



Monthly Newsletter

Jan. 2021



CRAFTS

We had a lot of fun in crafts this month decorating our rooms with Santa Claus Paintbrushes and Gingerbread Houses.



SING-A-LONG WITH REBECCA

Our Sing A Long with Rebecca this month was all about Christmas music. We sang a large selection of the most popular Christmas Songs. A bit of trivia we discovered was that one of the most famous christmas songs, "Jingle Bells" was written in the mid-1800's as a drinking song and had nothing to do with Christmas until many years later.

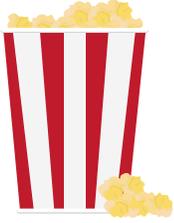


THANK YOU

Thank you, Mary Chapin for renewing our Birds and Blooms magazine. We look forward to reading it.



THE HAPPENINGS



THURSDAY THEATER

We had such a great time watching the Christmas Chronicles with Kurt Russell that we watched the Christmas Chronicles II the next week... exciting!! Lots of Hallmark Christmas Favorites were played all month long also.



CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas eve is always special here at Oak Creek. We started with some delicious hors d'oeuvres... BBQ little smokies, shish-ka-bobs of olives, cherry tomatoes and baby pickles, little cheese balls on a pretzel and decorated sugar cookies. We had punch and toasted our Christmas eve with a glass of champagne. We played a game with prizes and then opened presents. There were lots of smiles all around.



CHRISTMAS DAY

All the residents woke up Christmas morning to a stocking full of presents outside their door. They enjoyed red Christmas pancakes for breakfast and for dinner, it was ham with all the trimmings and pecan pie for dessert.



RESIDENT OF THE MONTH



BARBARA DIANE MEAD

BARBARA'S FAVORITES

Music: Country

Flower: Lilies

Color: Red and Yellow

Dessert: Homemade Pumpkin Pie

Animal: Owl

Barbara Diane Mead was born August 24, 1940 in Washington DC to Bernard and Vera Mead. She had 2 brothers and one sister. They moved to Chester, Pennsylvania where she attended her early school years. When Barbara was age 9, they moved to the Kansas City, Kansas area. She graduated from Turner High School, Turner, Kansas.

Barbara married her high school sweetheart, James Berry in August 1958. They have two children, Glenn and Julie. Glenn lives in Colorado and has a fun hobby of making beer. Julie Lyle is an engineer here in Topeka and does home inspections. She and her husband, John have two beautiful daughters, Alexandria and Veronica. Both girls are in college studying to become medical doctors. Veronica will be graduating next year, and Alexandria has just begun her journey.

Barbara divorced James in 1972 and began her career in medical records for the orthodontist Dr. Michael Cassidy. She worked for Dr. Cassidy for 26 years. After retiring, Barbara enjoyed tending her large flower garden, which included lilies, irises, hostas and many other plants along with birdbaths and decorations.

A hobby Barbara has enjoyed for years is collecting her spirit animal, the owl. She has collected hundreds of them throughout the years. She also likes watermelons and has her bathroom decorated in them.

Today you will find Barbara reading, watching TV or just relaxing with her apple juice visiting with the girls after lunch.



FLORENCE RICE OBITUARY

Mrs. Florence Conway-Rice, age 93, passed away peacefully in Topeka, Kansas on December 15, 2020. She was born on April 8, 1927 in Crofton, Kentucky. She located to Topeka, Kansas and spent most of her adult life here. She worked for the Menninger Foundation and retired after 40 years of dedicated service. After her retirement she worked for Roxanne Holloway as a housekeeper and cook. She was a longtime member of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church, where she was a faithful member until her health failed and even then, she would come on special occasions. She served on the Usher Board for many years and was on the Mother Board till the end of her life. She leaves a special lifetime sister Shirley Hardaway and her family, who were Florence's family for many years in Topeka, a godson named Frankie Holloway and a host of family and friends. A special thank you to the staff at Oak Creek Senior Living and St. Croix Hospice.



We will certainly miss Flo here at Oak Creek. She was known for her vivid imagination, big smile and she sure did enjoy her afternoon glass of wine!





SANTA CAME TO VISIT

On Wednesday, December 23rd, Santa stopped by to see the Oak Creek Residents. He visited and passed out stockings full of fruit and candy to everyone. There were lots of smiles, hot chocolate and cookies.



OAK CREEK
— SENIOR LIVING —

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

KATRINA DAY - CMA

Karina has been with Oak Creek since July 2019.

Katrina became a CNA in 2015. She actually did not want to take the CNA class, but her mother insisted and during the classes she discovered how much she enjoyed helping people. Katrina goes out of her way to make sure that each resident feels special. She has decided to make a career of nursing and is excited to begin the nursing program at Washburn University in January. She will graduate in the fall of 2022 with a Bachelor of Nursing degree.



Katrina was born on March 2nd, 1999 in Topeka, where she has lived most of her life. She lives with her boyfriend, Danyon, of 5 years, a pug named Mavis and a leopard gecko named Chewy.

Katrina likes to travel. She loves the mountains, so Colorado is her favorite state. She is also a homebody and enjoys curling up on the couch with a good book.

Katrina has always enjoyed the fact that Dr. Seuss shares her birthday on March 2nd.



KATRINA'S FAVORITES

Flower: Peonies

Color: Black (because it goes with everything)

Food: Fideo (a Mexican spaghetti)

Hello January!



January Events

Anna Ard (Jan. 12th)

Kim Payne (Jan. 27th)

Lester Israel (Jan. 31st)

January Events

Lots of exciting events going on in January, so mark your calendars!

New Years Day (1st)

Elvis Presley Birthday (8th)

Martin Luther King Day (15th)

Popcorn Day (19th)

Inauguration Day (20th)

The month of January is named after the Roman God of doors, Janus, because this month is the door into the New Year. Janus is also called the two-faced god. He represents all beginnings and possesses the ability to see the past and the future.

- **Birthstone:** Garnet (A Latin word meaning seed, due to its resemblance to a dark red pomegranate seed. The garnet is a symbol of regeneration and vitality and is known for being protective against evil spirits. Garnets are known to create inspiration and creativity.)
 - **Flower:** Carnation (It is told the first carnation bloomed when Mary's tears hit the earth as she wept for Jesus when he carried his cross. The pink carnation is a symbol of motherly love.)
 - **Zodiac Signs:** Capricorn (Capricorns are responsible, ambitious and disciplined. They have a good grasp of self-control and are known for being good managers. They are also known for being stubborn.)
- Aquarius (known for being independent and original. They require mental stimulation and get bored easily. They are good at problem-solving and strive to help others. They can also be uncompromising and aloof.)

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