



# The Pelican Brief

Serving [The Pelican Pointe Community](#)

January 2018

## Board members assume new roles, plan to fill vacancy

As reported in the December edition of this newsletter, during the Nov. 9 Annual Meeting, Pelican Pointe homeowners reelected Marcia Helfant to another three-year term. Then at the December meeting, the Board named Elly Valas our new President, Marcia Helfant now Vice President, Charlotte Robinson agreed to serve as Secretary, and Frank Parker continues as Treasurer.

During the Jan. 8 monthly meeting, Board members are expected to name a new At Large Board member. ###

### 2018 Board of Directors

Elly Valas, President  
Marcia Helfant, Vice President  
Frank Parker, Treasurer  
Charlotte Robinson, Secretary  
Vacant, At Large

## A Message from our new HOA President

*It's an honor and privilege to be serving as the Pelican Pointe Home Owners Association President for the coming year.*

*I would be remiss if I didn't first thank Marcia Helfant for her dedicated service to our community. Marcia worked tirelessly with our Board and our homeowners to ensure that we were on sound fiscal footing and that we continued to diligently manage the affairs of our HOA. Her many accomplishments included retaining Weststar Property Management and Jean Ronald as our manager. Marcia also pushed to have a new Reserve Study done so that we can anticipate the costs of long term maintenance of our property as it ages.*

*I am a Denver native and an original homeowner at Pelican Pointe. I watched the buildings around me being built more than 17 years ago. I have seen our landscaping mature, watched old friends move out and welcomed new neighbors. When I moved here I often joked that the only place I was going to move after here to was Fairmount Cemetery right down my beloved High Line Canal trail. I still feel that way.*

*Please be an active participant in our community. Consider joining our Social, Welcoming or Landscaping committees. Check out the Lunch Bunch or our Book Club. Exchange your favorite books at our own Little Library. Contact Danielle Zieg with story ideas for our newsletter. Come to our monthly Board meetings.*

*I wouldn't have taken on this job without the commitment of our other Board members. Please feel free to contact me with feedback and ideas at 303-316-7568 or [elly@ellyvalas.com](mailto:elly@ellyvalas.com).*

*Best wishes for a joyous and healthy New Year.*

*Elly Valas*

**More inside:** *Let there be light, Snow stories, Life long learning opportunity, Protecting the High Line path, Mark your calendar*

## Let there be light, new fixtures being installed

The light fixtures next to the frame on each of our garage doors have been failing – the wiring simply wearing out. A plan to replace these fixtures with more energy efficient LED fixtures -- that look almost exactly like the original fixtures -- was presented during the September HOA



Board meeting. The Board gave final project approval at the October meeting (see *Board meeting notes for [September, section VII](#), [October, section VI](#).*)

Our handyman Jim Cuellar quickly started replacing lights on buildings that had malfunctioning fixtures and is expected to complete replacing all fixtures in January. The total cost for fixtures and installation of \$14,400 is being paid for with money from the Pelican Pointe reserves budget.

Owners with any concerns about their new light can email [Jean@weststarmanagement.com](mailto:Jean@weststarmanagement.com) or call 720-941-9200. ###

## Solution to help with slippery sidewalks

Winter weather arrived recently with snow, wind and cold temperatures. But it's Colorado and we get a lot of sunny days, too. Snow removal in Pelican Pointe may take place one day, and the next day the sunshine and melt off may create slippery icy surfaces when the temperatures dip again to freezing numbers in the early morning or evening when the sun goes down. If you experience ice build-up on your walkway following snow removal please contact [jean@weststarmanagement.com](mailto:jean@weststarmanagement.com) to request delivery of an ice melt bucket. ###

## Snow is only a temporary ground cover

An inch or more of snow can blanket our trees, bushes and grass creating a clean white landscape. Eventually, it will melt soaking into the ground. What the snow cannot do is magically make your dog droppings disappear.

All pet owners have the responsibility to clean up after their pet. Your neighbors or our grounds crew should not have to clean up your pet's waste. Yes, we know it is cold outside and you would rather clean it up later or maybe not at all. That is not acceptable, and your dog is probably embarrassed by your behavior. Just carry something to pick up those piles! ###

## Submissions welcome for *The Pelican Brief*

As a Pelican Pointe homeowner/resident what's on your mind? Send along notes, observations or questions for *The Pelican Brief*. Send to [daniellezieg@gmail.com](mailto:daniellezieg@gmail.com). ###

## Pelican Pointe property emergency after normal business hours

Call Weststar Management 720-941-9200, press option 1 to reach an on-call manager who will return your call promptly. *That's 720 not 303.* ###

## Conservancy working to protect the High Line Canal

A section of the 71-mile High Line Canal runs along the other side of the fence on the southwest border of the Pelican Pointe property. Many of our residents use the path regularly. It has long been an asset across our region and a treasured neighborhood trail, but now its future is uncertain due to changing needs.

