



December 2018

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### Your HOA President's Message

Hello Starlight Ranch residents,

'Tis the season for us to bring on some cheer and love to those in our lives. I would like to start out by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and hope that your Thanksgiving was a wonderful time for one and all in your life.

I do understand that the holidays can be a bit stressful or even sad for some who have lost a loved one during the Holidays as it seems then to turn into a milestone of that loss of that loved one. Most of us are able to move on with family and friends to support them even if we have to force a smile we move on. If you find it hard to cope or don't have that support try coming to one of our Community Dinners and you will find the love and friendship you may need or want.

I will say that it was very uplifting at our Community Thanksgiving Dinner to see such a great group of people pull together and break bread at an amazingly great feast. When I looked around the room there was a lot of smiles and full bellies. Sometimes we have to step out of our comfort zone to find that "little bit of happy" that can make a big difference moving forward and we might even meet a new best friend that lives right around the corner.

I do want to thank all of those that help put these activities together. We are always looking for new help so that the same small group does not always get stuck with the job of putting on these wonderful events. You might find out that it is very rewarding to see those smiles and know that you helped put them there. We do have some folks in our community that having a nice meal makes a big difference in their week.

I have found you always have a couple of people that don't like this or that, which is why we have to have some rules and structure to these activities. One of the questions is "Why do I have to show ID or have a guest pass?" The answer is we had people coming in here that don't live here and were not a guest of someone who does live here. They were simply coming into our clubhouse for a free meal! All communities that have a clubhouse check for verification to be in the Clubhouse.

Other frequent questions are "Why do we have to sign up for the meal and why do I have to wait till the end of line if I don't sign up?" Easy answer here is, so we know how much to prepare (although we do fix more than enough most of the time). And... it's only fair that those who do sign up should go first.

Please Continue on Page 2: *President's Message*

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### COMMUNITY YARD SALE

**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

**8 am to 1 pm**

Management has given permission to have a yard sale in carports on this date. They are also providing a dumpster in the overflow parking lot across from the back clubhouse for fall cleanup. If you will be participating please park your cars at the clubhouse parking lots so there is less congestion on the streets and buyers have somewhere to park. A notice of the sale will be put on a variety of social media the day before the sale.



The same goes for "Meals to GO". We feed the folks that come to the activity first, since they are there. The whole point of the activity is to bring the community together to enjoy a meal and time together. We are more than happy to provide meals, if we have enough, to those who can't get out, but it is only fair to those who are at the activity to be served first.

We are happy to say that the Salvation Army has once again provided us with 100 meals this year for Thanksgiving Day that is based on meals for residents that can't get out or don't have a family meal on that day. So we do try to help all that we can with the resources we have.

So you may notice that the point of my letter this month is we need get to know each other a bit more and we will have a safer and happier place to call "Home". My Christmas wish this year is that all of the residents at the Starlight Ranch Have a Blessed Holiday season.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

*Curt*

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**Attention HOA membership**

The HOA board had to change our election date at our annual meeting in Nov. to December 8 th at the front Clubhouse. There was a need to get legal advice from a Law Firm resulting from a letter received by a resident. That resident is running for the board but has some legal issues that need to be reviewed. We are not lawyers. When informed by the member's letter that any member of the association will be sued if we do not allow that member on the board. A vote was taken of members present and it was decided to get legal advice before moving on. We are in compliance with rules that are clearly written in our By-Laws. We will get an answer soon on this issue, get the election over and get back to doing great things to help the community.

Thank you for your patience

Curt

**A few Christmas quotes**

"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold everything is softer and more beautiful."

-Norman Vincent Peale

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year." -Charles Dickens

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas... perhaps... means a bit more!"

-Dr. Seuss

"One can never have enough socks," said Dumbledore.

"Another Christmas has come and gone and I didn't get a single pair. People will insist on giving me books." – J.K.

Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?" – Bob Hope

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I'm no recipe expert but here is one I like (just in case you missed out on Thanksgiving)

**Cranberry Sauce**

Ingredients

12 ounces cranberries

1 cup white sugar

1 cup orange juice

Directions

In a medium sized saucepan over medium heat, dissolve the sugar in the orange juice. Stir in the cranberries and cook until the cranberries start to pop (about 10 minutes). Remove from heat and place sauce in a bowl. Cranberry sauce will thicken as it cools.

