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December 2024



Harrisburg Views

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Chuck McDowell (President);
John Gansereit (Vice
President); Kenny Allred
(Treasurer); Laura Schmitt
(Secretary); Carole Pendleton,
Virginia Bell, and Matt
Frampton (Board Members).

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Greetings, friends and neighbors!

Before I dive into this month's greeting, I have some exciting news to share! Soon, you'll see an electronic announcement board installed at the front of the clubhouse. Thanks to the incredible support of our advertisers, the newsletter has generated surplus funds that we're putting to good use. Along with the monthly giveaways, we're thrilled to allocate some of these funds toward a sign that will help keep everyone informed about upcoming events. A heartfelt thank you to our advertisers for making this possible and for contributing to our community!

* * *

As the days grow shorter and the air becomes cooler, it's a perfect time to reflect on the year that's passed and look ahead with hope. This is also a wonderful opportunity to reach out to a neighbor, share a story, or lend a hand. Small acts of kindness can have a way of brightening someone's day—and yours as well.

Here in our community, we are lucky to have so many reasons to feel connected. Whether it's the potluck dinner, a holiday gathering, or just a friendly wave as we pass each other, these little moments remind us that we're part of something special.

I hope this holiday season finds you and yours well and happy. Life is full of ups and downs, but this time of year seems to bring us peace and togetherness. May we always remember the "reason for the season" and hold onto good feelings toward each other. Let's not let the stress and turmoil of life interfere with our friendships. Wishing you peace, love, and laughter this holiday season and into the new year!

Maria Allan
Editor



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Activities Committee Report

We hope you're enjoying the festivities so far and are looking forward to the fun ahead.

We had a lot of fun in October watching the original "Ghostbusters" movie. Everyone enjoyed it! We had a spontaneous Halloween golf cart parade, where we haunted the community with our Halloween-decorated carts and handed out candy to our neighbors. It was a lot of fun and many people came out to watch and cheer!

We had a great turnout for the November ice cream social—we nearly ran out of ice cream! A dozen people showed up and had a great time visiting. We'll be sure to stock up for December.

The Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner was a big success! We had 35 people. Some great food was brought, with the turkey, ham, potatoes and gravy provided by the Activities Committee. We raised enough money to pay for our expenses and an activity in the future. We hope to have more of these! A huge thank-you to everyone who brought food and to the committee members who did all the work. You are all awesome!

Here's what's happening in December! Mark your calendars and come join in the fun and festivities.

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:00 AM: Now that colder weather is coming and the pool is closed, there will be exercise time in the clubhouse three days a week. Come join MaryAnn and get some exercise!

Monday, December 9 at 4:00 PM: Activities Committee meeting – if you would like to help plan our activities, please come and help us serve the community!

Tuesday, December 10 at 5:30 PM: Potluck dinner and Christmas Bingo! This month we'll be having our regular potluck dinner, but Bingo will be a treat. Everyone bring a \$5 wrapped gift (something good, not white elephant junky stuff). We'll play regular bingo, with the first winner picking a gift, The second winner can steal or choose, etc., till all the gifts are gone. Be creative! This should be fun! (By the way, if you shy away from pot lucks, you're welcome to bring your own meal.)

Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 PM: Ice cream social Our monthly ice cream social. We have a lot of flavors for only 75¢ a scoop. Add a banana for 50¢. Toppings are included.

Saturday, December 28 at 6:30: Movie night! If you want to come relax and watch a movie after the hustle and bustle of the holiday, come on down! This month the feature will be "It's a Wonderful Life," starring Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed, a true classic.

News from the Board

By Chuck McDowell

We are into the Holiday season again and the leaves are falling off the trees. Is it just me or does it seem like the leaves fell earlier last year? You will see the landscaping crew working on the leaves over the next two weeks or so.

We are also trying to finish up what we believe is our final gate valve for the Cottonwood Lane area of the park. Once that is complete, we should be able to turn the water off in geographic segments of the park instead of having to turn the water off for the whole of Harrisburg when we need to do repairs.

That would be a blessing for all of us and perhaps the best gift the Board could give to the full membership for Christmas!

We are also working diligently on the 2025 budget. Expectations are high that we will not have to increase the monthly assessments next year. Kudos to our Treasurer, Kenny Allred and the full Board for their hard work in that regard. A formal announcement will be forthcoming in the next week.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all of you!

Cheers,
Chuck McDowell
Harrisburg HEOA President



Strange BUT TRUE

The human brain can store an estimated 2.5 petabytes of data. That's the equivalent of three million hours of TV shows.



