

## The dipper a

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Editor: Margaret McDole

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Assistant Editor: Mark Meremonte

#### **Garage Sale**

The Garage Sale will be held Saturday, Sept. 26. More information on page 5.

#### Fall Cleanup Festival

The Rotary Club of Evergreen is the sponsor of this recycling and cleanup effort Sept. 26 at El Rancho

Electronics, scrap metal, Styrofoam and tires will be accepted. Shredding for paper will be provided along with safe disposal of household hazardous waste. There is a charge for some items. Complete details will be posted at www. dipper.org.

### Evergreen Nature Center

Classes and programs will continue in September and October. Visit www. evergreennaturecenter.org for a complete schedule.

To learn about volunteering at the nature center, call 303-330-0489.

#### Join Us at Our Next Meeting

• Nov. 5. Evergreen Audubon member Dave Balogh will present his photos and experiences from his travels to Hungary.

# Early Conservationist Rosalie Edge

At the Sept. 3 meeting, former Evergreen resident and writer Dyana Z. Furmansky will tell the story of the once famous Rosalie Edge. Edge was a New York socialite, suffragist and conservation heroine who deserves credit for helping to launch the modern environmental movement.

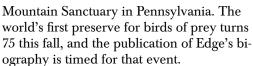
Furmansky recently completed a book on Edge's life, "Rosalie Edge, Hawk of Mercy."

Today few people remember all that Edge accomplished. A first cousin to Charles Dickens, she burst onto the lethargic conservation scene in October 1929 just as the stock market crashed, and confronted the National Association of Audubon Societies about its lack of attention to endangered species and habitats.

Edge energized young activists like TENAS founders Sylvia Brockner and her late husband, Bill, who admired her enormously and knew her personally. Roger Tory Peterson and Nature Conservancy co-founder Richard Pough also were among her following.

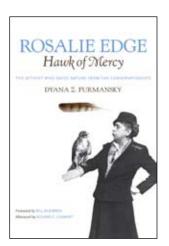
Rosalie Edge, wishing to voice her opposition to the Audubon Society's conservation policies, successfully sued the organization for access to its mailing list.

Edge went on to create Hawk



Edge, who died at the age of 85 in 1962, was eclipsed when Cason's "Silent Spring"

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### 100 Years of Denver Museum's Ornithological Collection

For more than 100 years, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science has grown along with Denver, expanding many times to meet the increasing needs of the community.

The earliest specimens came from a Breckenridge log cabin housing a collection of Colorado fauna gathered by naturalist and pioneer Edwin Carter.

The Colorado Museum of Natural History (now Denver Museum of Nature and Science) was incorporated in 1900 to preserve this growing collection. A larger fireproof building was constructed in Denver's City Park and opened to the public in 1908.

Today the museum's ornithological collection is one of the largest in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain Region. The collection is comprised of bird skins, skeletons, eggs, nests and bird tissues.

Dr. John Demboski is the curator of Vertebrate Zoology at the museum. At the Evergreen Audubon's Oct. 1 meeting, he will present highlights of the history of the ornithological collection, which had its peak growth during the 1920s through 1940s.

He will describe the use of the collection by museum staff, researchers and the general

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#### President's Message

The purpose of this message is to give the membership a preview of a structural change of the board of directors that the current board is considering. This information is preliminary, but we want to inform everyone of possible changes to come.

As you all know, the past two years have presented new challenges and opportunities to Evergreen Audubon members. We are well into our second season at the Nature Center, which provides exhibits and classes that require many volunteer hours.

We have completed the second season of our new bird monitoring program, the Bear Creek Atlas, which also requires much preparation and data collection and numerous birding hours.

In recent months, the board of directors has been reassessing the structure of our leadership as we consider how best to fulfill our responsibilities and goals.

