

jured in the accident. Many of the dead were buried as unknowns in the Monument Cemetery. As Howe pointed out, "They did not have ID's or Social Security cards or anything that would identify them".

In 2016, Boy Scout Kent Griffith heard that many of the unknown tombstones made of plaster of Paris were crumbling. To earn his Eagle Scout badge, he directed the installation of 128 unknown gravestones made of granite to replace the crumbling markers. The Town of Monument holds ceremonies on Memorial Day and Veterans Days to honor the veterans who are buried there.

As a side note, members of my family are pioneers of the area. Four great-grandparents, two grandparents, two parents, a great-great-grandmother, and several uncles of mine are buried in Monument Cemetery. We also have several pioneer relatives buried in Spring Valley.

Meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month at the Palmer Lake Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake. The next meeting will be from 7 to 8 p.m. April 18 (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) The program will be History of the Pikes Peak Trolleys by John Haney. Haney is founder of the Pikes Peak Trolley and Restoration Shop. Open and free to the public.

For more information about future presentations and membership, go to palmerdividehistory.org.

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Above: Monument Cemetery entrance at 800 Beacon Lite Rd. Photo by Michael Weinfeld.



Above: John Howe, left, and Michael Weinfeld. Photo by Tia Mayer.

On the Trail (in memory of Tim Watkins) Mount Herman "Leap"

By Steve Pate

Occasionally I saw the term, "grid day," mentioned by Randy Phillips on social media. I was not sure what this meant until I learned that Phillips intended to summit Mount Herman on Feb. 29 to complete his grid—summitting Mount Herman on every calendar day of the year. This meant that he had the chance to complete his "grid" only every four years when a Leap Year rolled around.

So, on Thursday, Feb. 29 (Leap

Day), Phillips and 24 supporters ascended Mount Herman via the Broken Ankle Trail and celebrated Phillips's completion of his goal on all 366 calendar days.

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Right: Group photo on Broken Ankle Trail to Mount Herman. Photo by Randy Phillips. See also the photo on page 1.



High Altitude Nature and Gardening (HANG)

Garden helps, bloopers, and dangers

By Janet Sellers

April for gardeners

April still gets lots of cold weather that can kill garden plants that don't have their organic systems at work. The organic garden has a natural pace for give-and-take with microorganisms that plants depend on for life. The microcosm of organic organisms survives cold weather dormancy but doesn't get going until the soil climate is right for activity at specific temperatures. Many use frost cloth for temperature and harsh weather protection into the summer season.

Music from nature

Last month, I shared that bird songs and classical music have a profound effect on plants. Human speech also plays a part. But overstimulation—especially from loud or strident music—is

harmful to the plant, also true for other living things like people and animals. Bird song sound frequencies can also have a calming effect on plants, reducing stress and improving their ability to cope with environmental factors such as temperature changes or pests.

Geysers concertos

An article in the Washington Post reported on a computer program coded by Domenico Vicinanza, a particle physicist and composer at Britain's Anglia Ruskin University, that converted geyser underground tremors into a musical score, and flutist Alyssa Schwartz performed a musical score generated by seismic readings recorded at Yellowstone's Mary Lake, Wyo.

I found out about music-like frequencies created in nature that humans cannot hear but birds, animals

and plants can. To explore that this spring, I got a midi device that puts plant frequencies into frequencies we can hear.

Not for the birds

Human hair can tangle on a bird's feet or legs, cutting off circulation. Avoid soft fluffy pet fur taken from the undercoat of a pet, or very fine fur like pet rabbit fur. These may soak up water - it's dangerous to nests - so compost these and enrich the soil with no harm to any creature. Any pet hair should be used only from pets that have not received flea or tick treatments.

Silver bullets?

Don't drink snow!

Colorado allows licensed cloud seeding of silver iodide for ski resorts and farming. If you try to burn a snowball and it turns black, that's silver iodide, (a

chemical regulated by the Clean Water Act as a hazardous substance) which is used across the globe and linked to various weather issues. Studies show concerns regarding bioaccumulation, citing pros and cons of this weather control strategy.

