



At last it is the proper time to listen to Christmas carols 24-7 and decorate the tree, the house, and the lawn with light displays for this festive season! It is now appropriate to watch Hallmark Christmas Movies all day long if we wish. I have a friend who loves Christmas so much that she wants to start all this in July. Well, to each his own, but I think when we start too soon, it loses the excitement and magic of the season.

When I was growing up, we didn't get our tree until the week before Christmas Day. The first Christmas after my Dad died (I was 11 years of age), I remember my Uncle taking us out to his property and letting us pick out the tree we wanted. He tied it to the top of my Mom's car. We took it home and proudly decorated it with ornaments, tinsel & candy canes. It was beautiful. The next morning we came downstairs and it was lying on the floor so our neighbor came over and wired it to the windows on either side. It stood proudly until after New Year's Day.

The meaning of being "home for Christmas" has evolved over the years. During my childhood it was being together with extended family (a BIG one), playing in the snow with cousins until our fingers and toes were numb and we would run into Grandma's house and fight for position by the coal stove to get warm. After I married and left home, going "home for Christmas" was loading the car with brightly wrapped presents for family and looking forward to Mom's home cooking and reuniting with that BIG family once again. Then there were the years of staying "home for Christmas" and the excitement of decorating and entertaining in my own home and planning all the special surprises for the kids.

Now the kids have their own families and the schedules have to be coordinated and juggled between multiple sets of grandparents and others to figure out just which "home" anyone goes to for Christmas. Sometimes it becomes like a common core math equation just getting a majority to sit down together for a meal.

As I get older and wiser, I realize that "home" really is more a state of mind than a physical address. Home is being with loved ones whenever we can and being "home for Christmas" can happen any time of year because Christmas is a time to celebrate the hope, joy and love that first came to us through a babe in a manger. That is something we can do any day of the year!

From the staff at Arbor Oaks, we wish you a Christmas season filled with hope, love, peace and joy. God bless us – Everyone!

- Submitted by Becki Ringleb



In astrology, those born between December 1–21 are the Archers of Sagittarius. The Archer's open mind, optimism, curiosity, and enthusiasm make them the travelers of the zodiac. They treasure freedom: freedom to roam, freedom of thought, and freedom to express themselves. Those born between December 22–31 are Capricorn's Goats. Goats are responsible masters of self-control. They are practical planners and leaders who value experience and expertise.

\*\*\*\* Resident Birthdays \*\*\*\*

	12/06	William Abercrombie		
12/15	Janice Austin	12/23	Antonio Messina	
12/15	Earl Riffle	12/29	Joyce Riffle	

\*\*\*\* Employee Birthdays \*\*\*\*

12/15	Mailyn Santana	12/20	Marjorie Mitchell
12/17	Julia McDonald	12/24	Nicole Nichols



Employee Spotlight

HEATHER MORENO



Heather joined the Arbor Oaks Dietary Staff on November 8, 2019. She is a hard worker who enjoys what she does. Heather is very attentive to the needs of the residents in the dining room and serves with attention to detail and a sweet spirit.

Her favorite part of her job is interacting with the residents on a daily basis and she treats each one with the respect that they deserve.

# Arbor Oaks News!

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## Celebrating December

**Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**  
*December 7*

**Hanukkah**  
*December 10–18*

**Christmas Bird Count**  
*December 14–January 5*

**Christmas**  
*December 25*

**New Year's Eve**  
*December 31*



### DIRECTORY

Mary Gaudet.....	Executive Director
Joy Post.....	Resident Care Director
Amanda Smith.....	Business Manager
Kaitlyn Askey.....	Activities Director
Ramon Miranda.....	Maintenance Director

## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT ON YONG HUI SCHRAMM

Yong Hui Schramm was born in South Korea on November 15, 1946, as Yong Hui Choi.. She was one of 13 siblings and 13 half siblings. She was raised by her oldest brother.

