

March 2021



## "HIDDEN HIGHLIGHTS"

The Official Publication of Hidden Valley Ranch  
Property Owners' Association, Inc. (HVRPOA)  
Vol. XXII, Issue 5

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 7600 Long Drive  
Mission, TX 78572  
Telephone: 956-580-4477  
Fax: 956-580-4478  
E-mail: [hvrpark@gmail.com](mailto:hvrpark@gmail.com)  
Website: [HVRPOA.com](http://HVRPOA.com)

Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Clubhouse Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
Activity Center: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
Exercise Room: Open 24/7

### BOARD MEMBERS

President: <b>Jim Bowans</b> <a href="mailto:jbo106@aol.com">jbo106@aol.com</a>	515-778-6685 2508 E Bogey
Vice-Pres: <b>Mike Ford</b> <a href="mailto:mike185@charter.net">mike185@charter.net</a>	817-528-4907 7603 Bogey
Secretary: <b>Clara Schiebout</b> <a href="mailto:bscs6970@live.com">bscs6970@live.com</a>	712-348-1446 2316 Fairway
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Director: <b>Diane Tardif</b> <a href="mailto:gidget1218@gmail.com">gidget1218@gmail.com</a>	603-724-7824 2505 E Bogey

### Emergency Numbers:

Hidalgo Co. Sheriff (POLICE).. 956-383-8114  
Ambulance / Fire / Emergency ..... 911

### President's Message

As I reflect upon the past twelve months, I think about what a strange and quiet year it has been: strange with the freezing weather; quiet with most of our activities cancelled due to Covid restrictions and social distancing. Twice we had to close the buildings for sanitizing after we were informed that some of our neighbors had tested positive for the virus. To those neighbors, "Thank you" for informing us. Also a big WELL DONE to everyone for wearing their masks and helping to keep the risk at a minimum.

As your thoughts turn to the trip north, please continue to be safe. We want to see everyone back in the Fall. I know heading North means different things to different people: some good things like seeing their kids, new grandkids, and old friends. Those are the good things. Alas, it also means TAXES. That's the bad.

We the Board plus many other people on various committees have already started planning for the Fall. Entertainment is being booked, dances are being planned, and activities scheduled for the buildings.

That being said, we will need many volunteers for the kitchen crew, Bingo, Yahoo, Covenants and By-laws committee, just to name a few. If you have an interest in these or any of the many other tasks that help make this Park work, please step forward.

We appreciate our Volunteers past and present, and can always find a job – big or small – for those willing to give a little of their spare time.

Finally, to our Renters, I hope in spite of the challenges that you enjoyed your stay and will strongly consider returning to HVR – the best Park in the Valley!

Have a great and safe Summer, Everyone.

*Jim Bowans*

**Mar 5 9:00a Board Meeting**

**Mar 13 9:00a (tentative) Park Meeting**  
(Limited access: wear your ID and masks)

## **SUMMER RESIDENTS MEETING**

Thursday Mar 18th 9:30am  
Come help "*plan what we can*" for the summer.

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETINGS**

The minutes of any Board Meeting are available for members to read on the park's website. In this way, you can stay informed on the discussions and decisions that take place.

## **FEBRUARY OBITUARIES**

2/3/2021 David White 2312 Bunker  
2/9/2021 Dale Brockaway 7516 Birdie

## **NOT RECEIVING OUR WEEKLY E-MAILS ?**

First, check if it's going to your junk mail.  
Secondly, do we have your correct or most-recent email address in our files?  
If you have questions please call Ray Fink at 402-733-8972 or email [Webmaster@hvrpoa.com](mailto:Webmaster@hvrpoa.com)

## **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Co-Editors: Kathy Wiens & John Constable  
Newsletter is published November through March

**DEADLINE** for submitting notices of upcoming events is the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) of the month before

### **Ways to submit an event notice:**

- E-mail John at [johnconstable852@gmail.com](mailto:johnconstable852@gmail.com)  
(Note: Info doesn't have to be typed. Take a close-up phone-photo of the handwritten page/poster and email it to me. I can type it up from that.)  
Or, call me with info: Cdn. phone #: 1-506-300-1488
- Contact Kathy: at 402-416-7888 or email [kwiens68512@yahoo.com](mailto:kwiens68512@yahoo.com) or see her in person around the Park.
- Pass it to the office staff, who will place it in our wall folder. Items submitted must include a legible signature of submitter. Editors & Board reserve the right to reject some submissions.

