



# MAHOVA

## December 2019

# News

### A Holiday Tradition

At some point in childhood many kids don a blue shawl or fake beard and act out the nativity scene in front of doting parents and grandparents. Whether performed by children or adults, set up as little figurines in a home, or installed as a life-size tableau in front of a church, these scenes are a staple of the Christmas holidays. But when did this tradition begin?

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with staging the first nativity scene in 1223. The only historical account we have of Francis' nativity scene comes from *The Life of St. Francis of Assisi* by St. Bonaventure, a Franciscan monk who was born five years before Francis' death.

According to Bonaventure's biography, St. Francis got permission from Pope Honorious III to set up a manger with hay and two live animals—an ox and an ass—in a cave in the Italian village of Greccio. He then invited the villagers to come gaze upon the scene while he preached about “the babe of Bethlehem.” (Francis was supposedly so overcome by emotion that he couldn't say “Jesus.”) Bonaventure also claims that the hay used by Francis miraculously acquired the power to cure local cattle diseases and pestilences.

The nativity scene's popularity took off from there. Within a couple of centuries, nativity scenes had spread throughout Europe. We don't know if people actually played Mary and Joseph during Francis' time, or whether they just imagined those figures' presence. We do know that later scenes began incorporating dioramas and live actors, and the cast of characters gradually expanded beyond Mary, Joseph and sweet baby Jesus, to sometimes include an entire village.

Nativity buffs will know, however, that the familiar cast of characters relied upon today—the three wise men and the shepherds—is not biblically accurate. Of the New Testament's four gospels, only Matthew and Luke describe Jesus' birth. Matthew mentions wise men, while Luke comments on shepherds. But nowhere in the Bible do shepherds and wise men appear together. What's worse, no one mentions donkeys, oxen, cattle or other farmyard friends in conjunction with Jesus' birth. But what would a nativity scene be without those staples? Luckily for all the folks cast as King #2, or a random shepherd, some artistic interpretation is permitted. The sense of joy and peace conveyed are the same.

Our own annual MAHOVA Christmas Pageant will be held Thursday, December, 2 at 7:00pm in the Chapel. A second show will be Tuesday, December 17, at 3:00pm in the Multipurpose Room.

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#### Resident Advisory Council

**Paula Swansey**

President

**Peg Davis**

Vice President

**Steve Bollinger**

Secretary

**Mildred Johnson and Alice**

**Bond-B Wing**

**Tom Kaufman—C and D Wing**

**Jim Herring—Magnolia Court**

**Peg Davis—Village**

# Health

Here's To Your Good Health!

## Eat Right to Stay Warm

If you can't stand the cold, you may not have enough iron in your diet. A recent study linked the body's ability to regulate or maintain body temperature under cold conditions to daily iron consumption. The best way to ensure proper iron levels through the winter is by eating more iron-rich foods such as lean red meat, fish, poultry, beets, beans and leafy green vegetables. Also, drink more orange juice; the vitamin C increases iron absorption. Iron supplements are not a sure remedy because they are not as readily absorbed by the body as the iron in foods. Moreover, the supplements can irritate the stomach and cause constipation.

## Have You Heard?

The Anglo-Saxons called it 'Winter monath', or 'Yule monath' because of the custom of burning the Yule log around this time. After many Anglo-Saxons became Christians, they called it 'Heligh monath' or holy month because Christmas is celebrated in December.

The birthstone for December is turquoise which symbolizes good fortune and success. The flower is narcissus.