In 1967, during the Vietnam War, she met her husband while stationed in South Korea. They married in September of 1968. Their oldest son was born in South Korea in 1969 and the family came to the United States where they lived in the Bronx, New York and subsequently move to Long Island, New York.

Yong has 4 children; 2 boys ages 50 and 51, and 2 girls who are 42 and 46, and she is blessed to have 11 grandchildren, 6 boys and 5 girls, ages 14 to 28. Yong was married to her husband for 49 years until in 2017.

Yong loved to knit and sew, making hats, scarves, gloves, clothes and wedding gowns.



Yong was a beautician for thirty years. She was an active member of her church where she was in the choir and served as a Deacon. Yong would do anything for her family or to help anyone in need. She is full of energy, a great cook and she always loved to feed everyone.

Yong joined our Arbor Oaks family in March of 2020. She is a vibrant part of the Evergreen Family. She loves to help with simple tasks and she really enjoys the food.





What will New Year's Eve 2020 look like in quarantine?

Each year, millions of eyes from all over the world focused on the sparkling Waterford Crystal Times Square New Year's Eve Ball. At 11:59 p.m. the Ball began its descent as with palpable energy, millions of voices united to countdown the final seconds of the year and celebrate the beginning of a new year full of hopes, challenges, changes and dreams. Now that energy will be sublimated for New Year's Eve 2020.

For the first time in 114 years, there will be no crowd in Times Square to cheer the famed New Year's Eve ball drop. In the latest COVID-19-generated blow to traditions, officials announced major changes to the New Year's Eve 2020 event, saying that while the ball will still drop, the usual packed celebration will be a non-starter.

Revelers began celebrating New Year's Eve in Times Square as early as 1904, but it was in 1907 that the New Year's Eve Ball made its maiden descent from the flagpole atop One Times Square. Seven versions of the Ball have been designed to signal the New Year.

The Ball has been lowered every year since 1907, with the exceptions of 1942 and 1943, when the ceremony was suspended due to the wartime "dim-out" of lights in New York City. Nevertheless, the crowds still gathered in Times Square in those years and greeted the New Year with a minute of silence followed by the ringing of chimes from sound trucks parked at the base of the tower.

Today, New Year's Eve in Times Square is a bona fide international phenomenon. Each year, hundreds of thousands of people gathered around the Tower and waited for hours in the cold for the famous Ball-lowering ceremony. A worldwide audience estimated at over one billion people will watch the ceremony on New Year's Eve 2020. The lowering of the Ball has become the world's symbolic welcome to the New Year.

It's yet to be decided what live events will take place, but there will be an extremely limited group of in-person honorees, socially distanced, who will reflect the themes, challenges and inspirations of the New Year. Fans of the New Year's Eve 2020 event will have to tune in from home.

More than ever in these divided and fear-filled times, the world desperately needs to come together symbolically and virtually to celebrate the people and things we love and to look forward with a sense of renewal and new beginnings.

## Sitting Down for Equal Rights

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks was commuting home after working a long day at a Montgomery, Alabama, department store. Segregation was written into law and Blacks were required to sit in the back of the bus, with seats in the front reserved for white riders. When a white man entered the bus and found no open seats, the bus driver asked four Black riders seated in the first row of the "colored" section to stand. Three complied, but Parks did not. This was not because she was tired from working all day. In her own words, she "was tired of giving in."

Parks was arrested and later released on bail, but not before word of her arrest reached civil rights activist E.D. Nixon. Nixon quickly organized a boycott of the Montgomery buses and enlisted the support of Martin Luther King Jr. Despite threats and bombings of both Nixon and King's homes, the boycott continued. Nearly a year later, the Supreme Court ruled Montgomery's bus segregation unconstitutional. Parks' story has remained an inspiration for generations of civil rights activists seeking equality, justice, and equal protection under the law.



Your Legacy team would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season as we come to the end of 2020. Remember that Legacy will be here for any of your therapy needs in the coming New Year. We provide physical, occupational and speech therapy and tailor our therapy to meet not only your needs, but your goals. For more information, see Joy Post for a referral.



