

What’s Up, Doc?

On April 30, 1938, Warner Bros. released a new Looney Tunes cartoon featuring Porky Pig as a hapless hunter trying to unsuccessfully bag a humorously hyperactive rabbit named Happy. How could audiences know that this rabbit would evolve into Bugs Bunny, one of the most recognizable cartoon characters of all time?



The rabbit in *Porky’s Hare Hunt* bore little resemblance to the Bugs Bunny we all know and love today. This white rabbit wore no gloves, lacked Bugs’ recognizable voice, and did not eat a single carrot! Nevertheless, the rabbit was voiced by Mel Blanc, the future voice of Bugs Bunny, and the short was directed by Ben “Bugs” Hardaway, for whom Bugs Bunny was later named. It would be two years before Bugs made his official debut in *A Wild Hare*. When a redesigned rabbit was requested for the short, Bob Givens went to work and sketched a rabbit based on a Bugs Hardaway design labeled “Bugs’s Bunny.” The name stuck. When audiences got their first glimpse at the new and improved rabbit, the character stuck, too.

The Bugs Bunny featured in *A Wild Hare* already displayed many of the Bugs Bunny trademarks we have come to love. When staring down the barrel of Elmer Fudd’s shotgun, Bugs first utters his catchphrase “What’s up, Doc?” in a Brooklyn-esque accent. The phrase was added by the cartoon’s director, Tex Avery, who had heard the expression a thousand times in his native Texas. Avery figured it a throwaway line and was more surprised than anybody when it left audiences rolling with laughter. As for Bugs’ obsession with munching carrots, this was a habit “borrowed” from Clark Gable’s character in the 1934 movie *It Happened One Night*. In one scene, Gable stands by a fence spouting advice to Claudette Colbert while chewing a carrot and talking with his mouth full. The scene was so famous at the time that audiences immediately got Bugs’ imitation, and it earned the bunny instant panache. His popularity would endure for over 70 years and he would remain Warner Bros.’ most popular and recognizable mascot.

April Birthdays

Mary Drake	4/5
Bettie Ferry	4/6
Barbara Licari	4/12
Wilma Bowen	4/13
Barbara Comfort	4/16
Eldha Amezcua	4/16
Bev Donato	4/23
Lynn Stites	4/27

April Anniversaries

Pat Anderson	2 years
Barbara Comfort	3 years
Jayne Brown	4 years
Rena Scharf	4 years



HILLTOP COMMONS INFORMATION

Office: (530) 272-5274
Kitchen: (530) 272-2854
Fax: (530) 272-5275

Laundry Room Hours:
Daily: 7:00am-9:00pm
Please remove all items from washers and dryers by 9:00pm

Van Schedule
Temporarily suspended

Beauty Salon Hours:
Temporarily Closed

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:
Gold Country Lift: 271-7433 (271-RIDE)
Post Office: 273-3429
The Union: 273-9565
Comcast Cable: 1-800-266-2278
Gold Country Cab: 274-8294
Fast Taxi: 477-7766
Grass Valley Police
477-4600 (non-emergency)

www.raystoneseniors.com

April Newsletter

Hilltop Commons 131 Eureka St. Grass Valley, CA 95945 (530) 272-5274



Celebrating April

Easter
April 4

Earth Day
April 22

Activities

Exercise 9:30am
Mondays - Saturdays
Common Area

Bingo 1:00pm
Mondays, Tuesdays, and
Thursdays
Common Area

“Thirsty Thursdays”
Thursday afternoons
door-to-door

Masks are required for all
activities

Space is limited and
sign-ups are required

Please call the office to sign up for
any activity

All activities are subject to change

From the Desk of Terri Howell
Community Administrator

Knock, knock!
Who’s there?
Hatch.
Hatch who?
Bless you and please cover your mouth next time.

Who doesn’t love a good knock, knock joke? Lucky for us, April is National Humor Month and was conceived as a means to heighten public awareness of the therapeutic value of humor. Studies have shown that laughter and joy, the benchmarks of humor, lead to improved well-being, boosted morale, increased communication skills and an enriched quality of life.

It is no coincidence that the month begins with April Fools’ Day, a day which has sanctioned frivolity and amusement for hundreds of years. Humor as a tool to lift ailing spirits is an established notion supported by scientific research. The curative power of laughter and its ability to relieve debilitating stress and burnout may indeed be one of the great medical discoveries of our times.

Why do we love humor? Humor is free entertainment. The best things in life are free and that includes humor. Sure you can pay to see a great comedy show or go check out a funny new movie, but getting a good laugh really doesn’t have to cost a penny.

