



February 2021

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## Remember These Tips for Job Success

Success on the job is more than just showing up on time. How can you make your mark so you can advance in your career? Try following this advice from the Hays website:

- **Know your organization's expectations.** What does your employer want to achieve? How does its culture contribute to its goals? What are its values? Get to know your organization inside and out so you can support it effectively.
- **Show a positive attitude.** Managers and co-workers like working with upbeat people. You don't have to be Pollyanna, but you can consistently show enthusiasm for your work and your employer's goals.
- **Be a team player.** Get to know the people you work with so you can help and support them. Volunteer for committees and task forces to show your willingness to work together. Collaboration is the key to success for any organization.
- **Be considerate to people.** Always say "please" and "thank you." Respect co-workers' privacy and personal space. In general, treat people the way you'd like to be treated—or even a little better.
- **Keep personal business private.** You can't avoid the occasional call home, but try to keep personal matters just that—personal. Be friendly, but don't overshare. A professional attitude marks you as someone to depend on.

**Next HOA Meeting**  
HOA will be meeting remotely  
until further notice.

## Celebrate Valentine's Day with These Famous Lovers

Valentine's Day celebrates love and happiness, and although real life offers plenty of true stories with happily-ever-after endings, many of us look to literature for inspiring tales of passion's power. Get in the mood for love by rereading the novels, plays, and poetry about these famous lovers (not all of whom lived happily ever after):

- **Romeo and Juliet.** Shakespeare's tragic tale of young love: Teenagers from feuding families meet, fall in love, marry, and ultimately end their lives rather than live without each other.
- **Tristan and Isolde.** A medieval tale of doomed love. Tristan falls in love with Isolde, who is betrothed to his uncle, Mark, king of Cornwall. Despite their enduring love, they are forced to marry others.
- **Odysseus and Penelope.** A happy ending for this one. Penelope remains faithful to her absent husband for 20 long years; Odysseus persists in his quest to return home after the Trojan War. Both overcome temptations and obstacles to be reunited at last.
- **Jane Eyre and Mr. Rochester.** Charlotte Brontë's classic 19th-century novel tells the tale of a young governess and a gruff, lonely landowner with a dark secret. But love triumphs in the end.
- **Ralph and Alice Kramden.** OK, not a book, play, or poem, but a classic TV show. Despite bickering, working-class struggles, and the occasional threat to send Alice "to the moon!" the couple stayed together with love and devotion—and lots of laughter—for years and years.



### Williamsburg II 2021 HOA Payment Coupon

Membership: \$35.00. All residents of Williamsburg II are encouraged to join! Please return this form and a check made payable to Williamsburg II HOA and mail to **Mark Hickman, 10588 W. Roxbury Avenue, Littleton, CO 80127**. Your dues pay for the maintenance of the front entrance, electricity for the lights, Board of Directors insurance and social events that promote community involvement. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you! **Pay in February 2021 and you will be entered to win a prize!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Don't Commit These Financial Errors

Handling money can be tricky under the best circumstances, but even more so during the chaos of the pandemic. On Yahoo, money management guru Dave Ramsey shares a list of mistakes to avoid as you try to stay financially afloat:

- **Tackling your smallest debts first.** The amount of money you owe may seem insurmountable, so don't confront it all at once. Start out by paying off your smallest debts, while making minimum payments on your larger ones to stay up to date. As you free up more money, you'll be able to take on your bigger challenges.
- **Justifying needless purchases.** You may think you deserve that new pair of expensive designer jeans because of how hard you've been working. Don't fall into that trap. The more you scale back on luxuries you don't really need, the better off you'll be in the long run.
- **Relying on credit cards.** Do as much shopping as you can using cash instead of credit cards. When you get paid, separate out the cash you'll need for rent, groceries, transportation, and other necessities, including savings. Resist the temptation to charge things, even essentials, and you'll have a better handle on how much you spend.
- **Buying everything new.** New cars lose value the minute you drive them away from the dealer. Consider used cars, along with resale shops for clothes, appliances, and other everyday needs. As long as what you buy meets your realistic needs, it doesn't matter whether it's the newest model available.
- **Failure to invest.** Got a little extra money? Instead of splurging on a new TV, put it into a solid mutual fund or other type of investment. Don't try to beat the stock market—invest for the long haul, not a quick win. And remember to contribute as much as you can to your 401(K) or other retirement fund to start building up the money you'll need later in life.
- **Being impatient.** Few people get rich by winning the lottery or hitting it big in the stock market. Think long term. Saving and investing a little bit on a regular basis is the best way to assure yourself of a financially stable future.

