

Community Connection

Monthly Newsletter

November 2011



VETERANS CELEBRATED: It is with extreme pride we report that 71 veterans honor our community by choosing to live here. On Veterans Day, these American heroes were invited to share their memories of their time in the service during a special presentation that included staff member **Tom Manell**. Tom described his service as part of the Navy's hospital corps during the Vietnam War. Resident **Ray Galgano**, who served in the Army during WWII, exhibited a recent chest x-ray that yet revealed the internal scar where a bullet had entered near his lungs. All veterans also enjoyed lunch together in Assembly Hall where they were celebrated and thanked by staff and fellow residents.



TRICK OR TREAT? With Mother Nature's surprising snow storm over Halloween weekend that caused a power outage to the entire community, many residents thanked us for turning this trick into a treat. We are delighted that the generator, extra lamps, community meals, snow team diligence and efforts by all staff who worked throughout the storm made a positive difference. We appreciate your kind words! While our loss of power lasted 48 hours, many "outside" neighborhoods were without electricity for much longer periods of time. **We encourage all residents to refresh their Alternate Housing Plan for use in dire circumstances.**



THANKSGIVING BUFFET: In the custom of gathering thankful hearts to share the season's abundant harvest with family, the annual Thanksgiving Buffet will be offered on **Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 24** with seatings from **11:15 AM to 12:45 PM**. As a reminder, **Brock Rafferty** will accept reservations for up to three guests per resident through **November 15**. The special event charge of \$20 per adult guest applies. Residents should arrive for their regularly scheduled midday seating. We anticipate many Meadows residents who normally enjoy dinner at Broadmeadow Dining Room will join the buffet, as that dining room will be closed for the day. To plan seating appropriately, we ask that *all* residents not attending the buffet communicate that change to **Brock** as well.



VERY GLAD YOU ASKED... Many residents wonder why New Horizons maintains a “no tipping” policy when most service industries often seem to expect gratuities. Indeed, when dining in a restaurant, a tip of 20% for excellent service is the norm, and housekeeping in a hotel sometimes includes a tip for the crew that tidies up the room during your stay. Because tipping is a normal part of the compensation for employees in those establishments, the wages of such personnel reflect that expectation and are subsequently lower than for other jobs. At New Horizons, however, that is not the case. Since employees are compensated at rates that are fair for the work exclusively, the receipt of a tip would create an unfortunate imbalance in rewarding some staff over others. For example, you may clearly notice when a dining room server is outstanding, but you would have no opportunity to judge those who shovel snow in the dark of night or those who diligently launder linens in the basement! If you would like to contribute to the **Staff Holiday Fund**, however, then we will see to it that every employee, with the exception of the executive director, associate directors and marketing teams, receives a symbol of appreciation based on the number of hours worked in the previous 12 months.



SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY: Please join us on **Sunday, December 11, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM**, for our annual holiday celebration. Bring the children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews for an afternoon of joy and refreshments. Staff will entertain, everyone will sing, and our food service department will present a special holiday dessert buffet. Of course, Santa is sure to visit, so please provide a small wrapped gift (\$15 or less, please) to the front desk attendant for each of your young guests who will be attending the party (make sure to have the child's full name on the package).

HOLIDAY FUN ~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Dec. 4	Stone Street Strummers Holiday Show	2:00 PM
Dec. 9	Christmas Concert by the Camille Foster Piano Studio	6:30-8:00 PM
Dec. 11	Holiday Party with Santa	2:00–4:00 PM
Dec. 12	Fay School Bell Ringers	6:30 PM
Dec. 15	Special Trip: Christmas Lights	5:00 PM
Dec. 16	Christmas in Williamsburg with Colonial Gardens	10:00 AM
Dec. 20-27	Hanukkah Menorah Lightings	4:00 PM
Dec. 22	Holiday Music with Jim Porcella, Singer	2:00 PM
Dec. 23	A Special Evening of Holiday Warmth with Patty and Bea	
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve with Ron	2:30 PM

DECK THE HALLS WITH CARE: In anticipation of the holiday decorations that will soon fill many hallways with festive color, please take time to review these community guidelines.

- Small artificial holiday wreaths are acceptable, but natural branch material may not be used per order of the Marlborough Fire Department.
- Similarly, remember to never use natural trees.
- Use only flame-retardant decorations when decking the halls of your home.
- Fire regulations also prohibit items from being placed along the hallways of any building on campus. Should you have an alcove near the entrance to your suite, you are welcome to place a small holiday decoration in that space, but do take care that the decoration does not splay out into the hallway.
- Anything used to decorate a door should be hung from the doorknocker, or from a wreath hanger, and never with nails or tacks.
- Never leave burning candles unattended. Keep live candles away from windowsills and mantles, and be very careful when lighting the Hanukkah menorah.