

FOCUS ON RECREATION

"What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future." – Agnes M. Pahro

May the warmth of the holiday season fill your hearts with joy and bring comfort to your souls. Wishing everyone at Dawson Heights Housing a Christmas filled with laughter, love, and the cherished company of friends and family. May the spirit of peace and goodwill surround you, and may the coming year bring you continued happiness and fulfillment. Merry Christmas to all, and a Happy New Year ahead.

Please note for the week of December 24 - January 2, the Front Desk of The Cedars will be operating on Statutory Holiday hours, 10:30 am—6:30 pm.

Dee Budd Tree of Hope

During the Holiday season, there is a focus on giving. Each year at Dawson Heights we put up our Dee Budd Tree of Hope in the Front Lobby of The Cedars. The tree is decorated by the Dawson Heights Community (residents, family, and staff) with items to help those who need a little extra warmth during the winter. The tree fills quickly with toques, mittens, scarves, socks, and blankets! We also will be collecting non-perishable food items and cash donations. The tree will be up in the Lobby of The Cedars from Friday, December 1 to Friday, December 15. All items will be donated to Rock Bay Landing and The Shelbourne Community Kitchen where they will be distributed to those who need a helping hand.



Christmas Door Decorating Contest

We invite all campus residents to participate in our annual Christmas Door Decorating contest! Help us "Deck the Halls" by decorating your door for the Holidays and you could win a jolly prize! Katie and Trish will be coming around to judge the doors the afternoon of Thursday, December 21. Winners will be announced on Friday, December 22. Good luck!



12 Days of Christmas Trivia Challenge

On the First Day of Christmas my True Love gave to me...a fun daily trivia challenge! From Monday, December 25 to Friday, January 5 we will be hosting a 12 Days of Christmas Trivia Challenge. Each day will feature a different holiday themed trivia puzzle. Puzzles will be available for pick up at the Front Desk of The Cedars. Complete the daily trivia puzzles and return your completed puzzles to Katie and Trish on Friday, January 5 to collect your prize!

We have a number of fun programs, outings and events planned to celebrate the holiday season. We hope you will take the opportunity to participate in at least one of our festive events! See pages 2 and 3 of the ECHO, and your Recreation Calendar for more details.

December Special Events

**Afternoon Pop-Up Performance by Pacific Opera Victoria
Sunday, December 3 in the BWR
TIME TO BE ANNOUNCED**

We are starting the Christmas Season off with a beautiful performance by a trio of artists from Pacific Opera Victoria!

KAREN'S KORNER

"The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much" Henry David Thoreau



As we move into what seems to become a busy and for some, an anxious time of year in spite of our best intentions, I invite you to, not simply find places of peace and moments of joy through this season but to create them.

We are members of a global family; there is no hiding or denying that many of this family are suffering. In the midst of ever-growing world concerns, we cannot look away yet feel powerless. We may be able to do little of substance world-wide but we can work to shine our own Light and Love on those around us. I believe that as we shine brightly we enable others to do so. In turn, others will spread their Light and the world can become a little brighter, even on the darkest of days.

How do we shine? Each of us will do this in our own unique way. For some it may simply be by committing each day to be a little kinder, to smile at someone in passing; or donating our time (or money) to help another person or an organization; for others it may be making a commitment to be less judgmental, more accepting, more considerate of those that are different from ourselves. Lao Tzu 6th century BCE philosopher was purported to have instructed: *"Watch your thoughts; they become words; Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny"*. Sometimes the best gift we can give is the best of ourselves.

Whatever your December celebration is, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, Christmas or Kwanzaa may you give more than you receive and in that giving, may there be joy.

FOCUS ON RECREATION cont.

December Special Events

Afternoon Music with Vic Gnadinger Tuesday, December 5 at 2:00 pm in the BWR

Join Vic Gnadinger for an afternoon of music and fun.

Christmas Fashion Show with Vintage Fashion Showcase Thursday, December 7 at 2:00 pm in the BWR

Models in vintage, Holiday themed, attire from the 1860s to the 1980s will be coming to The Cedars to showcase their vintage garments in the context of social history.

Sherry Party with Entertainment by Jesse Thomas Brown Thursday, December 14 from 4:00 pm—5:00 pm in the BWR Candlelight Dinner 5:00 pm in The Cedars Dining Room



You are invited to join us at the social event of the holiday season! The annual Sherry Party and Candlelight Dinner is a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays with your fellow Dawson Heights Residents. Entertainment at the Sherry Party will be provided by Jesse Thomas Brown.

