

DECEMBER 2018

# The Treemont Tattler

Treemont Retirement Community \*2501 Westerland Dr. Houston, TX 77063 \*(713)783-6820



## Celebrating December

### Richard's Magic Piano Show

*Saturday – Dec. 1 @ 6:30 pm*

### Kataolla Violin Recital

*Sunday – Dec. 2 @ 2 pm*

### Joyful Sound Choir

*Thursday – Dec. 6 @ 4 1:30 pm*

### Resident Christmas Party

*Saturday – Dec. 8 @ 6:30 pm*

### Greatest Generation Lunch

*Tuesday – Dec. 11 @ 12:00 pm*

### Christmas Market

*Saturday – Dec. 15 @ 10am - 2 pm*

### Christmas Lights Outing

*Thursday – Dec. 20 @ 4 pm*

### New Year's Eve Celebration

*Monday – Dec. 31 @ 3pm*

## A Message from your Activity Director

The winter chill is in the air. With that being said, we have many activities to keep you warm and active. If you have any suggestions or questions, my door is always open and I embrace any new ideas you may have. Here are your December highlights...

We have many Carolers from all over coming to fill the building with their sweet Christmas sound. Carolers include: *Berry Elementary School, Joyful Sounds Choir, Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity, Kinkaid Choir, St. Girl Scout Choir, and The Singing Belles.* Our recitals that we have planned for you are: *Kataolla Violins, Piano Recital and our very own resident, Lee-Hwei (Anne) Wang* will be performing with her family and giving us a spectacular recital. *Cornerstone Academy* will be here with holiday cards and treats. *St Anne's* will do wreath and cookie decorating. *Always Best Care* will help Nancy in crafting class with ornament decorating.

This month we will venture in the culture, history and taste of *Mexico.* Don't miss out on the *Resident Christmas Party* where there will be lots of entertainment, door prizes, delicious food from the Culinary Team. Come join the fun and find out who the luck winner is to the *Door Decorating Contest.*

If you still need to do some last minute shopping, The *Christmas Market* is the place to be. We will have a variety of vendors on hand so you can purchase your last minute gifts or pick something up for yourself.

Did you sign up at the front for the *Adventurous Outing* yet? 'Tis the season to see the beautiful Christmas lights and colorful decorations of our community. We will visit both the *River Oaks and Pecan Grove* subdivisions. We will stop and have a light dinner before going at a local restaurant but that is all the walking you will have to do as we get to stay on the bus and have a beautiful Scenic Drive.

## Christmas Appreciation Fund Update

It has been a tradition at Treemont Retirement Community for residents to show their appreciation to staff by donating to the annual Christmas Fund.

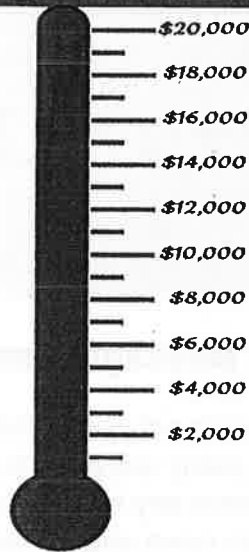
This fund came about as residents wanted to express their appreciation to staff for their daily work. With Treemont's "no tipping" policy, the Christmas Appreciation Fund provides an opportunity to thank staff for the work they do throughout the year.

To those who have already contributed, our sincere gratitude! The cutoff date for contributions is December 7th.

**Our goal was \$21,000.**

**We are at \$20,000.**

**Thank you Treemonters for your generous contributions!**



## DPS Bus Trip

If you need to renew your current driver license or need to apply for a non-driver ID card please sign up for the bus trip to the DPS office.

Due to an over whelming need for peace officers on our streets, they will not be able to visit Treemont this year. As part of their apology to our residents, they will accomadate Treemont's residents the day of and move everyone to the front of the line with no wait.

You will have to have your documentation at the time of service. The DPS office has provided a flyer with the appropriate documents needed for each individual case. Should you need a Physician's Statement Form, come see Monica in the Activity Room.

**Date : December 12, 2018 (Wednesday)**

**Time Bus is Leaving: 9:00 am**

## Podiatry Visit

Dr. Short will come to Treemont only **once in December.**

She will be in on December 11, 2018 at her usual time of 10:45 am in the Gift Shop.

Scheduled will resume as normal in January of the 2nd and 4th Tuesday.



## Go A-Wassailing



Whether you have a good singing voice or not, get into the swing of the holiday season with Go Caroling Day on December 20. You may be surprised to hear that carols did not originate as holiday songs at all. Carols were folk dances, and *carol* meant “to dance in a ring.” Most often

these dances and their accompanying songs were sung in the pubs (along with the presumptive overindulgence of ale). So when did carols make the jump from the alehouse to the church house? The answer might lie in Victorian England.