Please keep in mind info on Park activities and COVID protocol (restrictions) as printed herein are only as current as the final deadline for this edition (Feb 25th).  
HVR Covid protocol may have changed since then.  
Check office or website for the latest updates.

## **HVR CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Church Service Sundays 9:00 am**

Pastor Cliff Stewart (970) 302-7033

With the Covid restrictions, there will be only regular Sunday Services in March, with Communion Sunday on the 28th.



**JOIN US**  
**April 4th**  
for the last  
Service of  
the Season.

## **ALWAYS REMEMBER TO FORGET**

Always remember to forget  
The things that made you sad,  
But never forget to remember  
The things that made you glad.

Always remember to forget  
The people that proved untrue,  
But never forget to remember  
The friends who stuck by you.

Always remember to forget  
The troubles that passed away,  
But never forget to remember  
The blessings that come each day.

## **CAN COLLECTION BEING CANNED**

For many years, the Park has had a "can chute" on the side of the shed building, into which residents could drop their aluminum beverage cans.

Even when the Recycle Program operated by G & B Childress was started, any cans brought to them would have their tabs first removed for the Shriners Hospital Collection before they also placed the cans in this chute.

The Board has decided that, effective March 1st, the can chute will be sealed off and the Park will no longer maintain this service. Among other reasons, it created more "sticky" problems in the shed than it was worth.

Cans will still be accepted by the Childress recycling efforts Thursdays 8-9:30 am

## **HVR PARK COVID RESTRICTIONS**

The HVR Board is still closely watching and adhering to all Hidalgo County orders pertaining to public safety regarding COVID. As orders from them change, so then will HVR's.

Residents are urged to frequently check with the office or through the HVR website messages for the latest protocol updates.

## **GATE REMOTES**

Effective April 1st, the "card slot" for the Park's canal entrance gate will no longer be useable.

The high maintenance repair costs caused from make-shift "cards" repeatedly jamming the mechanisms was one of the underlying reasons.

HVR residents needing "after hours" passage through the gate will require a remote. A new supplier has been found for these and, while the old remotes will still work, the new ones are less expensive. They are now only \$15 each, and will be programmed and ready to go upon purchase. We highly recommend if you do not have one yet that you get one.

Renters can also purchase the \$15 remotes and, at the end of their stay, these will be bought back for \$10 and these used remotes will be available for purchase by residents for the \$10.

**PS:** If you ever need to get out of the Park in the middle of the night for a medical emergency or early flight, and you don't have the means to open the gate, you can **drive over to Leisure's gate**. It automatically opens for any vehicle that slowly approaches it.

(Note: You can get out that way, but not back in.)

## **NEW DIRECTORIES**

The new Park directories are still available at the Front Office between 9-11am weekdays. \$3. Reminder that old directories are recyclable.

## **J'EVER NOTICE.....**

.... a lot of problems in the world would disappear if people talked TO each other instead of ABOUT each other.

## **SWIMMING POOL UPGRADES**

The pool recently had a lot of work done to it. New heaters for both the hottub and pool were installed, as well as a second salt cell to cut down even more on the amount of chlorine used. Chlorine, of course, cannot be totally eliminated as it is still necessary to prevent algae.

For those who are Irish, and those who just wish they were...

## **TOP 'O THE (Mar 17th) MORNIN'**



The word shamrock comes from the Gaelic word Seamrog, meaning *little clover*. Tradition says Saint Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity, with each leaf representing the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A more modern representation says the three leaves stand for Faith, Hope, and Love. One with a fourth leaf is said to bring good Luck.

## **AN OLD IRISH BLESSING**

May love and laughter light your days  
And warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours  
Wherever you may roam.

May peace and plenty bless your world  
With joy that long endures.