*****Please note there are a limited number of seats available for Dawson residents at this event. Please call the Front Desk at (250) 477-4850 to reserve your seat. The cost of dinner for Dawson Residents is \$38.**

December Special Events Continued

Movie Matinee and Popcorn: 80 for Brady—Friday, December 15 at 1:30 pm in the BWR

Enjoy a cozy afternoon with friends while we watch the movie "80 for Brady" starring Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno, and Sally Field. In this movie, a group of friends made it their life-long mission to go to the Super Bowl and meet NFL superstar Tom Brady. Popcorn will be served.



Monthly Birthday Tea with Entertainment by Brandy Moore Monday, December 18 at 2:00 pm in the BWR

Help us celebrate the December birthdays! Enjoy some freshly baked Gingerbread Cake while enjoying the wonderful Brandy Moore.

Christmas Social with Entertainment by Susan and Sean Friday, December 22 at 2:00 pm in the BWR

Invite your family and friends and join us for a festive gathering filled with joy, laughter, and the spirit of Christmas. Enjoy eggnog and Christmas themed treats while Susan and Sean entertain. We invite everyone to wear their most festive Christmas Sweater!



Christmas Eve Carol Sing with Pat and Phil Williamson Sunday, December 24 at 6:00 pm in the BWR

Join Pat and Phil for an evening of beautiful Christmas Carols.



December Outings

Hillside Mall Shopping Trips Tuesday, December 5, 12 and 19 from 10:00 am—11:30 am (Sign Up Required)

We will be offering a weekly shuttle to Hillside Mall! We will depart The Cedars at 10:00 am and leave Hillside Mall at 11:30 am. Please note this is a drop-off/pick-up service only. Please sign up by calling the Front Desk of The Cedars (250) 477-4850.

Christmas Lights Drive Wednesday, December 20 at 6:00 pm (Sign Up Required)

All campus residents are invited to attend our annual Christmas Lights Drive! Please sign up by calling the Front Desk at 250-477-4850 between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The cost for the lights drive is \$2 (to be paid when you sign up). **Masks are required.**

The Gingerbread Showcase at the Hotel Grand Pacific Thursday, December 21 at 1:30 pm



Join us as we take in the sights of the 15th annual Gingerbread Showcase in support of Habitat for Humanity. The theme of this year's showcase is "Family Traditions". Entrance is by donation.

Fundraising Update

Trish and I would like to thank everyone who helped make the 2023 Craft Fair a success! Thanks to your support, we raised over \$1500.00 for the Residents Fund!

Our Purdys Chocolatier Fundraiser was also a success. We surpassed our fundraising goal of selling \$500 worth of chocolate! Purdys donated 25% of the profits of the sales back to Dawson Heights. We raised a total of \$357.26 for the Dawson Heights Community Garden Project.

BRAINTEASER

In each of these puzzles, there are two double blanks. Fill in the blanks with the same pair of letters to complete an English word. For example, use the letter-pair ac in b__kp__k to make the word backpack.

__ rses __ e

a __ a __ a

s __ tim __ t

__ da __ ted

__ s __ de

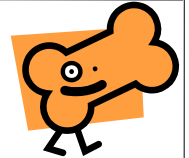
p __ dl __

h __ g __ lin

lo __ i __

Of those numbers whose English representation in capital letters consists only of straight lines, only one number has a value equal to the number of straight line segments required to write it out. What number is this? (Hint: NINE has 11 straight lines so that's not the right answer!!)

*Answers for November brainteasers.
Catacomb, Soloists, Seagquake, Namesake,
Industry, Sidearms, Inccubate, Accolade.*

FUNNY BONE**Christmas Puns**

I only have ice fir yule.



It's a simple case of Claus and effect.

Reindeer motto: Prance like nobody's watching.

Santa will put you on the naughty list if he has just Claus.

This hot chocolate is delicious, may I have some myrhh?

Are you going to post your gingerbread house on Instagram?

Christmas is always a Claus for celebration.

Prosecc-ho-ho-ho.



**WELCOME TO
DAWSON HEIGHTS**

The Cedars
Jane C

The Dawson
Robert & Bonnie H



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