Local herbs

Our bodies are exposed to heavy metals every day via food, water, pharmaceuticals, manufactured products, pollution, and more. The National Institute for Health shares that we can use these to help detox from heavy metals. We can grow cilantro, cumin, dandelion, and milk thistle. Red clover and turmeric are good but not locally grown. Janet Sellers is a holistic gardening nature lover and welcomes your garden tips at JanetSellers@ocn.me

Art Matters

The most beautiful investment and tax deduction

By Janet Sellers

Art to buy, lease, or rent has its benefits

We can buy art, but we can also lease or rent artworks. Sculptures and artworks lend a powerful uplift to places, especially businesses. One primary source for art leasing is the artmakers themselves. Leasing allows the prospective buyer to get a feel for the art in the place, such as a corporate building or to give a special atmosphere to a property—visitors and tenants like to feel the luxury that art brings to a place.

Museums offer art rentals, and there are art rental agreements with art collectors as well, since rental and leasing income is another way that art

generates income while keeping ownership. Museums and private collectors are two ways to do this, and sometimes galleries will rent or lease artworks. Often, the temporary art rental may become a sale as well. Art dealers also allow a trial period to see if the art and collector have a good fit. This allows the renter to experience the art without the full commitment of purchasing it and benefits the artist because the artwork is out working in the world, generating income even before it is sold.

An asset class that is fun to own

As a store of wealth to grow capital over time, art is an asset class that has a potential to generate wealth, espe-

cially when viewed as long-term investments. Art is a limited, scarce resource that benefits from its scarcity. Of course, the maker of the artworks, the artist, needs to have a sales history, a track record, to show value and the potential to increase in value. As it has a fixed supply, this can drive up prices.

You can claim art as a tax deduction by demonstrating that your primary intent in owning the artwork was to generate income, as governed by IRC 212, because the art expense can be deducted as it relates to this provision—it's an expense for production of income. Purchased for business use or corporate holdings under specific circumstances, your fine art, original works by living artists and even col-

lectibles (Pokeman makes a comeback) could qualify. It wouldn't work as a depreciation deduction because it doesn't wear out, and it is an investment that can increase in value, so the cost is a key factor as well as the appreciation when sold.

Our local artists have a wide range of art for sale, some for lease or rent. Our art galleries and interior decor venues offer art all year to enjoy. Our Art Hop season begins in May. The fourth Friday of the month, just show up in downtown Monument 5-8 p.m. Janet Sellers is a professional artist, writer, and speaker, offering fine art, informative talks, and art experiences in the Tri-Lakes region all the way to the Pacific Coast. Contact her at JanetSellers@ocn.me.



Snapshots of Our Community

NASTaP hike in Fox Run Park, Mar. 9



Left: Members of Native American Sacred Trees and Places (NASTaP) and others went on a hike with Heidi Wigand-Nicely to look for Culturally Modified Trees (CMTs) on March 9 in Fox Run Regional Park. CMTs in Fox Run Park have been purported to have been bent, twisted, grafted or otherwise modified by the Ute and other tribes before the late 1800s. One of NASTaP's strategic goals is to identify, document and protect Native American CMTs and sacred places. Nearly 100 trees have been identified in Fox Run Park with distinguishing traits such as bark peels, bent shapes and tie-down marks, girdling and burls, split trunks, and branches. The trees were used for trail markers, burial markers, medicine, and for ceremonial purposes. Fox Run Park and the surrounding areas included in the Front Range are known campsites for the nomadic indigenous peoples for hundreds of years. NASTaP is a 501C3; for more information go to nastap.org or visit its booth at the Roller Coaster Trailhead on April 20 for Earth Day. Contact Membership Chair Linda Davies at ldaviesrex@gmail.com. Photo by Heidi Wigand-Nicely. Caption by Marlene Brown.