May all life's passing seasons  
Bring the best to you and yours.

## **Overheard:**

"Never iron a four-leafed clover. You don't want to press your luck!"

## **MONDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT**

7:00 pm \$7. - \$10. pp

(Why pay \$20, \$30 or more in Branson?)

Doors open 6:30. Limited seating; wear masks.

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(rebooked from Feb 1)

**Mar 1st:**

**Lindley  
Creek**

Americana Bluegrass, Gospel, & Country Music

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**MAR 8th:**

**Jeff Gordon**

"Wonderful singer & great impersonator"

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**MAR 15th:** cancelled

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**MAR 22nd:**

**Ron Moshier**

Come listen to some lively toe-tapping music from our last scheduled Entertainer of the season.

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## **BOOMERANG EFFECT**

Studies have shown that when you show kindness to others, not only does it make you feel good inside but there are real "brain benefits" happening as well. Thanks to our "feel-good" brain chemical called dopamine, Research has shown this **kindness that you show to others is reciprocated to yourself** in the beneficial form of: longevity, reduction of stress, feeling more energetic and more emotionally rewarded.

## **SUMMERTIME YARD CARE**

Residents are reminded that **all lots** should be repeatedly cleaned of palm tree fronds and citrus fruit rotting on the ground. This deters bugs (ants and other creepy-crawlies) as well as rodents (mice and rats), which in turn attract snakes.

As well, weeds must be kept under control. It is surprising how quickly the summertime weeds will pop up and thrive through the gravel rocks, despite the summer heat.

Please **make arrangements** with someone to check on and maintain your Summer yard cleanup and weed control spraying as often as necessary.

**Complete the office form** naming your "yard care" person. Without a contact name, you run the risk of forcing the Park to have to hire someone and send you the bill.

There are some yard-care service providers within the Park. Ask around for names. Be sure to collaborate with any provider regarding what your expectations are versus their actual services.

## **UPDATE YOUR PROPERTY ADS**

Postings of "For Sale" or "For Rent" ads for HVR Properties must be re-dated or re-written at least every 12 months or risk being removed from the hallway bulletin board. If you or someone you know has an older ad that is still valid, please re-date the ad or make a new one.

Due to bulletin board space, those **ads must be no larger than 5.5" x 8"** (1/2 sheet of paper).

Posting larger ads or bending the rules by posting two half-page ads for the same location (such as one of photos and one of info) is unfair to other advertisers seeking a spot, and may result in having your ad completely removed.

Let's be fair to all advertisers.



## **NEW HVR OWNER?**

**YES, it's repetitive** for long-time readers, but it is important information to new owners.

Congratulations! Welcome to the Park. If you have not already done so, deed titles can be transferred at no cost from:

### **HVR'S Notary Publics**

Lila Helm 7609 Par (507)377-2008

Sallie Remington 2500 Fairway Ct.  
(509)539-3510

**Most commonly requested services:**

Warranty deeds    Title transfers    Affidavits  
Rental agreements    Medicare enrollment

No service fees, but photo ID is required.

Then, notify the office (to fill out a *property change of ownership* form). Bring age verification ID.

## **THINKING OF RENOVATING?**

HVR owners wishing to make ANY exterior changes to their property (such as awning, deck, shed, concrete, etc) are reminded that they must **first seek approval** of their plans from the HVR Architectural Committee, then obtain proper permits from the County. Packets which set out both the Park and County rules and regulations are available at the Office.

The Architectural Committee usually meets every Thursday 10 am near the main office, but with the Covid restrictions may be opting to meet on a "necessity" basis only.

Information on who to contact for Architectural Committee approvals **over the Summer months** will be posted near the Office bulletin board.

Volunteers are needed for this Architectural Committee and for someone to chair it.  
Please consider joining the group.

## **PARK REPAIRS**

If you notice an item in need of maintenance or repair, please fill out a form found on the wall by the front desk. Let's nip small repairs in the bud before they become big costly repairs.

In case you missed it in the local paper....

## **GOLF COURSE FOR SALE ?**

Frustrated by years of financial shortfalls, the La Joya School Board is looking for options to either increase revenue or sell the Howling Trails Golf Course adjacent to HVR, LVR, and GVR.

