to be recorded.

The media room where Coach Campbell meets the press after games.



The cafeteria has fingerprint check-in for tracking personal dietary information.

AND the locker room! The ceiling is red of course and shaped like a football. One side of the large space has the personalized lockers, and the other side is the video lounge with giant screens for reviewing plays, gaming, relaxing at halftime.....

Each locker has an interior back-door tub for dirty uniforms that goes directly to the laundry, systematized so a player's items are kept together and returned clean through the same back door into the player's locker.

# Model Trains: A Demonstration and Working Display March 19-20, 10:00-4:00, in the Community Room

Resident Joe Ludley and other model train hobbyists of the area will present a show and demonstration of their beloved leisure pursuit. Be sure to mark your calendar to be there for a spellbinding experience!

The Internet traces major dates in the history of model railroading as follows:

The Emperor Napoleon built the first model train in the 1840's for his three-year-old son. It was made of lead and ran on carpet.

The first mass market train set, powered by clockworks, was invented by a German company called Markim in 1891.

The first true model railroad was made in 1901 and ran on electric power.

A bit of history on Lionel: The Lionel Manufacturing Company was founded by Joshua Lionel Cowen in 1900 in New York City. Cowen's first electric train, The Electric Express, debuted in 1901 and was initially designed as a display for toy stores. The train caught on and soon Lionel was manufacturing model electric trains for consumers. By 1906, Lionel was well established as an electric model railroad manufacturer.

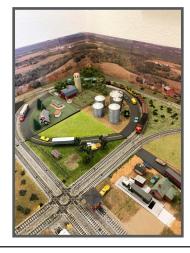
In the 1950's Lionel began importing trains from an Italian manufacturer in the popular O gauge. By the 1960's, they had acquired their own tooling and were beginning to make highly detailed trains and accessories.

When it comes to the modern trains Joe and the others present, you'll notice first the miniaturization down to cars the size of your thumb — the N gauge. However, the rich detail of larger cars has been preserved.

Whole miniature towns and landscapes interact with today's trains as you will see in rich detail.

Digital power makes possible any number of special effects, from a calliope playing on a circus train to a working grain dumper servicing a grain elevator.

Come see, hear and enjoy!





### **ANOTHER MARCH EVENT:**

### A RESIDENT'S FISHING TRIP ALONG THE AMAZON

### The Amazon Speaks:

Imagine yourself emerging from the rugged Brazil jungles and savannas to stand on the banks of the Amazon River, the world's second longest (after the Mississippi/Missouri) and most fascinating river. A dock leads you to a houseboat rigged for serious fishing. You and a small group of fellow fishermen soon will be taking it to ride the legendary Amazon on a week's fishing adventure. An experienced crew will guide you to the best and most exotic fishing spots.

Green Hills resident Wayne Rowley—who experienced this exciting sport fishing adventure last fall—is your guide. On March \_\_\_\_(date TBD), he will share details of his trip with anecdotes and his photographs.

## Ed's Cartoon Corner

At the February Hobby Show, a resident self-taught fortune teller was not assigned a table, so she brought her own

"You will buy bananas in a week...."

Thanks, New Yorker