Brad Andres suggested that we consider a new board struc-

	2009 Officers		
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Assistant Secretary	Marilyn Kaussner	303-674-7520	
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Committee Chairs			
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Webmaster	Natasha Currlin Japp		
	jappnc@terra.com.br		

ture, similar to what many other non-profit organizations use. At the top would be a four-person Executive Committee: president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

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- A special thanks to the Community Donors who gave generously to the Nature Center Benefit in June: Evergreen Wild Bird Store, Laura Mehmert Designs, Aloha Massage, Blue Quill Angler, Chow Down, Frames for all Reasons, King Soopers, In Good Taste and Meg's Art. Evergreen Discount Liquor Store gave us a generous discount. And Mimi Nelson has been especially helpful in catering, consulting for the Benefit and the Annual Campaign. Thank you, all.
- To all who donated to the auction at the benefit: Brad Andres, Trish Baker, Tom and Ginny Boschen, Karen Christopherson, Peggy Durham, John Ellis, Marilyn and John Kaussner, Karen and Owen Knutson, Kay Niyo, Sylvia and Bob Robertson, Megan, Tracey and Michael Stills, Joan Stroschen and Irma Wolf.
- To **Richard Ball** and **Paul Mimlitsch** for providing wonderful music on a variety of exotic instruments at the Nature Center Benefit in June. To **John Ellis** for acting as auctioneer and to **Debbie Marshall for** hosting the Nature Center open house before the benefit.
- To Cathy Shelton and her weed crew—Sylvia Robertson, Marilyn Kaussner, Betsey Kelson, Sylvia Brockner, Pat Carter, Renee Cormier, Else Van Erpe, Deb Callahan and Larry White—for organizing and executing another successful Weed Day at the lake in June. And what a banner year for weeds!
- To **Laura Archuleta** and her husband, **Andrew**, for presenting a very interesting program on research involving American Dippers and contaminants on the Arkansas River.
- To **Ashley Delaup** of Denver Mountain Parks for presenting "Living with Coyotes," a primer on coyotes in urban settings (and here in the foothills).
- To Lynne Price for continuing to lead many native plant walks this summer, with help from Else Van Erp, Sylvia Brockner and John Mayor.
- To **Sylvia Robertson** for organizing the picnic in July. And to **Marilyn Rhodes** for arranging the entertainment, namely the updated Moronic Tabernacle Choir, and **Bob Santangelo's** version of Willie Nelson. And we were fortunate enough to have **Suzie deDisse** talk to us about the history of Dedisse Park.
- To **Owen Knutson**, CPA, for giving us valuable financial consulting and accounting advice as our responsibilities and resources increase with the Nature Center and new programs.



### <u>President's Message</u>

Continued from Page 2

There would be two at-large directors and six coordinators to oversee specifically and logically defined areas of responsibility: Education, Bird Monitoring, Conservation, Development, Communications and Social Events.

The jobs done by current committee chairmen and newly designated ones would fall into one of these six blocks. Please see the accompanying chart.

The purposes of the changes being contemplated are to have a 12th person on the board, to spread the workload more broadly and equally among these members, to carefully define the jobs we ask board members and others to take on, and to organize duties into logical groupings.

Given the interest in the Nature Center, the Weed Program, the Bird Atlas and other Audubon activities, the board feels that we will find able members to fill these positions within this new structure

We also feel that as our public image and civic involvement increase, serving on the board will be a privilege and a responsibility that will require time and effort, but will be sufficiently rewarding to attract quality people, of which Evergreen Audubon has many.

At this point, we are still working on this possible reorganization, defining jobs and duties, and discussing how to accomplish what we need. Because we have increased our activities and responsibilities, we must provide the leadership and delegation of workloads to carry out our generic mission and specific goals.

The Nominating Committee will be elected at the Sept. 3 chapter meeting, by which time we plan to have any proposed changes clearly defined. We also anticipate that any changes in the bylaws will be presented to the membership and voted on before the end of the year, so any changes will be in place for the new officers and board members for 2010.