## Program Highlights

<b>Resident Council Meeting</b> Monday, December 2 9:30 AM Dining Room	<b>Activities Committee Meeting</b> Thursday, December 19 3:45 PM Library
<b>Advisory Council Meeting</b> Tuesday, December 17 10:00 AM Private Dining Room	<b>Food Committee Meeting</b> Tuesday, December 17 1:00 PM Private Dining Room

## Program Highlights

Wednesday, December 4	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Reading Room	Yard Sale
Tuesday, December 10	3:00 PM	REB	Communion with Pastor Lynn
Tuesday, December 10	5:00 PM	Dining Room	Candlelight Dinner
Thursday, December 12	10:00 AM	Gallery	Coffee and Donuts from Country Style Donuts
Thursday, December 12	1:30 PM	TV Room	Tai Chi Presentation
Thursday, December 12	7:00 PM	Chapel	Christmas Pageant
Friday, December 13	12:00 PM to 3:00 PM	Gallery	Shopping for Jewelry with Bonita
Friday, December 13	6:30 PM	Dining Room	Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Annual Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 17	3:00 PM	Multipurpose Room	Christmas Pageant
Thursday, December 19	2:00 PM	Multipurpose Room	Classic Movie Matinee
Saturday, December 21	10:00 AM	Your Room	Job's Daughters Caroling throughout the Home
Tuesday, December 24	1:00 PM	TV Room	Card Social
Thursday, December 26	2:30 PM	TV Room	Hot Apple Cider and Cookies
Tuesday, December 31	2:00 PM	Reading Room	Champagne Social

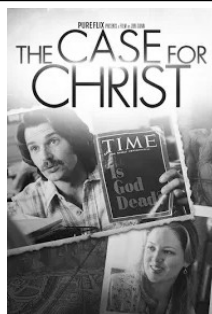
## Entertainment

Monday, December 2 2:00 PM TV Room	Theatrical performance by the Richmond Bifocals group
Monday, December 2 6:30 PM TV Room	Golden oldies vocal performance by Billy Mitchell
Tuesday, December 3 2:30 PM TV Room	Performance by Debra and Patrick– Golden oldies
Thursday, December 5 2:30 PM TV Room	Vocal and instrumental performance by Matthew O'Donnell
Friday, December 6 2:00 PM TV Room	Christmas Music and oldies performance by Karen Smith
Monday, December 9 2:30 PM TV Room	Vocal performance by Amy Ladd
Monday, December 9 7:00 PM Dining Room	Christmas Concert with the Million Dollar Band
Wednesday, December 18 3:30 PM TV Room	Performance by Forever Young Choir from Fairmount Christian Church
Friday, December 20 2:30 PM Dining Room	Guitar and vocal performance by Susan Greenbaum at the Egg Nog Social
Monday, December 23 2:30 PM TV Room	Vocal golden oldies performance by Kevin Salyer
Saturday, December 28 2:30 PM TV Room	Golden oldies vocal and guitar performance by Tommy Custalow

## Movies



**Channel 5.1**  
**6:00 PM**



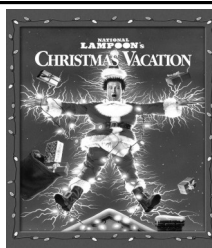
**Friday, December 6**  
**"The Case for Christ"**

Based on a true story and best-selling novel, one investigative journalist chases the biggest mystery of all time.



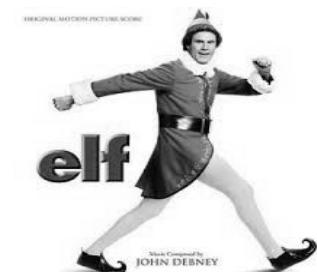
**Friday, December 20**

Romantic comedy about various relationships and the delightful twists and turns that love causes



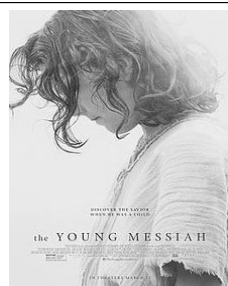
**Monday, December 23**  
**"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation"**

Comedy about the joys of Christmas and everything that can go wrong



**Friday, December 27**

Determined to find his biological father, an elf from the north pole lands in New York City on a mission.



**Monday, December 30**

Inspired by scripture and embedded in history, follow the story of Jesus during his childhood.

