Memo from the Manager:

The pots that were taken from the front gardens of Bergen in July were returned. It is weird and unsettling that it appears someone from here took them and then put them back with winter coming on. Also taken were a number of drinking glasses from the Bergen Evergreen room kitchen area. If you have any information as to who might be stealing RMVE property, please let me know.

Reminder that you are responsible for keeping snow off your decks.

No bird feeding allowed as it brings in rodents to the buildings, but putting out water is a great way to attract birds to your deck/patio.

If you have changed your lock and did not have it keyed to the building master keys, you should provide a copy to the fire department so they can access your unit in case of emergency. It would also be handy to have a copy in the office for emergencies. If you have questions on procedures, please ask me.

-- Kathy

Reminders from Rene:

- **Opera Lovers** Saturday November 11thm 1:00 p.m. • Bergen Evergreen Room • Puccini TURANDOT DVD by The Metropolitain Opera • light refreshments served beween the Acts.
- Friday Night Game Night Bergen building 1st floor game room • LOTS OF FUN!! 7::00 pm • Everyone welcime
- Tuesday Night Movie Night 7:00 pm Bergen Evergreen Room old but good movies

Kathy • continued

At this stage of her life Kathy's learning to focus more on enjoying life and less on working quite so hard. Under Kathy's able leadership working with the Board, RMVE has maintained its quality appearance and stability as a well run operation.

Jacque • continued

no technology in our house," she says explaining the kids and grandchildren all have to check their cell phones at the door when they come to visit.

There isn't any down time for this woman. Fun time for Jacque is spending time with the children – going to the zoo, the amusement park, museums, and sledding during the winter months (with hot chocolate, of course), and enjoying the out-of-doors in Grand Lake. "Sundays are family time," she says with gusto.

Her real love in life is reading, "I don't care what it is," but reading about Colorado is her favorite. She has a collection of about 150 historical books on the state.

Brac Burford

D rac Burford, the maintenance man for Genesee House, **D**hails from Mississippi but has spent most of the last 17 years in Colorado. In between he worked at Yosemite National Park but found it too isolated for his liking. A move to Colorado Springs in 2000 led to a move to Conifer and then Evergreen where he lives with his teenage son, a student at

Clear Creek High School.

"This is my first job not in a kitchen since I was 15," he says, referencing the demands and stresses of cooking in food establishments. It gives him better hours for being a single father with sole custody of a 15-yearold. Plus he likes it here.

"Everyone's really nice here," he says of the staff and residents. "The work can be challenging, but there isn't a lot of pressure." He especially

enjoys the opportunity to get to know the people who call RMVE home.

Brac started with Rocky Mountain Village a little over two years ago and works 30 hours a week, rounding out his work week with doing odd jobs for some of the residents and family members of residents who live nearby. It might be painting, making repairs, hanging pictures. replacing garbage disposals, replacing light bulbs, putting in a new faucet, or shoveling snow off the decks. His quiet demeanor and reliable work habits make him a valued employee and trusted handyman around the property.

For fun Brac plays the guitar, something he learned in his pre-teen years after finding an old guitar in the closet. You might catch him at an open mic night at The Muddy Buck in Downtown Evergreen.

He likes hiking and fishing and still has a tremendous appreciation for the beauty of the mountains, having grown up in a state without any elevation to speak of.

And now that he doesn't cook for a living, he especially enjoys cooking at home. Some of his favorite dishes? Pot roast with mashed potatoes and gravy, slow cooking, grilling, ribs and pulled pork, fajitas. And he has a favorite recipe for combo chili - the best of the red and green varieties, made with beef chunks and chicken broth.

When you rise in the morning, give thanks for the light, for your life, for your strength. Give thanks for your food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason to give thanks, the fault lies in yourself. Tecumseh





A special issue dedicated to the fine staff here at Rocky Mountain Village Estates.

Kathy Crump, Manager

Having grown up in such a boring small town that she participated in every extra-curricular activity possible Kathy Crump learned to love working at an early age. She started mowing lawns at age 9 and worked at her grand-



parents' department store, stimulating a desire for independence from an early age. "Getting my driver's license was a banner day," she recalls.

That boring place was Apache, Oklahoma – a town of 2,000 people and a senior class of 56 – about 80 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. She excelled in athletics, earning a full scholarship to play basketball at Amarillo College, but a broken arm changed plans and she transferred

to Oklahoma State after the first year, graduating with a degree in Wildlife Biology.

As a student she worked in the Entomology Dept. at the college, a job that continued beyond graduation. As Senior Agriculturalist, she managed the farm plots and test pots, grew aphids in pots and counted them, rode a tractor, prepared the fields, and harvested the crops. "I wish I'd grown up on a farm – I loved it!"

Needing a change, she tagged along with a friend moving to Evergreen more than 25 years ago. Unable to finad a job making use of her wildlife degree, she settled for working for the Colorado Dept. of Unemployment. Not liking the commute, she started up a mailing service of her own but found herself working around the clock. In 2002 she responded to an ad for a part-time gardening position at Rocky Mountain Village, later taking on maintenance, and eventually becoming manager in 2011.

Kathy enjoys playing pool - something her dad taught her when she was nine – playing in a league once a week, participating in "some fairly big tournaments" and attaining some success as a singles player.

"I've always enjoyed the outdoors," she says, expounding on her love of fishing and camping, as well as watching birds and wildlife. For awhile she participated in bird counts in Boulder County.

Jacque Ryan

Tacque Ryan's a workaholic – 30 hours a week at Rocky Mountain Village and 40 hours a week at Walmart eparated by a 25-minute nap every afternoon. "I love to work ... I need to work ... I love people," she says with her usual perky smile.

Here at RMVE Jacque's territory is Bergen - keeping the building clean and tidy and taking care of plantings during the summer months. When she can squeeze in an



her small-town roots.

extra hour or two, she even helps some of the residents with housekeeping and light repairs in her off hours. She's been an employee at the Village for 15 years now. She works full-time at

Walmart for the benefits. Right now you're likely to see her in the deli, but after 10 years and with her management-level experience she can fill in anywhere in the store. Her caring, friendly style and work ethic comes from

"We lived in the most wonderful little village - everyone knew everyone. I had a wonderful life," she recalls of the place they called home 25 miles west of Lake Michigan. Her parents divorced when her mother was pregnant with twins - Jacque and her twin sister - and she was fortunate to have a stepfather who treated her like his own. The stepfather was a full-blooded Indian, so she learned the Native American traditions and ceremonies as well as how to survive the outdoors (in Michigan).

She spent many a summer with her grandfather in Hopkins and worked in the orchards. Some of her fondest memories include being sent out in the woods (with her sisters) in the summers for three weeks to learn how to survive. At the end of the three-week period, parents and grandparents would come out to see what the girls had created, bringing with them a feast to celebrate.

Jacque and her husband have three children and five grandchildren. "My husband and I have created our own little world," she says, explaining that their other relatives all live in Michigan.

They've lived in Evergreen for 40 years and recently downsized from a large house to a small cabin. "We have

