

From the Activities Center

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all! It definitely is the most wonderful time of the year! We can't believe how fast this year has gone by. We have definitely had a fantastic year with you all, and have a lot of fun activities planned to finish it off.

To really enjoy the Christmas spirit, we have several Christmas movie activities planned where we watch classic Christmas movies and enjoy popcorn. We will also have a hot chocolate social with different mix-ins to make your hot chocolate absolutely perfect!

We are especially excited about our Christmas carnival this year! Lifecare is helping host a super fun carnival filled with treats, games, crafts, and hot cocoa for all that attend.

We really hope you all have enjoyed all of our fun activities this past year. We have so many more fun activities planned for the future, and hope that 2024 will be even more fun than 2023!

Again, we want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. We hope you all stay safe this holiday season!

Katie & Ibette

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year we are having our resident Christmas party on December 14th starting at 6pm. We will have live entertainment and a delicious Christmas feast curtesy of Chef Oscar. If you are planning on attending this party with your loved one, please RSVP with the activities department by letting either Katie or Ibette know how many people are wishing to attend. You can pay for your meal tickets in the front office. We look forward to seeing everyone and celebrating the holidays together!



CHRISTMAS

BY NORMAN THOMPSON

I love the spirit of people around our holidays. Differences are forgotten for a short time. In my childhood, Christmas took so long to arrive. It was so hard to wait, especially while we had presents under the tree. I used to try to sneak downstairs at night to get a peek at my presents. My mother was too sharp and always caught me. My parents always provided a great Christmas for all of us kids. They put us to bed and warned that Santa Claus would only come when we were asleep. Then they spent hours putting all of our big presents together. In the morning when we all came down together, it was spectacular. My dad had a movie camera, so we have great videos to go along with the great memories. We would play for a while and then go to church. Mother cooked a great formal Christmas dinner. Then we would get together with relatives and see our cousin's presents. I hope that all of us have great memories. It was even better when I had my own children. I got to put them to bed and put together their presents. I can still see the looks of excitement and delight on their faces.



HARRIS'S SPARROW

BY BRIAN STUFFLEBEAM

It's not often that a sparrow takes center stage, but the Harris's Sparrow is a showstopper with its handsome black bib and pink bill. It's North America's largest sparrow and the only songbird that breeds in Canada and nowhere else in the world. In winter it settles in the south-central Great Plains, where it is a backyard favorite.

Unfortunately, Harris's Sparrow populations are declining; its restricted range make it vulnerable to habitat loss on the wintering and breeding grounds. Because of its remote and restricted breeding grounds, the Harris's Sparrow was one of the last North American species to have its nest described. The first nest was found in 1931 in Churchill, Manitoba, by George M. Sutton (OU, 1952-1982), who went on to attend Cornell University and became an influential ornithologist and artist. The oldest recorded Harris's Sparrow was 11 years, 8 months old, when it was recaptured and rereleased during banding operations in Kansas in 1983. It had been banded in the same state in 1972.

12/1 Vernece Bales
12/5 Linda Hopson
12/10 Rose Galowitch
12/17 Joyce Brassfield

12/17 Dusty Davis
12/23 Barbara Wommer
12/24 Faye Webb
12/28 Connie Holt
12/29 Charles Garner