Humans are the only animals that blush. Blushing is an involuntary response to social emotions, such as embarrassment or shame.



Laughter burns calories. A hearty laugh for 10 to 15 minutes can burn up to 40 calories.



You lose about 1% of muscle mass every year after the age of 30. Regular exercise can help slow this natural process.



Coffee is the world's second most traded commodity, after oil. It's a daily ritual for many, with over 2.25 billion cups consumed worldwide each day.

The Bargaindales table brought in \$92 for the month of November!! Thank you! Please remember that items are not free—put your donations in the box.

For those of you who are new, The Bargaindales table is located in the southeast corner of the clubhouse, near the pool table. This is where residents can donate items in good condition that are no longer being used. You can also purchase anything on the table that you want to have for a price that you think is reasonable. Put your payment in the locked box on the wall next to the table. Your donations go to the Activity Committee, the Improvement Committee, and the Newsletter to pay for all the fun activities we have and putting in new flowers, etc. Contact MaryAnn if you have something to donate.





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SAME-DAY & WEEKEND
APPOINTMENTS!

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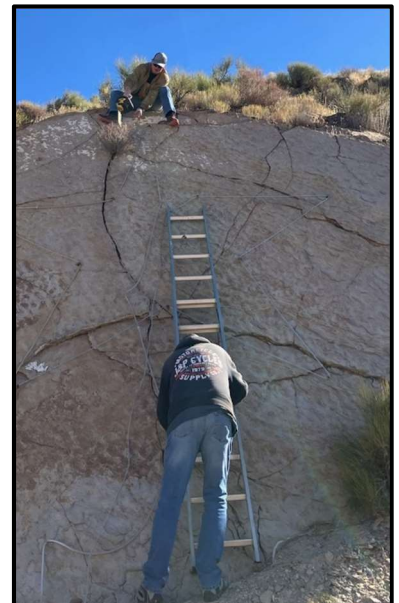


Around the Neighborhood!

The Christmas star and “Peace on Earth” sign are up and ready to go for the Christmas season. A huge thank-you to Stan and Mary Ann Roberts and Keldan, Megan, Aukln and Quinley Guymon for doing all the work and to Carolyn Bywater for providing the electricity to light it up!



I need your eyes and ears. If you know of something noteworthy that our neighbors would find fun, interesting or uplifting, shoot me an email (marvelousmom2@yahoo.com). Bonus points if you have pictures!



Hanging our Christmas star is tricky and precarious work!

Christmas Word Search

H	S	G	R	E	E	T	I	N	G	S	W	O	W	C
F	U	Z	Q	Q	Y	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S
P	R	P	F	Z	L	G	B	G	G	K	R	U	H	X
J	S	U	F	B	L	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	P	A
E	J	J	I	R	O	Z	F	X	J	C	T	Y	R	N
L	F	H	J	T	H	N	T	H	F	A	S	C	C	G
C	C	S	V	R	C	U	V	A	M	N	P	A	G	E
I	Y	H	P	E	N	A	T	W	D	D	X	N	O	L
C	V	P	H	T	L	H	K	A	H	L	Y	D	N	U
I	D	O	S	O	T	V	S	E	A	E	L	Y	G	G
R	K	E	Z	S	L	H	E	C	P	S	I	K	G	R
A	H	R	I	G	E	I	E	S	P	F	M	E	E	E
C	W	R	T	R	B	M	D	B	Y	Y	A	C	O	E
Z	H	F	R	O	S	T	Y	A	O	W	F	K	K	N
C	K	R	V	Y	H	A	Q	B	Y	R	K	Y	P	F

ANGEL
CANDLES
CANDY
CHESTNUT
CHRIST
CHRISTMAS
DASHER
EGGNOG
ELVES
FAMILY

FROSTY
FRUITCAKE
GREEN
GREETINGS
HAPPY
HOLIDAY
HOLLY
ICICLE
SNOWMAN
STAR



December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all our friends and neighbors born in November!

- 3rd - Evelyn Caldwell
- 7th - Dennis Bingham
- 10th - Jeff Bott
- 12th - Bob Banks
- 12th - Diane Davis
- 15th - Bea Ogden
- 17th - Nola Diemel
- 18th - Brian Chapman
- 20th - Craig Rock
- 28th - Terri Perkes
- 28th - Carole Pendleton
- 28th - Stan Roberts

Did we miss your birthday?
Please send a note to the editor (see front page) or the office so we can fix it for next year!



Groups of friends enjoying the Thanksgiving feast.