## Trips and Outings

### Shopping Schedule

December 4    White Oak Village  
December 11    Walmart  
December 18    Dollar Tree



Monday, December 2 11:15 AM	Lunch at Peking Chinese Restaurant
Tuesday, December 3 11:15 AM	Lunch at McDonald's
Thursday, December 5 6:15 PM	Glorious Christmas Nights Play at West End Assembly of God
Saturday, December 7 2:00 PM	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe play at Fairmount Christian Church
Monday, December 9 1:00 PM	Shopping at Goodwill
Monday, December 16 6:45 PM	Henrico Concert Band performs at the Henrico Theatre.
Tuesday, December 17 4:45 PM	Dinner at Calabash Seafood Restaurant
Wednesday, December 18 11:00 AM	Lunch and gambling at Rosie's Casino
Thursday, December 19 10:30 AM	Shopping at Burlington and lunch
Thursday, December 19 5:00 PM	Tacky Light Christmas Tour
Friday, December 20 9:30 AM	Shopping at Short Pump Mall and lunch at the Cheesecake Factory

## **Book Ends**

### **By Richard Neiswander**

#### **DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS**

To me this is the best time of the year. Even in Richmond with no snow, celebrating Jesus' birth is the greatest time of good will for all. When growing up I also enjoyed playing in the snow but now - - - I now enjoy its beauty from my living room.

#### **AGENTS of the APOCALYPSE**

by Dr. David Jeremiah

Dr. Jeremiah is senior pastor of a church in El Cajon, CA, and is seen on TV regularly. In this book he tells about the end of the world as described in the Bible in the book of Revelation. He uses an unusual method in that each chapter describes a group or individual active at or near the end. For each one he and Thomas Williams have written a story to help detail each thing to occur.

The book of Revelation is, at best, difficult to understand. It is, in my mind, the most difficult to understand of all the books in the Bible. All or nearly all of it is veiled either to hide the message from the authorities [of Rome?] or non-Christians. When reading Revelation, it is necessary for the reader to draw conclusions. This book has helped me understand the message. Hope it does the same for you.

#### **BOOK of USELESS INFORMATION**

by Noel Botham and The Useless Information Society

This is a VERY interesting book! I apologize as I have had it covered up and no one else could read it. I didn't realize I still had it. There are 13 chapters, each dealing with information about a separate subject. For example, the chapter on 'History's Mysteries' starts with a Virginia law. It requires all bathtubs be kept out in the yard, not in the house. Also in Cleveland, Ohio, it is illegal to catch a mouse without a hunting license! [*Glad I lived outside the city limits!*] And in Michigan it is illegal to put a skunk in your boss's desk.

Under 'Holy Matters' you will find that Las Vegas has more chapels per capita than any other U.S. city. In "On the Menu" we find that peanuts are cholesterol-free and are an ingredient in dynamite! Donuts originated in Holland. Vanilla is used to make chocolate. Beijing boasts the world's largest Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant.

This book contains so many of these things you never wanted to know that I found it humorous!

I'm more confused than.....

a Chameleon in a bag of skittles!

## In Memoriam



# Forever in Our Hearts



Ed Swansey  
Virginia Yeatts

## Anniversaries



December 5, 2004 Charles and Cathy Hinkle  
December 19, 1975 Richard and Georgeen Carden  
December 19, 1975 John and Gloria Edelin  
December 21, 2005 William and Dolores Reinhold  
December 21, 1984 Gardner and Gypsy Rollings  
December 22, 1956 Chester and Marian Wright  
December 24, 1953 Thomas and Ann Spain



## Notifications

### Candlelight Dinner Tuesday, December 10



Hor'dourve Hour  
4:00 PM  
Reading Room and  
TV Room

Dinner  
5:00 PM  
Main Dining Room

**Residents Only**



## Notifications

### **Weight and Blood Pressure Checks**

Please bring your pendants with you.

Wednesday, December 4  
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
D Wing Recreation Room

### **Monthly Meeting with Meridian Lodge No. 284**

Meridian Lodge No. 284 Monthly Meeting will be held on the  
3rd Monday in December in the Multipurpose Room at 12:00 PM.  
Meeting is open to ALL Master Masons.  
Please come and join us!