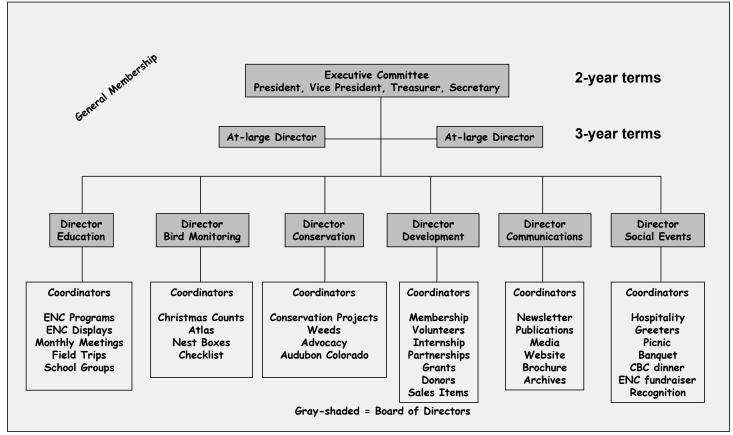
The election of the new board members will take place at the Dec. 3 chapter meeting.

Anyone who has questions can contact any board member.

- Peggy Durham

### Proposed Organizational Structure for Evergreen Audubon - 2009







### Vice President's Message

Last month, Sylvia Robertson commented on how Evergreen Audubon members should try to engage new visitors and break down the barrier of insularity.

As a conclusion, she suggested that being more extroverted with new, potential members would open the doors to all the great things Evergreen Audubon has accomplished and continues to support.

I agree with Sylvia and would like to expand on one thing mentioned in her message—the notion of a club. Consulting the Internet's Wikipedia, the word "club" came in vogue in early 1700s England and was described as "an association to promote good-fellowship and social intercourse."

Viewing Evergreen Audubon as a club under this definition certainly has the potential to lead to some degree of isolation. I don't believe this is the intention of Evergreen Audubon members or is how members act.

I will try to convince you to see Evergreen Audubon as a collection of folks who are stakeholders in the mission of the organization, which is "to conserve and restore natural ecosystems and to

inspire and educate our community for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity."

The definition of stakeholder I would like to pursue is one suggested by the Stanford Research Institute in 1963: "those groups (or individuals) without whose support the organization would cease to exist."

Clearly, this definition is pertinent to the activities, programs and members of Evergreen Audubon.

As Evergreen Audubon programs expand particularly in relation to operation of the Evergreen Nature Center, there is a clear need for members to take a larger stake in the organization.

In little over a year, we had a sixfold increase in our operating budget, hired the first part-time employee and developed a web-based entry system for breeding bird data.

I submit that these are activities of a fully functioning conservation organization, of which all members should be proud. To sustain, and expand, these activities we need a continual commitment by existing members and those we hope to bring into the organization.

### **Ornithological Collection**

Continued from Page 1 public and he will present the museum's current direction and future goals, such as the focus on tissue collection for DNA analysis.

A number of specimens from the collection will be on display for meeting attendees to examine. Specimens may include a late 19th-century Ivory-billed Woodpecker skin and a watermelonsized, semi-mineralized egg of the extinct elephant bird of Madagascar.

Only 16 intact elephant bird eggs are known to exist in the world and two of them are housed in the museum's ornithology collection.

Dr. Demboski received his bachelor of science degree from Purdue University in 1987 and his doctorate from the University of Alaska Fairbanks in 1999. His area of research is mammalian systematics, phylogeography, and conservation genetics. Projects to date have investigated evolutionary relationships of shrews, chipmunks, voles and hares. Dr. Demboski's fieldwork has taken him to most states in the western U.S., as well as western Canada, Mexico, Far East Russia, the Philippines and Paraguay.

Please join us for this opportunity to learn about the museum's ornithological collection and examine specimens not often seen by museum visitors.

The Oct. 1 meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road (just west of Evergreen Library) in the downstairs Fellowship Hall. Guests are welcome. Refreshments and a business meeting will follow.

The success we had in getting grants in the last year attests to the resonance of our mission and direction. I appeal to you take a bigger stake in Evergreen Audubon by volunteering at the Nature Center, helping to direct our future, and contributing financially (to your comfort level).

Together we can ensure Evergreen Audubon's next 40 years and, along the way, promote good fellowship and social interaction.