"It was pretty much a bad investment," said trustee Alex Cantu.

La Joya ISD purchased the golf course and its 215 acres in 2014 for \$4.9 million with restrictions, including that the property remain a golf course for at least 25 years.

Trustee Espie Ochoa said the school board had discussed the golf course losses and a possible sale, if they could buy a potential buyer willing to comply with the deed restrictions and provide access to La Joya ISD students.

The Board received unwelcome attention in 2019 when a State senator introduced a bill to prohibit school districts from owning golf courses and water parks. The bill stalled in the Senate.

## **LADIES GOLFING TIP # 387:**

Or, "To Bra or not to Bra? That is the question!"

One morning in October 1999, the bodies of two women were found underneath a tree on a golf course near London, England. For more than 15 hours, golfers had assumed they were homeless and sleeping under the tree. When they were eventually determined to be dead, responders projected that a thunder storm the night before provided the first clue as to what might have killed them, and autopsies later confirmed it. The women were sheltering under the tree when it was struck by lightning, killing them instantly.

Investigators believed the women might have survived the strike, had one of them not been wearing an underwire bra. Burn patterns on her chest and a melted wire in her bra indicated that the lightning bolt had jumped from the tree to her bra, instantly killing both her and her nearby friend.

But before you or your partner toss out your underwire bras to go golfing, consider this: in September 2015 a woman struck by lightning in China may have been saved by her underwire bra. In that case, investigators concluded the wires diverted the electricity around her vital organs, thus sparing her life.

## **SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS:**

- There is no such thing as a “rolling stop”. Come to a FULL STOP at posted Park stop signs. This includes golf carts and bicycles.
- Cover the hot tub when done, no matter what time of day. Reduce heat loss / costs.
- Turn off the fans and lights, if you’re the last one out the door of any HVR building. (Exceptions: lights in bathroom hallway and over the front desk of clubhouse.)
- SLOW DOWN, please. We still have too many vehicles speeding in the Park.
- Volunteers are needed for big and small jobs over the Summer. If you’re a full-time resident, consider stepping in to help.
- There’s still a lot of citrus fruit lying on the ground. It needs to be picked up often. Don’t entice rodents, or allow potential new HVR buyers to see an unkempt Park.
- Park residents in temporary need of crutches, a cane, a rolling walker, potty chair, or wheelchair may borrow them free from the Office.
- Walk on the left side of the roads FACING traffic. Use flashlights and wear light-colored or reflective clothing in the evening. See and be seen !
- Pick up after your pets. Non-Service Pets are not allowed in any HVR building.
- Consider walking the dog of a less-mobile neighbor a few times a week (if not daily). All three of you will benefit from this.
- If you use any Park facilities, clean it up/straighten it up when through. Leave it looking better than when you walked in.

My face in the mirror isn’t wrinkled or drawn.  
My house isn’t dirty and the cobwebs are gone.  
My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn.  
I think I might never put my glasses back on.

## **RECYCLING PROGRAM**

**When?** Every Thursday 8:00 – 9:30 am  
(operates year-round)

**Where?** Clubhouse Parking lot (North side)

### **Items recycleable:**

Aluminum beverage cans (they will first remove the tabs for Shriners Hospital), Cardboard (flattened), Newspaper, Other paper, Plastic (squashed, please, to save space), Glass bottles (rinsed), Tin cans (rinsed out and labels removed)

### **Items NOT accepted:**

Styrofoam, Batteries, Aerosol cans, Scrap Metal.

## **ANDY Lander’s Advice for Men:**

Dear Andy: I seem to have a problem with a heavy foot when driving, because I just got another speeding ticket – my second one this month. Do you get pulled over and, if so, how do you handle the situations?

**Andy here:** Well, the other day I was caught doing 65 in a 40 mph zone. The cop pulled me over and approached my window in a big huff and yelled, “Papers”.

I yelled, “Scissors! I win.” and drove off.

Dear Andy: My Buddies have been avoiding me lately. I think they’re shunning me because I’m always trying to unburden my problems on them. What do you think?