*Wassailing*, or the act of wishing good fortune on your neighbors, was a fairly common practice during the medieval era. It was believed that if you passed well wishes to your neighbors, they would reward you in turn. Caroling, or performing folk songs of well-wishes to neighbors, became traditional during local festivals and on holidays like May Day. But it was during the Victorian Era that caroling became forever merged with Christmastime. Legend has it that the first Christmas carol service was held in Truro, England, in 1880, when Edward White Benson attempted to lure carolers out of the pub on Christmas Eve by publicizing a carol service at church. Benson would go on to become the Archbishop of Canterbury.

It was also during Victorian England that Christmas became more popular and commercialized. Publishers began compiling and printing vast anthologies of carols. Some went so far as to take ancient songs and rewrite them as hymns to the birth of Christ. Many of the most famous Christmas carols date from this period, including “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen,” “The First Noel,” “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!,” and “Joy to the World.” Nowadays, Christmas caroling is almost uniquely found during church services. Rarely do carolers venture door-to-door *a-wassailing* as they once did in olden times. But on December 20, Go Caroling Day, the practice may be revived. So don’t be surprised if you hear a knock on your door and a choir of voices.

## December Birthdays

In astrology, the Archers of Sagittarius are those born between December 1–21. These open-minded travelers are in constant motion, searching the globe for meaning. Curious, optimistic, and enthusiastic, they are not afraid of change and treasure freedom. Those born from December 22–31 are Capricorn’s Goats. Goats are focused on lofty goals; these hardworking and determined souls will prevail with grit and resilience.

Aaron Rodgers (quarterback) – December 2, 1983  
 Walt Disney (animator) – December 5, 1901  
 Dave Brubeck (musician) – December 6, 1920  
 Emmett Kelly (clown) – December 9, 1898  
 Rita Moreno (actress) – December 11, 1931  
 Shirley Jackson (writer) – December 14, 1916  
 Betty Grable (actress) – December 18, 1916  
 Chris Evert (tennis pro) – December 21, 1954  
 Howard Hughes (magnate) – December 24, 1905  
 Clara Barton (nurse) – December 25, 1821  
 Tiger Woods (golfer) – December 30, 1975  
 Donna Summer (singer) – December 31, 1948

## Christmas Crossing



It was nearly midnight on Christmas of 1776 when Revolutionary War General George Washington daringly crossed the freezing Delaware River to turn the tide in favor of the colonists. Washington had suffered numerous

defeats, resulting in the loss of many strategic locations, including New York City in the north. Washington’s plan included three crossings of the Delaware. He led a division of 2,400 men to surprise a group of German Hessian soldiers gathered at Trenton. When Washington’s force descended the next morning, the Hessians were caught unawares after a night of Christmas revels and were easily overwhelmed. When Washington’s other two divisions of 3,000 men failed to make the rendezvous, he was forced to withdraw. While the victory was not particularly strategic, Washington’s renown and the morale of the Continental Army grew.

## Happy December Birthdays!

- 1st** Carmin Cleavenger
- 3rd** Bob Ray
- 4th** Patricia Bloom
- 7th** Virginia Long
- 8th** Jane Zimmerman & Charmain Mansour
- 10th** Dana Petri
- 11th** Wilma Carr
- 13th** Elmer Goldsmith
- 14th** Nancy McCoy
- 16th** John Cook & Barbara Morgan
- 17th** Vivian Moore & Larry Korkmas
- 18th** Kathy Kalupa
- 19th** Billye Knigge
- 25th** Fred Michaels
- 26th** Mary Jeffers
- 29th** Virginia McHugh, Richard Wilson & Joan Scott
- 30th** Howard Thai
- 31st** Maxine Royse, LaMarylis Newman & Fredrick Jenkins

## Flyer Postings.....

Starting in December, we will discontinue having as many flyers posted around the community. We will not post Activities that occur on a weekly basis anymore to avoid overcrowding in the elevators and other common areas.

We will be having many caroling groups, and recital performances throughout the month so be sure to check your weekly and monthly calendar schedules.

**\*\*NOTE:** The flyers hung throughout the community are friendly reminders of upcoming events or activities that residents might possibly be interested in. **Please DO NOT REMOVE any flyers hanging until the event or activity has happened. Please be courteous to other resident's interests.**

## Making the Cut



Whether the snow is falling outside or not, you can provide some flurries of your own on December 27, Make Cut-Out Snowflakes Day. Paper snowflakes are simple, easy-to-make

decorations that instantly create a festive atmosphere. And like real snowflakes, no two are exactly alike! Simply fold a square piece of paper in half diagonally to make a triangle, fold it in half again to make another triangle, and then fold it into thirds. Next, use scissors to cut straight or wavy lines into the finished triangle. As you unfold your paper, you'll find a perfectly unique and symmetrical flake. The cutting of paper snowflakes was born with Japanese origami in the Far East. It is likely that the French mastered the art of cutting paper doll chains from Japanese origami, and snowflakes evolved from those dolls.