Just before 8 a.m. on December 7, 1941, without prior warning, 353 Japanese fighter planes descended on the base at Pearl Harbor. At 8:10 a.m., a 1,800-pound bomb smashed through the deck of the battleship *USS Arizona* and landed in her forward ammunition magazine. The ship exploded and sank with more than 1,000 men trapped inside. Next, torpedoes pierced the shell of the battleship *USS Oklahoma*. With 400 sailors aboard, the *Oklahoma* lost her balance, rolled onto her side and slipped under the water.

Less than two hours later, the surprise attack was over, and every battleship in Pearl Harbor – *USS Arizona*, *USS Oklahoma*, *USS California*, *USS West Virginia*, *USS Utah*, *USS Maryland*, *USS Pennsylvania*, *USS Tennessee* and *USS Nevada* – had sustained significant damage. (All but *USS Arizona* and *USS Utah* were eventually salvaged and repaired.)

In all, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor crippled or destroyed nearly 20 American ships and more than 300 airplanes. Dry docks and airfields were likewise destroyed. Most important, 2,403 sailors, soldiers and civilians were killed and about 1,000 were wounded.

But the Japanese had failed to cripple the Pacific Fleet. By the 1940s, battleships were no longer the most important naval vessel: Aircraft carriers were and as it happened, all of the Pacific Fleet's carriers were away from the base on December 7. Moreover, the Pearl Harbor assault had left the base's most vital onshore facilities – oil storage depots, repair shops shipyards and submarine docks – intact. As a result the U.S. Navy was able to rebound quickly from the attack.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress on December 8, the day after the crushing attack on Pearl Harbor. *"Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan. No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in the righteous might will win through to absolute victory. I believe I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make very certain that this form of treachery shall never endanger us again."*

After the Pearl Harbor attack, and for the first time during years of discussion and debate, the American people were united in their determination to go to war. On December 8, 1941, Congress approved Roosevelt's declaration of war on Japan. Three days later, Japan's allies Germany and Italy declared war against the United States. For the second time, Congress reciprocated, declaring war on the European powers. More than two years after the start of World War II, the United States had entered the conflict.

On August 24, 1944, the United States Congress passed Public Law 103-308 to designate December 7 of each year as the National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day seeks to honor the victims of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor.



Gather together in the Dining Room every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for Church Services with Pastor Revell.

Check out the information board in the lobby each day for different Christmas activities, such as: *Christmas Card Making for Soldiers*, *Christmas Crafts*, *Santa's Cookie Toss*, *Christmas Cookie Decorating Party*, *Eggnog Social* and a *special Humbug Bingo* on *December 24<sup>th</sup>*.

Come out to a Front Porch each Monday at 10:15 a.m. to enjoy the fresh air and conversation with friends. (weather permitting)

Bible Study with June Revell will take place every Tuesday at 10:15 a.m.

Live entertainment continues on Fridays at 3:00 p.m. with porch concerts for your enjoyment.

*CARING FRIENDS TRIO* will return to sing in the Dining Room on Sunday, December 20, at 2:00 p.m. for a special Christmas Music package.

On December 31 we will *Ring in the New Year* with our own party beginning at 3:00 p.m.



Hanukkah, or the Festival of Rededication, celebrates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after its defilement by the Syrian Greeks in 164 BCE. The eight-day festival of Hanukkah has become a beloved and joyous holiday. It is also known as the Festival of Lights and usually takes place in December, at the time of year when the days are shortest in the northern hemisphere. This year Hanukkah begins on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Hanukkah has become one of the most beloved of Jewish holidays. Jews will often gather for communal celebrations and public candle lighting. At such celebrations, Hanukkah songs are sung and traditional games such as *dreidel* are played.

Like Passover, Hanukkah is a holiday that celebrates the liberation from oppression. It also provides a strong argument in favor of freedom of worship and religion. In spite of the human action that is commemorated, never far from the surface is the theology that the liberation was possible only thanks to the miraculous support of the Divine.