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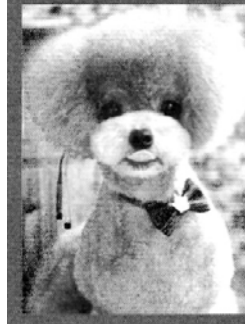
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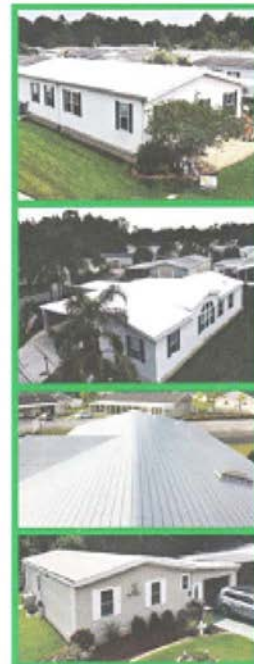
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WHATEVER PLAN YOU ARE LOOKING FOR, I AM YOUR GIRL. I WORK WITH OVER 30 INSURANCE COMPANIES. I ALSO WORKED FOR DOCTORS FOR OVER 27 YEARS. LET ME EDUCATE YOU ON WHAT IS AVAILABLE. I WILL DO ALL THE SHOPPING FOR YOU AND THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU!

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DON'T GO WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE BECAUSE OF COST....I CAN FIND YOU A PLAN FOR YOUR NEEDS AND BUDGET! ACA (OBAMACARE) OPEN ENROLLMENT COMING SOON IN NOVEMBER. MEDICARE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT STARTS OCT. 15 THRU DEC. 7TH. **THERE IS NO "ONE PLAN THAT FITS ALL" SO MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHAT EACH PLAN OFFERS!**

THAT IS WHAT I DO FOR YOU!! IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE BEST PLANS FOR THE BEST PRICE....CALL ME: A BROKER!

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**Volunteers Needed** to help decorate the front clubhouse for Christmas. We will start at 10 AM on December 6<sup>th</sup>. If we don't have volunteers, we will only do minimum decorating.

### December Activities

Merry Christmas Ranchers! The 1<sup>st</sup> is our Community Yard Sale from 8 am to 1 pm followed by our Ice Cream Social and Gift Card Bingo at 3 pm. The 7<sup>th</sup> is our VETS Social at 7pm. The 8<sup>th</sup> is the HOA Annual Meeting and Elections at 10 am followed by Movie and Pizza at 5 pm. The movie will be an action flick.

Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> is WellCare Bingo at 1 pm. Our Christmas dinner will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. Please sign up early and as always desserts are welcome. See you next year!

### Worried?

There are only two things to worry about, either you are healthy or you are sick. If you are healthy, then there is nothing to worry about. But if you are sick there are only two things to worry about, either you will get well or you will die. If you get well, then there is nothing to worry about. But if you die there are only two things to worry about, either you will go to heaven or to hell. If you go to heaven, then there is nothing to worry about. And if you go to hell, you'll be so darn busy shaking hands with your friends you won't have time to worry.

**Don't you feel better now?**

## Resident Birthday/Anniversary List

NAME	BIRTHDAY	ANNIVERSARY
Albert Michaels	12/4	
Isabel Rodriguez	12/5	
Georgia Moffat	12/12	
Donald Power	12/13	
Bryan Bailey	12/14	
Richard Pryze	12/16	
George Estep	12/18	
Mary Rivera	12/19	
Cindy Pokel	12/20	
Maria Brown	12/24	
Carol Herring	12/24	
Patty Olsen	12/24	
Susan Duncan	12/25	
Angie Ambra	12/25	
Shirley Silverthorne	12/26	
Verna Dixon	12/31	
Gerry Eten	12/31	
Junior Rodriguez	12/31	
Louis & Robin DeSilvio		12/3
Wayne & Audrey Davis		12/5
Carol & Tony Ortiz		12/5
Bob & Jo Ellen Hall		12/5
Steven & Shirley Henry		12/27
Robert & Madeline McDuffie		12/28
Stephen & Diane Bagley		12/30
Verna Nixon	12/31	

*If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in future issues, please print the information on the clipboard in the front (ACH) clubhouse. You only have to put your name on the list once. It is then added to the Master List. Also, please let us know of any residents that have passed-on or moved away.*



## A Review of Honey Baked Ham Co.

*by Joan Stearns*

I am so lucky to have found a seasonal job with Honey Baked Ham Co. – it’s one of the best jobs I’ve ever had! I am one of 40 seasonal hires, and we have bonded as if we’ve always worked together. We talk to each other, not about each other. We’re all treated with respect by the management, and we’re all told often how we are making a difference! One of the best things about working there is that they offer flexible hours!