December is 4 Santa's List Day

Today is Santa's List Day, a December 4 holiday. Santa Claus has a "Nice List" and a "Naughty List." You never want to get on the naughty list. Have you been good all year? Have you been naughty? Or, have you been nice? Santa knows the answer. He always knows. Santa, with the help of his elves, creates the first draft of these lists by December 4 each year. Thanks to the hard work of his elves, Santa Claus creates and updates the two lists. The short list contains the names of a few children who have been naughty. A much longer list is filled with the names of children who have been good all year long.

Santa's Elves are everywhere, checking up on children all over the world, to see who has been naughty, and who has been nice. Don't try to see them, they are very clever in hiding as they watch to see who is naughty and who is nice. They are watching all of the time. The elves help Santa Claus to update the "Naughty List" and the "Nice List." Changes are made to the list as needed, all the way up to about an hour before Santa leaves in his sled to deliver toys to children on the "Nice List."

Which list are you on? Kids ... make sure to be especially good around the holidays. That's when parents need children to be on their best behavior, as they are busy preparing for the holidays.

Happy Santa's List Day!

How to Celebrate Santa's List Day

- Do everything you can to get onto Santa's "Good List."
- If you think you are on the "Bad List," make attempts to atone for the naughty things you did. Be extra good between now and Christmas.
- Help mom and dad around the house. The Christmas season is a busy one for them.



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H.I.C. Chronicles

We rolled up the hoses for the winter that are used to water trees and shrubs in Memorial Park. We also cleared a section of the hillside in prep for the repair of the water system in Memorial Park this winter.



The Harrisburg Improvement Committee (HIC) has done a wonderful job of keeping the gully looking nice and free of fire hazards. Thank you!



Grandmother's Molasses Cookies

from Diane Davis

This recipe is from around 1880, so the "method" isn't very clear. But people do enjoy these!

Ingredients:

1 c. Sugar
1 c. Shortening
1 c. Molasses
2 Eggs
1 Tbsp Soda in 4 tsp hot water
1 tsp Cinnamon
1/2 tsp each Ginger, Cloves, Nutmeg
4-1/2 c. Flour

Instructions:

Chill overnight. Roll in balls & sugar. Bake 350 degrees.



They Said It

"Sometimes you lie in bed at night and you don't have a single thing to worry about. That always worries me!" —
Charlie Brown

☆ ☆ ☆

"Keep your temper. Nobody else wants it." —*Dearborn Independent*

☆ ☆ ☆

"Always do sober what you said you'd do drunk. That will teach you to keep your mouth shut." —*Ernest Hemingway*

☆ ☆ ☆

"All the things I like to do are either immoral, illegal, or fattening." —*Alexander Woollcott*

☆ ☆ ☆

"Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing." —*Redd Fox*

☆ ☆ ☆

Things to Do: Christmas in the Canyon



Celebrate Christmas at Tuacahn this holiday season! With over 250,000 twinkling lights, a live nativity show, train rides on The Tuacahn Express, an open fire, and a visit with Santa Claus, you don't want to miss Tuacahn's Christmas in the Canyon event!

There is no admission charge to visit Tuacahn and enjoy Christmas in the Canyon. Tuacahn's Cafe will be open for dinner and treats! Runs November/November 29-December 23.

Activities include:

Live Nativity – The Live Nativity is a 20-minute-long performance that begins at 7:00 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. each night (\$5.00 per ticket). Seating goes fast, so it's recommended that you reserve your seats in advance at www.tuacahn.org/concert/christmas-in-the-canyon/