Heartfelt thanks to all of you who have brought Evergreen Audubon to the point it is today.

- Brad Andres

### Rosalie Edge

Continued from Page 1

became a publishing sensation only weeks later. The story of Edge's accomplishments is now told in Dyana Furmansky's book.

Furmansky has written about environmental issues for The New York Times, Audubon, High Country News, American Heritage and other publications. She coauthored the book "These American Lands," a history of federal public lands. She received a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University.

Be sure to attend this informative presentation. Guests are welcome. Our Thursday, Sept. 3, meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road (just west of the Evergreen Library), in the downstairs Fellowship Hall.

Refreshments and a business meeting will follow. "Rosalie Edge, Hawk of Mercy" will be available for purchase and signing by the author after the presentation.

Evergreen Audubon President's Note: Several Audubon members attended a reception for Dyana Furmansky at Evergreen Fine Art Aug. 7. Her talk and short reading from her new book were fascinating. I encourage everyone to attend the Sept. 3 meeting and learn about Rosalie Edge and her courageous campaign for the environment.



### Evergreen Audubon Awarded Grant

Evergreen Audubon was one of about 40 Audubon chapters and centers to receive \$7,000 from the Toyota and National Audubon Society's Together-Green program in 2009.

The program's purpose is to connect people with the natural environment through volunteer conservation projects, which aligns well with the mission of Evergreen Audubon and the Evergreen Nature Center.

# Garage Sale Rescheduled

The date for the Audubon Garage Sale has been changed due to a variety of reasons. It is now scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the home of Jane Stewart, 27172 Sun Ridge Drive, Kittredge (above the Black Hat Restaurant).

We will be accepting and pricing donations on Friday, Sept. 25. Volunteers are needed on both of these days.

Because the following items do not sell they will not be accepted: clothes, televisions, computers, tires, paint, grills and ski equipment.

The success of the sale is dependent on your donations. Now is the time to clean out closets and garages and give us those treasures you really don't need. Make space for new things that you will need. All proceeds will go into the TENAS general fund.

Please mark your calendars for Sept. 26 and volunteer for one or both days. You will be glad that you did.

For information, call Sylvia Robertson, 303-674-1715, or e-mail Peggy Durham, peggy.durham@comcast.net.

Note: Preliminary offer. I have the pieces for a walnut table (two top pieces and numerous legs and supports) that will require woodworking, but well worth the effort. If any Audubon member wants to view them before the garage sale Sept. 26 and make an offer, please call Peggy at 303-674-8648.

TogetherGreen is a nationwide initiative of the National Audubon Society and is being funded by the Toyota Corp.

(See www.TogetherGreen.org.)

Over the next year, Evergreen Audubon will be sponsoring six events that will focus on volunteerism and tangible conservation actions. The Evergreen Nature Center, our bird monitoring projects and other community events provide ample opportunities to achieve TogetherGreen's, and Evergreen Audubon's, goals.

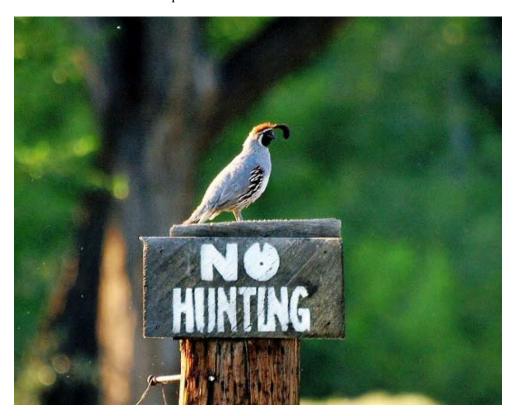
We have already used funds to advertise two Nature Center open houses



for potential volunteers and we will be working with Evergreen Trout Unlimited on a cleanup of Bear Creek on Sept. 26.

If you have any questions, please contact Brad Andres at 303-670-0101 or heatherbrad1@yahoo.com.