## Keep Kids' Eyes Safe While Studying with Screens

Schools may be opening up, but some remote e-learning will no doubt continue until the pandemic is well and truly gone. Online classes will remain, but be careful of the strain too much screen learning time can put on a young one's eyes. Follow this guidance from *U.S. News & World Report*:

- **Take regular breaks.** Set a timer to remind kids to look away from the screen every 20 minutes or so. They should look out the window or close their eyes for 20 seconds. Alternate reading e-books and real books.
- **Mark book chapters.** Use paperclips to mark real books every few chapters to again encourage kids to rest their eyes. In an e-book, you can use the book-mark function for the same purpose.
- **Keep screens at arm's length.** The screen of your child's laptop or tablet should be 18–24 inches from their eyes. It should be positioned at eye level, right in front of their body.
- **Reduce glare.** Place your light source behind your child's back, not behind the screen. Use the monitor's controls to adjust brightness and contrast so it's easy on the eyes. Don't use devices in bright areas where harsh light can reflect off the screen. On the other hand, don't keep the room too dark, or the screen's brightness can aggravate after-images and cause eye discomfort.
- **Stop before bedtime.** Kids should discontinue screen watching 30–60 minutes before going to bed. Otherwise the blue light from the screen can disrupt their sleep. Have them switch their device to a night mode that will decrease blue light exposure.
- **Spend time outdoors.** After doing their schoolwork, or during breaks, have children spend some time outdoors. Exposure to natural light can slow the development of nearsightedness, especially in younger children.

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**Check out our Facebook Group Page at: Williamsburg II. Type this in the group search option to see if you are a member.**

The Williamsburg II HOA newsletter is published monthly by the Williamsburg II Homeowners Association, a non-profit homeowners association. The newsletter is distributed by block workers.

### News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 12th of the month before the next month's issue. Please email news articles to the editor at [wendimilinkov@yahoo.com](mailto:wendimilinkov@yahoo.com). No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter. **All articles must be approved by the editor for publication, or as space permits.**

### Advertising

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 7th.

To place an ad, call Colorado Lasertype, **303-979-7499**. Email: [getinfo@coloradolasertype.com](mailto:getinfo@coloradolasertype.com)

To find ad rates and discounts, go to [www.ColoradoLasertype.com](http://www.ColoradoLasertype.com) and click on the "Advertising Rates" link.

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

## American Heart Month

American Heart Month is about motivating Americans to adopt healthy lifestyles to prevent heart disease. Research shows that we're more successful at meeting personal health goals when we join forces with others. This American Heart Month, inspire and motivate yourself and those you love to make heart health a regular part of your self-care routine.

# Free Days 2021

We have a lot to be thankful for here in Denver. The weather, the mountains, good food, and great sports. We also have an incredible array of museums offering everything from art to history to science and more. While a membership will help these institutions a lot right now, some are still offering free days as well. So check one out and then consider donating or joining if you dig it!

As always, things are ever-changing with COVID-19, so please double-check the museum's website before heading out.

**DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE:** Admission is free on the following dates in 2021. Due to COVID restrictions, you will need to make a reservation online - be sure to choose the "SCFD Community Free Day". *February 8 & 28, April 25, May 23, June 30, August 11, September 1 & 20, October 4, November 6, December 6.*

**MCA DENVER (MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART):** The MCA is always free for teens and children 18 years and younger. Healthcare workers also get free admission. Also, the first Saturday of every month is only a penny! If you have a bit more than a penny to give, you can sign up for the Broke Heart Club which only costs \$1.95 a month!

**DENVER ZOO:** The Denver Zoo holds a lottery for its free museum days. Check the website to see when the upcoming free day is and by what date you need to enter the lottery.