Every day I walk in the store and immediately smell the delicately sweet crunchy glaze...it’s a great balance of savory and sweet. Dinner has never been easier...just unwrap, serve, and take in the praise.

This year Honey Baked is offering new side dishes - One of them is Tuscan-style broccoli (broccoli tossed with lemon, garlic, olive oil, and parmesan cheese) – unbelievably delicious. Another is baked cinnamon apples (Granny Smith apple slices baked in a sweet cinnamon and sugar sauce).

Their carrot cake bursts with flavor. The cake is stuffed with a rich mixture of fresh shredded carrots, walnuts, and sweet raisins. A smooth cream cheese frosting is spread over the top and between each layer. A crunchy layer of fresh chopped pecans is spread over the top of the cake!

### A little Christmas History

Few people know this, but Christmas — the warm, cheerful, joyous holiday we all love to celebrate — was once outlawed across the country.

While it’s a very commonplace holiday now, Christmas actually has a long, complex, and pretty fascinating history — especially in the early days of the U.S., when the country was still figuring out its cultural identity.

We know that many of our Christmas traditions come from other countries and times, and their histories are much richer than they might seem — like the fascinating and ancient history of Santa Claus.

But to learn more about the holiday itself, take a trip into the past and see what Americans who came before did for Christmas — and learn how our attitude towards the holiday has changed drastically over the years.

**Link:** <https://www.littlethings.com/history-of-christmas-in-america-vas/3>

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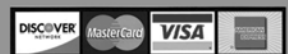


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## Exercise Group

Pat Williams & Ruthie Henley

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Real exercises  
Lots of fun  
New friends  
See ya there!  
Tuesdays  
Thursdays  
10 am

### Back Clubhouse

Members of the exercise group currently are Mabel, Ruthie, Pat, Bertha, Oscar and Dave. Sometimes others will drop in to see what we are doing and will stay a while and join us. We have a lot of fun and the exercises are done sitting down. Everything is done at your own pace. Come and give us a try. I'm sure you will enjoy it.

### ***Be Healthy and Live long***

#### Free in December

##### Holiday Light Show at Light Up UCF

November 16, 2018- December 31, 2018  
Starts at 7pm and continues hourly until closing  
CFE Arena

##### Cranes Roost Park Holiday Fountain Show

November 24, 2018 – December 31, 2018  
Performances hourly from 6-9pm  
Cranes Roost Park, Altamonte Springs

##### Snow Falling Nightly in Celebration

November 24, 2018 – December 31, 2018  
Nightly "snowfall" at 6, 7, 8 and 9pm.  
Celebration Town Center

##### Eola Wonderland Christmas Tree Show

December 1, 2018 – January 5, 2018  
Nightly at 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, and 9:45pm  
Lake Eola Park

## Cranberries for Christmas?

*...some words from John Moss, a cranberry grower in Cranmoor, WI*

Harvest season is from mid-September to the end of October. When the berries are ripe, we flood the beds, or what some people call bogs, so the berries come off the vines easier. Cranberries float, so when we add more water, they rise to the top so we can collect them without damaging them. After the berries are transported to the Ocean Spray plant, we need to remove the water in the beds quickly so it doesn't damage the vines. To do that, we remove boards from the floodgates or occasionally pump the water out.

In the winter, we flood the fields again with water when it's cold enough to freeze. The ice acts as an insulating layer to protect the tiny buds from the colder temperatures above. Around February, we place sand on the ice, and when the ice melts, the sand falls and stimulates new vine growth.

The buds bloom in June, and we bring in honeybees to pollinate the flowers. We fertilize the vines, monitor for plant stress, and monitor soil tension probes to see what's happening under the plants. We also water very carefully. Cranberries are very picky...you need just the right amount of water.

### Veteran's Group & Social Hour

*Pat Williams*

Our Veterans in November were: Laurie Lyons-Navy, Jackie Bedard-Navy, John Bertsch-Army

Guests were Betty Fisher, Barry Bertsch, Pat Williams, Patty and Craig Olsen and Marti Hensley.

Patti made a delicious soup, corn bread, tossed salad and desserts. Betty Fisher made a wonderful Rhubarb Salad.

The Veterans meet the second Friday of each month at the back clubhouse at 7 pm and enjoy a nice dinner and some great conversation. Please consider attending in December.

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