**Andy here:** Never tell your problems to your friends. 80% of them don’t care, and the other 20% are just glad it’s you and not them.

Dear Andy: I have a girlfriend, but recently I’ve started seeing her twin sister as well. It’s been tricky trying to not have one find out about the other, and I was hoping you might have some tips.

**Andy here:** I once dated a twin. My friend asked me how I could tell one apart from the other one. I told him Stacy had a beauty mark on her right cheek.

And Frank had a beard.

Dear Andy: You seem like a smart fellow to me. I was just wondering what you got on your IQ test back in school?

**Andy here:** Drool.

## **BEFORE YOU HEAD BACK “UP NORTH”...**

... here's a “to-do” checklist before leaving:

\_\_\_ **Sink & shower drains** sealed off with a sturdy baggie full of water as a “plug” and saran wrap over the **toilet bowl** to prevent evaporation.

\_\_\_ **Buckets of water** placed throughout the rooms, to provide humidity.

\_\_\_ **Fridge kept on** at its lowest setting (with the freezer off) and filled with things affected by summer heat (spices, flour, pens & felt markers, batteries from clocks & remotes, medications & salves, envelopes, candles)

\_\_\_ **Golf cart batteries** topped up with water, and cardboard put under cart to reduce discoloration damage from potential battery leaks.

\_\_\_ (If your golf cart stays outside), **removal of one tire** or battery so thieves can't easily drive it away.

\_\_\_ Foil sheets, towels, and old sheets hung as extra **window shades** to reduce curtain fading and as furniture **dust covers**.

\_\_\_ Storage of your outdoor umbrella-style **clothes dryer** to prevent sun damage and heat rotting and stretching the lines.

\_\_\_ **Bug sprayer** called to annually spray around your foundations. Termites do exist in this area!

\_\_\_ **Rat/mice pellets & traps** and moth balls placed under your skirting and on top of RV tires to deter varmints getting in. That's cheaper than replacing gnawed wires and hoses!

\_\_\_ Arrangements made with someone to spray your yard for **weeds**, and water your plants/trees.

\_\_\_ **Hot water heater** switch flipped off. Why heat water when you're not there?

\_\_\_ Turn off the **water supply** at the curb to reduce the risk of leaking pipe damage. Several residents have the tool for doing that.

\_\_\_ If you do keep the water turned on, at least turn off the **toilet water valve**, located at the back of the toilet base. Water damage is costly!

\_\_\_ Consider “**paying ahead**” on the MUDD water bill that comes due while you're gone. Add a few extra dollars in case of a rate change.

\_\_\_ **Credit card** companies notified that you're “heading home”, so they can tag any possible local unauthorized card use after your departure.

\_\_\_ **Pray** before you leave, asking for protection over your property, and for safe travels.

“Ask anything in My name; I will do it.” John 14:14

## **LOCAL APPRECIATION**

Thanks to everyone in the Park who helped their neighbors in any way during the unprecedented “Big Freeze” last month.

Also, thanks to Jack Martin and his MUDD Crew for keeping the big generator operating the entire time. Our Park's water supply remained clean and flowing throughout the cold week, unlike so many areas throughout RGV and, indeed, unlike so many other parts of Texas.

When the power first went out, some HEB stores reportedly told customers to immediately head to the checkout with their carts, then allowed them to proceed out of the store with their carts full of their groceries. All at no charge to them.

No rioting! No looting! Just 3 examples of Local People helping Local People. Why? Because this, Folks, is how we do things in Texas!

## **DUMB AS A POST? Yep!**

If you ever make \$600,000 on a drug deal, resist the urge to post a picture of yourself and your piles of cash on social media. A 24-year-old criminal, Olsi, couldn't help himself and tweeted an incriminating selfie from his apartment with the caption; “I love my job \$\$\$\$\$\$”. After seeing the post, the National Crime Agency set up surveillance on him. A few days later, they arrested him and two other men during a raid in which they seized the cash, along with \$4 million worth of cocaine and heroin.