### **A Christmas Wish**



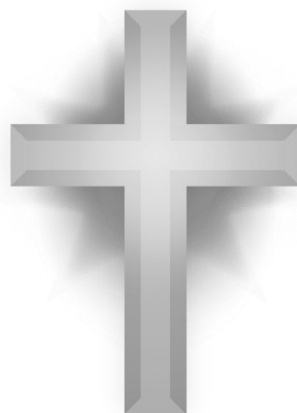
Is there something you have been wanting but can't seem to make it happen for whatever reason? Perhaps it is a letter you would like to send to a friend or loved one but could use help writing it. Is there someone you'd like to speak to by phone but haven't been able to find the number or connect for some reason? Do you need a pair of socks, a sweater, undergarments or pajamas that the Home can help you purchase? While the Home can't manage every wish, we will do our best. Please feel free to share your wish by completing a form left by the Christmas Wish box in the Activity Foyer Area. The box will be placed following Resident Council on Monday, December 2 and picked up in the afternoon on Tuesday, December 10. Please know that someone may be getting back with you to obtain more details to better assist with your special wish.

## Notifications

### **Christmas Pageant**

Thursday, December 12  
7:00 PM  
Chapel

Tuesday, December 17  
3:00 PM



### **Metropolitan Lodge No. 11 Annual Christmas Party**

Friday, December 13  
6:30 PM  
Dining Room



### **Champagne Social**

Tuesday, December 31  
2:00 PM  
Reading Room



**Unscramble these December words.  
Answers below .**

- 1. NANORMTE**
- 2. WOSN**
- 3. SSJEU**
- 4. ASHTRSIMC**
- 5. LYAMIF**
- 6. SSEENTRP**
- 7. POSGPNHI**
- 8. VINAIYTT**
- 9. EANTGPA**
- 10. LGTNDELIHAC**
- 11. GTSIHL**
- 12. NAALDGR**
- 13. ERTE**
- 14. HMGAACNPE**
- 15. LGNAE**

1. Ornament 2. Snow 3. Jesus 4. Christmas 5. Family 6. Presents 7. Shopping 8. Nativity  
9. Pageant 10. Candlelight 11. Lights 12. Garland 13. Tree 14. Champagne 15. Angel

Answers

## Happy Birthday to You!

Happy Birthday to the following residents who celebrate their birthdays:

12/4 Betty Klotz  
 12/5 James Herring  
 12/6 Arthur Gregory  
 12/6 Susan Sprigg  
 12/6 Helen Wadkins  
 12/8 Roy Lythgoe  
 12/9 Judith Houchens  
 12/18 Mary Lee Peroe  
 12/19 Luvirda Mitchell  
 12/24 Woody Davis  
 12/24 Nellie Marano  
 12/25 Norma Klebert  
 12/28 Edward Bowen  
 12/28 Beatrice Holm  
 12/31 Gloria Edelin

## Employee Birthdays

12/1 Cherry Lewis	12/17 Tacara Shuler
12/2 Peter Mollica	12/18 Dianne Winston
12/5 LaChandra Broidy	12/18 Rashida Traywick
12/7 Bonnie White	12/21 Sheba Bowman
12/7 Tonya Washington	12/23 Holly Fiore
12/8 Beverly Allen	12/25 Marlena Jennings
12/10 Johnetta Bell	12/27 Mark Mumford
12/12 Penny Allen	12/27 Altha Battle
12/12 Shyvonne Bagby	12/27 Janet Jamison
12/12 Mary Corbett	12/28 Wanda Woody
12/15 Cheryl Smith	12/31 Monica Patron

Scan this QR image to go to the Masonic Home Website.



## Welcome New Residents

**James Butts**  
 Manchester Lodge No. 14  
**Frank McAllister**  
 Manchester Lodge No. 14

## Masonic Home Census -- 194

### The MAHOVA News

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Assisted Living Administrator

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