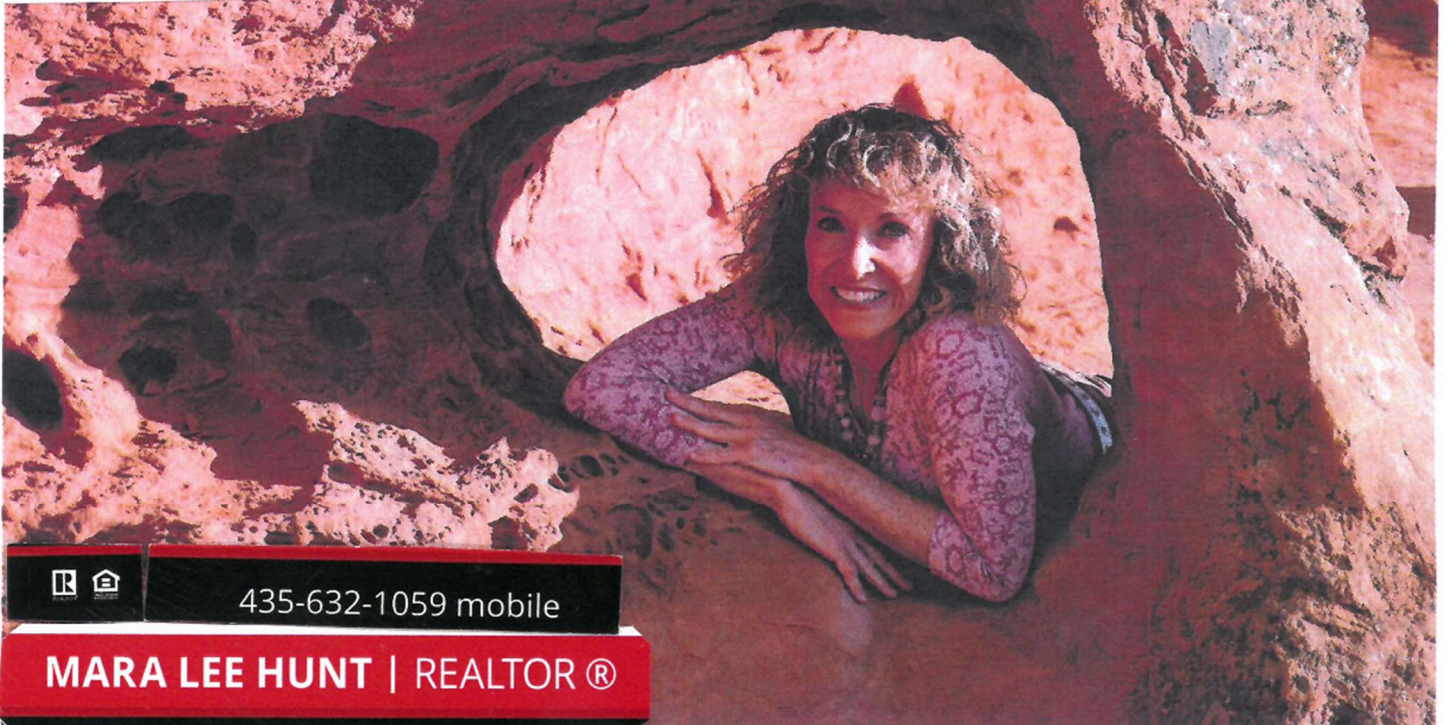
Tuacahn Express Train Ride – Join Tuacahn for a narrated journey through thousands of beautiful Christmas lights at the Tuacahn Loop. The train runs from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Each ride lasts about 7 minutes. (\$3.00 per ticket)

Free Visit With Santa – Don't miss the chance to meet Santa! Visits with Santa run from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. each night of Christmas in the Canyon.

For more fun things to do this month, go to <https://greaterzion.com/upcoming-events/>



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What Happened to the Dinosaurs?

by Karen Brunette

The large dinosaurs we are most familiar with (T Rex, Spinosaurus, Stegosaurus, etc.) disappeared from earth 65 million years ago near the end of the Cretaceous Period. What happened? First let's look at the climate. The Cretaceous Period was one of supreme global warming. Carbon dioxide from active volcanoes was plentiful. There were no glaciers, so the oceans covered most of the globe, while the continents were smaller than they are today. This created a perfect atmosphere for plant growth. The more plants taking in that carbon dioxide, the more oxygen is released from the plant. In fact, scientists believe atmospheric oxygen then could have been as high as 32%. We humans are living at 21% atmospheric oxygen. Dinosaurs needed only to breathe, breed, and eat and they became huge.



Most scientists believe the end came after the impact of an asteroid. If that asteroid landed in the Yucatan Peninsula, it would have been over 6 miles wide. That's a mountain range slamming into the earth. The impact could send up a cloud of dust and vapor so thick it would blot out the sun for years. No sun, no photosynthesis. No plants, no plant-eating animals, then no meat-eating animals. Volcanic fire mixed with heavy atmospheric oxygen could burn up any living plant or animal very quickly. What survived? MAMMALS, which were living underground and feeding on seeds and roots!

Crabby Road

12-21-11



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Halloween Parade!



Puzzle with a Prize!

Congratulations to **Lee Wegner**, November's winner of the \$20 certificate to **The Black Bear Restaurant**. The solution to the puzzle was: 1 – Pumpkin; 2 – Tradition; 3 – Feast; 4 – Travel; 5 – Family; 6 – Pilgrims; 7 – Yams; 8 – Football; 9 – Turkey; 10 – November.