## **WHEN TWO FISHERMEN MEET**

CONTRIBUTED BY Marge Ford

Take your time and pronounce the syllables out loud. For example, YEATAKIDEEZY is “Yeah. Take it easy.” all slurred into one word.

HIYAMAC	'LOBUDDY
BINEARLONG?	COPLOURS
CATCHANENNY?	GODDAFEW
KINERTHAY?	BASSENCARP
ENNYSIZETOOM?	CUPPLAPOWNS
HITTINHARD?	SORDALIKE
WHACHOOZIN?	GOBBAWORMS
FISHANONABOBBIN?	RYDONONABOBBIN
WHACHADRINKIN?	JUGAIZTEE
IGODDAGO	TUBAD
SEEAROUN	YEATAKIDEEZY
YUTOOGULUK	

## **PARK-WIDE YARD SALES**

**MAR 5th & 6th 8 am -12 noon**

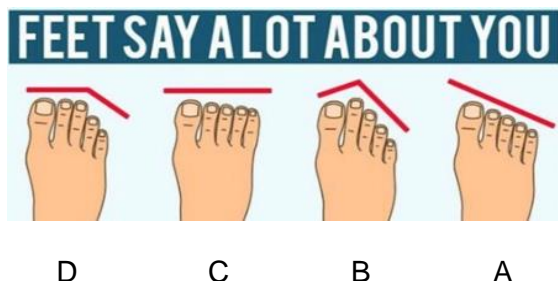
Treasures and trinkets  
In carports and outdoors  
Come buy all my Goodies  
... and I'll go and buy yours!

## **SPOUSE: I "TOE'D" YOU SO**

**DISCLAIMER:** Editors assume no responsibility for possible arguments related to spouses who say, "Oh, that is SOOOOO you".

I came across this article recently and thought I'd share it. It's purely to entertain you and yours; I doubt it's a very scientific study.

So, just for the fun of it, take off your sock and examine your foot. Match it to one of the following before reading further.



According to "them" (whoever they are), this is what the shape of your foot says about your personality:

(Remember, it's just FOR A GOOD LAUGH.)

A. The common foot: This slanting foot is the most common type. If your feet look like this, you're a very balanced person. You're spontaneous and social. You love meeting people and are always open to new experiences. You love to travel, because you love exploring different cultures. (You might also re-interpret those lines as "not unique, unpredictable, unwilling to settle down")

B. The flame foot: the striking thing about this foot shape is that the second toe is longer than the big toe. If you have this type of foot, you're a very sporty kind of person. You're also creative, you love to think of new things. Because of your enthusiasm, you're very good at winning people over. You can also be impulsive at times.

(You might also re-interpret those lines as "continually getting into mischief, pulls the wool over other people's eyes", unpredictable)

C. The square foot: With this type of foot, all of the toes are roughly the same length. You're a true thinker who likes to go over all the pros and cons before making an actual decision. You're a practical person and you're also trustworthy and reliable.

(You might also re-interpret those lines as "forever stalls, unable to make up one's mind")

D. The stretched foot: this foot is relatively long and the toes cross each other a little bit. If you have this type of foot, you're apparently an introverted person. You like to keep things to yourself and you have hidden depths. You can be impulsive and your moods can swing really quickly.

(You might also re-interpret those lines as "you let things fester until one day without warning you just lose it and fly off the handle".)

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## **Editor's Viewpoint:**

It has been a different "winter season", in terms of the lack of the usual full slate of "regular Park activities" for us to report on in the monthly newsletters. However, we think most of you would agree that the health and safety concerns of you and all HVR members far outweighed the restrictions that placed limits on our "fun".

The Board (both the previous members and the newly elected ones) need to be congratulated on their tireless efforts wrestling with the operating decisions amidst changing COVID protocols. They have done an excellent job in keeping the Park facilities safe. If you agree and have not already done so, we would recommend that you make an effort to thank them when you get a chance – phone numbers and/or email addresses are shown on the front page of this newsletter.

As many of you head back north for the summer, let us remind you of a quote from Sgt. Phil Esterhaus (*Hill Street Blues* TV Show), who always used to conclude his cop roll call with his signature line, "Let's be careful out there."

- Kathy W. and John C.