**MUSEO DE LAS AMERICAS:** The Museo de las Americas is always free for children 12 and under.

**DENVER ART MUSEUM:** Teens and children under 18 get in for free at the Denver Art Museum.

**CLIFFORD STILL MUSEUM:** Admission is free on the following dates in 2021 (free tickets must be reserved ahead of time): *January 21, February 16, March 20, April 25, May 19, June 19, July 25, August 13, September 10, October 12, November 18, December 8.*

**U.S. NATIONAL PARKS:** On the following days, free entrance will be allowed into all national parks: *April 17, August 4 & 25, September 25, November 1*

## Littleton Cupola Cam

Hello friends, near and far...

If you've never visited Littleton's Cupola Cam before ... welcome! If you are a long-time visitor, you will notice the new Cupola Cam's image is bigger, brighter and sharper, with longer zoom capability.

The new Cupola Cam has become so popular that the camera reaches its viewer limit occasionally, causing the image to fail to load. If you get an error message, it's because there are so many viewers wanting to look at the beautiful views from the top of the Littleton Municipal Courthouse. Wait a few minutes and reload the page.

To be kind to the visitors after you, please close the Cupola Cam page when you're done with your visit, to let others in on the fun. Thanks!

— <https://www.littletongov.org/my-littleton/cupola-cam>

# Problem Solved

**Projects TO DO ...**

- Install shelving
- Hand window treatments
- Grout tile floor
- Powerwash deck
- Repair kitchen drywall
- Fix cabinet hinge
- Install smoke detectors
- Paint living room
- Caulk around tub
- Install crown molding
- Repair wood on deck
- Install backsplash
- Hang mirror in hallway
- Clean and repair gutters
- Replace weatherstripping



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## VALENTINE'S DAY

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ADMIRE	KISS
ADORE	LOVE
AMOUR	MOONSTRUCK
ANNIVERSARY	PARTY
CANDY	POETRY
CARD	RED HOTS
CHOCOLATES	RING
COURT	ROMANCE
CUPCAKE	ROMEIO
CUPID	SAINT
CUSTOM	SERENADE
DANCE	SMOOCH
DEAR	SPARK
EMBRACE	STROLL
EROS	SWEETHEART
FLIRT	TURTLEDOVE
FLOWERS	VENUS
GIFT	VERSE
HUG	VICTORIAN
HUSBAND	WIFE
JULIET	WOO

## Black History Month

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by Black people and a time for recognizing the central role of Black people in U.S. history. Begun as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora, it is celebrated in February in the United States and Canada, while in Ireland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom it is observed in October.

### Teen Services

Hire a teen from our neighborhood to help out with household chores. Teens are available for Babysitting, Pet and House Sitting, Lawn Care and Snow Removal.

#### Parent Contact:

Sophia D.	14	B*/P	vdesair@gmail.com
Alexis F.	15	B*	lfa1in@gmail.com
Tim F.	17	L/S	lfa1in@gmail.com
Ali G.	16	B*	radiosarge@gmail.com
Kyla G.	11	P	radiosarge@gmail.com
Blake L.	16	B*/L/S/P	meldenver2006@gmail.com
Jaylyn R.	17	B*	kristabryant@yahoo.com
Cara S.	14	B*/P/S	rikkitikitavi@gmail.com

To add your teen's name, please email **Colorado Lasertype** at [getinfo@coloradolasertype.com](mailto:getinfo@coloradolasertype.com) and include the following information: the **neighborhood you live in**, your age, parent email and the categories you would like included. Categories: **(B)** Babysitting; **(\*)** Red Cross Cert for CPR; **(L)** Lawn care; **(S)** Snow removal; **(P)** Pet & House sitting. No recommendation or endorsement of any of the names on this list is implied or stated by the HOA board or Colorado Lasertype.