- Brad A. Andres



Gambel's Quail at Grand Junction Audubon Center. Photo by Sherman Wing

### Celebrate Public Lands Days!

Join Evergreen Audubon and Evergreen Trout Unlimited for a cleanup of Bear Creek, a project of our Together-Green grant.

When: Saturday, Sept. 26, 9 a.m.

Where: Downtown Evergreen Parking Lot (across from the Little Bear).

Bring: Rubber boots or waders, gloves, rain gear.

Call the Evergreen Nature Center, 303-330-0489, to register or for details.



#### Have We Lost the War on Weeds?

As I drive around Evergreen and the Front Range it certainly feels like we may have lost the War on Weeds. Impressive and depressing stands of thistle and knapweed are all around us.

Chamomile is invading roadsides and meadows in alarming profusion and the normally petite Yellow toadflax is almost 3 feet tall. It is downright disheartening, isn't it?

If there's one bright spot, it is Evergreen Lake. To be sure, there are still weeds at the lake but the decrease is encouraging. At Weed Day in June, several of the teams went home early due to the lack of weeds, and we've been able to add another weed, chamomile, to our hit list.

It is only human nature to want to declare victory and to be a bit disappointed that the weeds aren't totally absent, but that is an unrealistic goal. Weed seeds are transported to the lake every day by dogs, wildlife and walkers while more come in via wind and water.

Plus, it is virtually impossible for us to keep every weed from seeding although we try our darnedest.

The Community Weed Awareness Campaign has had a busy summer, including our Garden Smart Nature Center program in May, an Idaho Springs weed education program and Community Weed Day in June, and two Pulling for Colorado education programs on July 11 in Evergreen and Conifer.

We'll finish up the season with Weed and Wine on Aug. 14 and a Nature Center program on Aug. 22. 51 volunteers helped out at Weed Day and we spoke to well over 200 interested people through our education outreach programs.

One place we could use some additional help is Adopt-a-Plot, where we still have a number of orphan plots. Some of these plots are looking great but need maintenance. If you can help, please contact us at sheltonpublicaddress@hotmail.com.

Yes, thanks to all the moisture, it has been a good year for weeds, but it has also been a good year for many of our native plants and grasses. We may have lost some ground, but we haven't lost the war.

We will only lose the war when we stop fighting, and thanks to our many dedicated volunteers, that is unlikely to happen.

- Cathy Shelton Community Weed Awareness Campaign

### 2009 Holiday Wreath Fundraiser

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about the holidays! If you need the perfect holiday gift, TENAS has lovely and reasonably priced balsam fir wreaths for sale.

They are fresh, very fragrant and will last into the New



Annual Picnic entertainment: Heather Johnson plays harmonica while husband Brad Andres strums the guitar. Photo by Lisa Wald

Year! They'll dress up your home and make ideal gifts for your family, friends, coworkers and clients—both in-town and out-of-town.

We're offering three 25-inch wreaths again this year, the Classic Wreath, the Victorian Wreath and the new Wintergreen Wreath. All of the wreaths are pictured on our website and are available as Holiday Gift Wreaths (HGW) for out-oftown delivery as well as for in-town pick up. Orders are due no later than Oct. 30. Prices are listed below.

25" Classic Wreath (in-town delivery)	\$20
25" Victorian Wreath ((in-town delivery)	\$23
25" Wintergreen HGW ((in-town delivery)	\$24
25" Classic HGW (out-of-town delivery)	\$28
25" Victorian HGW (out-of-town delivery)	\$31
25" Wintergreen HGW (out-of-town delivery)	\$32

Last year this sale generated more than \$1,700 to support our projects. If you can help with sales and delivery or would like to place an order, call Marilyn Rhodes at 303-674-6580 or e-mail her at cloverlane@aol.com.

Payment, by cash or check, for in-town wreaths is due at pickup and for Holiday Gift Wreaths at time of order. The wreaths should be delivered just before Thanksgiving. Please support our chapter by participating in this important fundraiser.