The mission of the [High Line Canal Conservancy](http://highlinecanal.org/) is to preserve, protect and enhance this ecological and recreational resource with support from the community. To learn more about efforts to maintain and protect this resource, check the website at <http://highlinecanal.org/>. You'll find information including the Conservancy

- 2016 Annual Report
- Community Vision Plan for the High Line Canal
- August 2017 Progress Report
- Sign up for the Conservancy newsletter
- You can watch a video *One Community One Canal* ###

## New Lifelong Learning Campus set to open nearby in Aurora

A lifelong learning program based at the University of Denver that provides academic courses to people 50+ throughout Denver is opening a campus in Aurora for spring beginning April 2.

The nonprofit [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute](http://osherlifelonglearninginstitute.org/) at the University of Denver (OLLI) serves the growing 50+ population through its OLLI Central, OLLI West, OLLI South and campus programs. Now, OLLI East will offer classes at the Mississippi Avenue Baptist Church (MABC), 13231 E. Mississippi Avenue. Students pay \$130 per term to become OLLI members who can choose from a wide array of course topics in three eight-week terms.

Anyone who is interested should attend an Open House, Friday, Jan. 19 at MABC, 10 a.m.-noon, to learn more about OLLI and the classes scheduled at Aurora location.

OLLI classes are taught by members who are volunteer facilitators with knowledge of a subject. There are no admission requirements, no papers, no tests, no grades – just an opportunity to learn something new and sharing discussions with other “mature adults.” The \$130 fee that members pay for each eight-week term gives them access to classes at any OLLI at DU site.

Questions can be sent to Paul Simon, OLLI East Manager, [ollidueast@gmail.com](mailto:ollidueast@gmail.com), or visit [www.portfolio.du.edu/ollieast](http://www.portfolio.du.edu/ollieast) ###

## Mark your calendar

Trash pickup Thursday, Jan. 4\*, 18\*; Wednesday Jan. 10, 24, 31

Recycle: Jan. 10, 24. [Extra trash](#): Jan. 24. (Set out *extra trash* every four weeks).

\*Jan. 4 and 18 pickup days are Thursday due to the New Year and Martin Luther King Jr. holidays.

[Sign up to get trash-pickup email trash reminders](#). Note: The system recognizes our address as 8300 E. Fairmount Drive, that's E. even though we don't use E. in our address.

### **Pelican Pointe Homeowners Association Board Meeting**

**Monday, Jan. 8, 6 p.m.**

**Windsor Gardens Community Center**

All homeowners and residents always welcome. [Meeting Minutes are posted online](#).

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

**Monday, Jan. 15**

Government offices closed

### **Pelican Pointe Lunch Bunch**

**Wednesday, Jan. 17, noon**

[Hibachi Grill & Buffet](#)

**1026 S. Sable, Aurora**

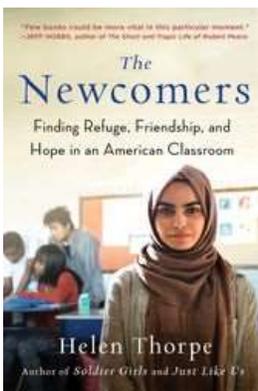
All residents in the Pelican Pointe community are welcome, and everyone pays their own bill. Contact Sheila Powell [303-280-6943](tel:303-280-6943) or [spowellmsn@comcast.net](mailto:spowellmsn@comcast.net) if you need a ride to the restaurant.

### **Pelican Pointe Book Group**

**Thursday, Jan. 18, 6:30 p.m.**

**Home of June Mullins JJ101**

All are welcome



The January book is [The Newcomers](#) by Helen Thorpe. Some may know the author from her previous non-fiction, about Latina high school girls and women who served in the U.S. active reserves in Afghanistan.

In [The Newcomers](#), Thorpe writes with compassion about a group of immigrant children at Denver's South High School who are struggling to learn the language and customs in America. Thorpe spent a year in the classroom of Eddie Williams, an English Language Acquisition teacher at South, which educates most of Denver's teenage refugees. One reviewer notes the book "...is bound to become a classic on integrating young immigrants into American Society

Call Marcia Helfant at 303-722-0053 with any questions.

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