Laughter is contagious. What makes you open your mouth wide, is highly contagious and isn’t a yawn? You guessed it, laughter! Studies show that just hearing the recorded sound of laughter causes our facial muscles to naturally form a smile and that laughing with others can help you form stronger social bonds.

Laughter is the best medicine. Just because laughter is contagious doesn’t mean it’s bad for you. In fact, quite the opposite is true. Humor can be a great tool for combating difficult emotions, slowing the aging process and increasing overall satisfaction with life. What are we waiting for? Let’s hear it for the knock, knock jokes, corny dad jokes and chicken crossing the road jokes. Cheers to an April filled with enough humor to tickle even the most fickle funny bone!



Marketing Minutes By Sue Hudson Marketing Director



Being your Marketing Director during this pandemic has been interesting, to say the least. As things slowly open back up, life will start to feel a little more normal again, which we are all more than ready for. But this is a process, and we must stay vigilant in wearing a mask and always social distancing, so we continue to stay COVID-19 free!

Our phones have been ringing with seniors interested in a safe and stress-free life, especially after being isolated from all friends and family over the past year. Following the COVID protocols, Traci and I are excited to be able to give tours again, inviting folks in to see what life at Hilltop Commons looks like! As always, we thank you for being so kind and friendly to the prospects as we pass by on a tour. Although we can't see your smile through your mask, we can hear it in your voice and see it in your eyes. We are so blessed to have the best residents living right here at Hilltop!

May Spring bring many smiles to your face, appreciation to your heart and sunshine to warm your soul.

Stay healthy my friends!

Love,
Sue

Activities Stuff By Traci Gelgood Assoc. Marketing Director Acting Activities Director



Happy April!

Great news! We are finally able to begin looking into opening things up a bit, and we have begun with our Library! It will now be open for you to go in and choose a book or a puzzle, **ONE PERSON AT A TIME**, and masks must still be worn. This, of course, will replace the need for the library cart. Because we are only allowing one person at a time, and since we are asking you to be brief, we are not yet permitting card games or puzzles in the Library.

Another activity we will be starting up again is **TRIVIA**. This will be on Wednesday afternoons in the common area, beginning in a few weeks. I will keep you posted.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO SIGN-UP IF YOU ARE INTERESTED! (530) 272-5274

As we are able to add in more activities, we will let you know. In the meantime, let me know if you have any questions or would like to sign up for any activity! Please check the front panel of this newsletter for activity details. And please continue to wear your mask outside of your apartment.

Stay happy, healthy and safe!



Culinary Corner



April showers bring May flowers...

Easter Brunch is on Sunday, April 4th. We will be serving baked ham, yams, scalloped potatoes, baked beans and sautéed green beans with bacon. Strawberry French toast with sausage will be the breakfast option, and for dessert we are serving lemon meringue pie.

Easter is a half day for the kitchen staff, so we will be leaving for the day at 2:00pm. We will be handing out box dinners when we deliver your brunch. If you are unable to get your box dinner before 2:00pm, the office or night watch staff will be happy to get one for you.

Thank you all for being you.
See you soon!

Sincerely,

Jammie Barquilla (Chef)

Kitchen # 272-2854



Letter from the Editor Traci Gelgood



IMPORTANT REMINDER

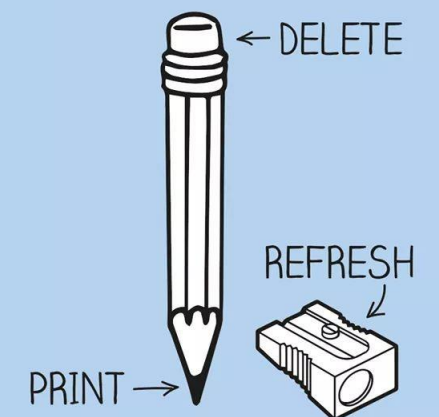
Please remember to check your pendants once a month by pressing the button to make sure it is working properly. You will NOT hear anything, but the pendant company will call to confirm that the button is working.

Be ready to answer your phone to let the pendant company know that you were just testing your button when they call from (248) 773-0265.

It is also EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that you let the office know if any of your contact phone numbers have changed (either yours or your family members).

Thank you and stay safe!

WHEN I WAS A KID, THIS WAS MY COMPUTER:



DAN BACKLAND FOR GRUMPY OLD GITS I@LITTLE CHURCH MOUSE LTD MMXX