### Field Trips and Outings

#### **Homing Pigeons** Saturday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m. Leader: Tom Van Erp Tom will welcome Audubon members to his house to show his homing pigeons. Tom and Else's home is at 9350 Warhawk Rd., Conifer. Please call Tom at 303-816-4420 or 303-816-5084 to reserve a place or get directions. Warhawk Road is off Shadow Mountain Road.

#### Stargazing

Friday, Sept. 11, 8:15-10:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, 7-9 p.m. *Leader: Pam Little*  Join amateur astronomer Pam Little for a tour of our universe. View celestial objects through telescopes. Learn how to read the night sky, and hear star facts and stories. Dress for outdoors and bring camping-type chair/blanket for comfortable night-sky viewing. Bring binoculars if available. Meet behind Evergreen Lake House. Class size: 25. Ages: 3-plus. Advance registration required, 303-330-0489.

### **New ENC Volunteers**

The Evergreen Nature Center has recruited 21 new volunteer Visitor Assistants this year. Thank you to all of them for signing up to support our mission!

Michael Bornhouser, Susan Clasen, Holly Garrod, Aaron Glick, Bill Hackos, JoAnn Hackos, Jennifer Hood, Barbara Klaus, Beth Kramer, Kaylin Land, Linda Lorenz, Kathanne Lynch, Kathy Madison, Debbie Marshall, Josie Marshall, Margaret McDole, Joan Ridgely, Ruth Salter, Carl Stock, Judy Stock, Carol Wilson.

#### **Membership**

We thank the renewing TENAS local members for their support.

#### Renewing

Pat & Ben Carter—Evergreen
Carol Chapman—Morrison
Kathy Danhour—Evergreen
Peggy Durham—Evergreen
Dan Lincoln—Evergreen
Marty & Robert Lindsey—Evergreen
Kathanne Lynch—Golden
Marilyn Rhodes—Evergreen
Jan Schoonveld—Evergreen
Barbara Sternberg—Evergreen
Louise Walker—Littleton

#### **Renewing Family**

Joan & Bill Ball–Evergreen
Robert & Elaine Collins–Golden
Joe Nystrom & Lindy Doty–Golden
Bill & JoAnn Hackos–Evergreen
Rachel & David Hutchison–Evergreen
George & Ruth Krauss–Evergreen
Ron Belak & Peggy Linn–Evergreen
Ted & Jeannie Mann–Evergreen
Murray & Judy Moulding–Evergreen
Mike Wilson & Barbara Nabors–
Morrison
Catherine & Ray Petros–Golden

Carmon Slater & Donald Randall– Evergreen

Carol Pesell & Carol Stengel–Morrison David & Lisa Wald–Evergreen Chris Pfaff & Larry White–Evergreen



Ladybug aestivation is an unusual occurrence, here seen at Genesee Park. Photo by Karel Buckley

#### Our Every Day Savings Programs Include:

- Free Seed Bag After 10 Purchased
  On Wild Delight & Petersen Blends (or)
  Instant 8% off when you buy any two bags
- Save on Suet 10% off w/6 cakes or 12% off by the case
- Vortex Optics at Max Allowable Discount Every Day we match internet pricing on Vortex Optics



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303.679.2786

Open 7 Days a Week

Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-5; Sun 10-4

evergreenwildbirdstore.com

#### Calendar

September 3 Chapter Meeting
September 11 Stargazing
September 12 Homing Pigeon Field Trip
September 26 Garage Sale
September 26 Bear Creek Cleanup
October 1 Chapter Meeting
October 16 Stargazing

October 30

#### Monthly Meetings (except January and July)

First Thursday at 7 p.m. Church of the Hills, 28628 Buffalo Park Road, 7 p.m.

Last day to order Holiday Wreaths

Audubon Colorado Office 303-415-0130 www.auduboncolorado.org

TENAS website: www.dipper.org

Deadline for the November/December Dipper is Thursday, Oct. 1
Please submit articles to: Margaret McDole, editor@dipper.org

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- Holliday Wreath Sale
- Garage Sale Rescheduled
  - TogetherGreen Grant

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#### ВЕТИВИ SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Dated Material

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