## How Did It Start?

You cross your fingers for good luck, or to excuse yourself from lying, but do you ever wonder how customs like that originated? The Cracked website explains the beginnings of everyday behavior we take for granted:

- **Painting fingernails.** Babylonian warriors in 3200 BC would paint their nails before heading off to battle to signify their social class.
- **Thumbs up.** English archers in the Middle Ages would use the gesture, which was the correct brace height of a longbow, as a signal that they were ready to shoot.
- **Encores.** Baroque audiences would demand repeat performances of songs of they enjoyed, sometimes in the middle of the piece.
- **Yawning.** Covering your mouth while yawning developed from an ancient belief that evil spirits could enter your mouth during a yawn.
- **Blowing out candles.** Making a wish while blowing out birthday candles derives from cultures which thought that smoke delivered prayers to the heavens.
- **High-fiving.** The first recorded high-five occurred on Oct. 2, 1977, when Glenn Burke of the LA Dodgers reached up to slap the hand of teammate Dusty Baker, who had just hit a home run, and Baker slapped his hand in return.
- **Crossing fingers.** Crossing fingers to catch good luck originated in ancient pagan cultures. The practice for lying came from early Christians who wanted to absolve themselves from lies they told their persecutors.

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**Mike the Plumber** - Your reliable neighborhood plumber for 14 yrs. Competitive rates. Free estimate. 720-422-8139

Classified ads are \$4.00/line (about 40 characters/line). Contact Colorado Lasertype at 303-979-7499 or [getinfo@ColoradoLasertype.com](mailto:getinfo@ColoradoLasertype.com) to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at [www.ColoradoLasertype.com](http://www.ColoradoLasertype.com). The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.

## Dogs Process Speech Like Young Children

Dogs understand words at the level of a 14-month-old child, a recent study has found. According to the Science Focus website, scientists in Budapest studied brain activity in dogs using electroencephalography, playing recordings of words the dogs knew, along with similar-sounding words and nonsense words that sounded completely different.

The brain readings showed that the dogs could distinguish between words they knew and the nonsense words, but their brains didn't differentiate between familiar words and similar-sounding words—"sit" and "sut," for example. Dogs, like very young humans, don't pay attention to all the sounds of a word. In children, this short attention span disappears as they learn to process different words and expand their vocabulary, at 14–20 months of age. Dogs, however, never progress beyond this point, and learn only about 165 words during their lifetimes.

## One Good Thing For Success

Here's a quick success tip from career coach Karen Burns, writing in *The Seattle Times*: "Pick a positive quality you want to be known for. Of course, you have more than one positive quality. But if you make a point of associating yourself with a single great trait, like always being on time or always appearing alert and cheerful, then people will think of that 'great trait' every time they see you. This is a good thing."



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## Put a Freeze on Winter Fires

Heating, winter storms and candles all contribute to an increased risk of fire during the winter months. NFPA and the U.S. Fire Administration are teaming up to help reduce your risk to winter fires and other hazards, including carbon monoxide and electrical fires.

- Heating is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires, deaths and injuries. December, January and February are the peak months for heating fires. Space heaters are the type of equipment most often involved in home heating equipment fires, figuring in two of every five fires (40%). More statistics on heating fires.
- Carbon Monoxide - Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, propane, etc. do not burn completely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of CO. Carbon monoxide incidents are more common during the winter months, and in residential properties.
- Winter storms - Most of the U.S. is at risk for winter storms, which can cause dangerous and sometimes life-threatening conditions. Blinding wind-driven snow, extreme cold, icy road conditions, downed trees and power lines can all wreak havoc on our daily schedules. Home fires occur more in the winter than in any other season, and heating equipment is involved in one of every six reported home fires, and one in every five home fire deaths.

- Generators - Portable generators are useful during power outages, however, many homeowners are unaware that the improper use of portable generators can be risky. The most common dangers associated with portable generators are carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, electrical shock or electrocution, and fire hazards. According to a 2013 Consumer Product Safety Commission report, half of the generator-related deaths happened in the four coldest months of the year, November through February, and portable generators were involved in the majority of carbon monoxide deaths involving engine-driven tools.



*Watch Dan Doofus learn some important safety lessons about home heating.*

- Candles - Each year between 2013-2017, an average of 7,900 home candle fires were reported each year.
- Electrical home fires are a leading cause of home fires in the U.S. Roughly half of all home electrical fires involved electrical distribution or lighting equipment, while nearly another half involved other known types of equipment like washer or dryer fans, and portable or stationary space heaters. More statistics on electrical fires.

Lastly, don't forget to change your batteries in your home smoke detectors every six months. Installing smoke alarms will help keep you and your family safe.

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