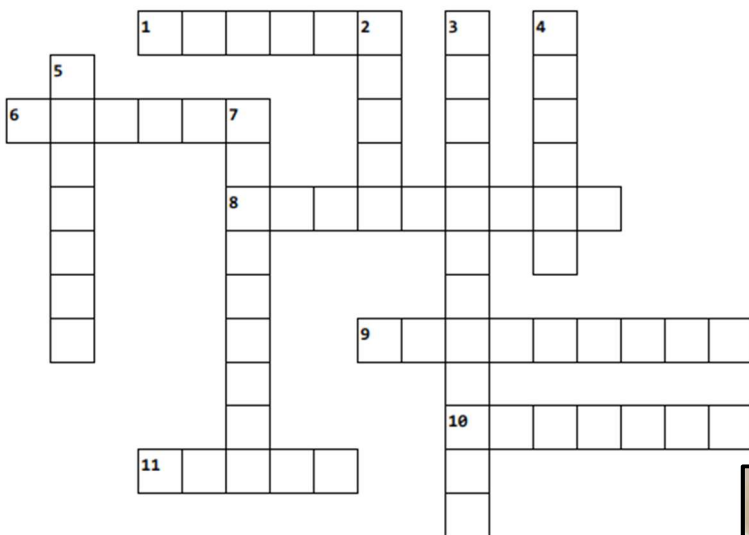
☆ ☆ ☆

There were eight (!) entries again this time, so your odds of winning are still good! This month's prize is a \$20 gift card to **The Cracker Barrel**. The theme this month is "Christmas Fun." Find the words associated with Christmas.

The rules & fine print: Drop your entry in the yellow contest box inside the clubhouse. Be sure to include your name, Harrisburg address, phone number and the solution to the puzzle on your entry. Good luck! (If you're out of town, you can email your entry to marvelousmom2@yahoo.com, and I'll put it in for you.)

Entries must be submitted by 12/18. The winner will be drawn from the entries with at least 5 correct answers, so if you don't know them all, give it your best guess and enter anyway! The solution and winner will be announced next month. The contest is limited to Harrisburg residents. Limit one entry per household. Limit one winner per household (to give everyone a chance). If you've already won, you can still enter for the fun of it; you just won't be eligible for another prize for 6 months (**unless nobody else enters—which is very possible**). You can't win if you don't enter!

Christmas Fun



Across

1. Christmas songs.
6. Pretty and bright at night.
8. Hang these on the tree.
9. Watched over their flocks.
10. Head reindeer.
11. Him Whose birth we celebrate.

Down

2. Jolly old elf.
3. Our sign on the hill (3 words).
4. Decorates the front door.
5. Traveled from the East (2 words).
7. Hung on the mantle.



Congratulations to Lee Wegner, November's winner! Enjoy your prize!





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Just for Laughs

Today I'm attaching a light to the ceiling, but I'm afraid I'll probably screw it up.



I hate it when people say age is only a number. Age is clearly a word.



I can't take my dog to the pond anymore because the ducks keep attacking him. That's what I get for buying a pure bread dog.



Someone complimented my parking today! They left a sweet note on my windshield that said "parking fine."



I was excited to hear Apple might start selling its own cars until I learned they wouldn't support windows.



Friendly Reminder:



Please, please remember to be courteous and pick up after your dogs! We would like this to be a clean and friendly neighborhood. Everyone must contribute. Thank you!





December 2024



Indoor Exercise 9:00 AM Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Pool 5:30 PM 	3	4 Hand & Foot 1:00 PM/\$1 	5 Pinochle 1:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 5:30 PM 	6	7
8	9 Activities Committee Meeting 4:00 PM Pool 5:30 PM 	10 Potluck dinner & Christmas Bingo! 	11 Hand & Foot 1:00 PM/\$1 	12 Pinochle 1:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 5:30 PM 	13	14
15	16 Pool 5:30 PM 	17	18 Hand & Foot 1:00 PM/\$1 	19 Pinochle 1:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 5:30 PM 	20	21 <i>Winter Solstice</i>
22 Ice Cream Social 6:00 PM \$.75/scoop 	23 Pool 5:30 PM 	24	25 <i>MERRY CHRISTMAS</i>	26 Pinochle 1:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 5:30 PM 	27	28 Movie Night 6:30 PM "It's a Wonderful Life" 
29	30 Pool 5:30 PM 	31 <i>NEW YEAR'S EVE</i>				In addition, there is usually a card or board game going on weekdays at 1:00 or 1:30. Check the signup sheets in the clubhouse or just show up and join in!