

# December Word Find

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N R N D Z R I D F H G U E R Y Y P B G S K X N  
U L J Q D R G R P T D P O P S V U V C L Q O X

Christmas  
Cold  
Celebrate  
Decorate  
Food

Relatives  
Santa  
Greeting  
Religion  
Presents

Snowman  
Frosty  
Cookies  
Winter  
Holly



## CROSSING COURIER DECEMBER VOLUME 4, ISSUE 12

### Dear Riley Crossing Family,

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way, oh what fun it is to ride in a Riley Crossing Sleigh, hey! We are looking forward to all the holiday festivities together. There are gifts to be wrapped, holiday music to be sung, trees to be decorated, lights to be seen and cookies to be eaten. We hope you join us at our Annual Christmas Party to celebrate the holidays together and join us for our Christmas Concert. We will be having lots of the community members come in to spread the holiday cheer with music. So, make sure to mark those events on your calendar! Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with warmth, joy, and shared moments of celebration!

**Your Riley Crossing  
Activities Department**

### Events and Happenings:

- 12/4 Christmas Tree Decorating & Lighting
- 12/4 Active Minds: Tibet
- 12/5 Men's Lunch Outing
- 12/6 Coffee with the Chef
- 12/7 December Birthday Party
- 12/11 Christmas Picnic with the Kids
- 12/11 Dietician Presentation
- 12/12 Unwrapping Music
- 12/13 Chanhassen HS Orchestra
- 12/13 Games with EP Highschool
- 12/13 Christmas Lights Outing
- 12/14 Christmas Party
- 12/18 Seasonal Treats
- 12/18 Piano Sing Along
- 12/19 Ladies' Lunch Outing
- 12/20 Vantage Presentation & BINGO
- 12/20 Games with EP Highschool
- 12/20 Resident Council
- 12/21 Christmas Concert
- 12/25 Gingerbread House Decorating
- 12/27 Christmas Lights Outing
- 12/28 Bracelet Making



**Entertainment this Month:**  
**12/7 @3pm December Birthday Party:** Skylark Opera.  
**12/9 @3pm Holiday Guitar Music:** Mark Frisbee's Guitar Students.  
**12/13 @9am Chanhassen HS Orchestra:** Holiday Orchestra Music.  
**12/14 @4:30pm Christmas Party:** Cindy Scheffler, singing and playing Crooner Classics on piano.  
**12/18 @3pm Piano Sing Along:** Janelle playing piano sing along Holiday music.  
**12/21 @4pm Christmas Concert :** Childcare classroom songs and resident performances.

**Food Donation Box**  
*Now- December 18th | Lobby*  
 In the spirit of the holidays, we are hosting a donation drive for non-perishable food items. Food banks are facing increased challenges, and your contribution can make a significant difference. The donation box is conveniently placed in our lobby by the front desk. We will be collecting items until December 17th and will deliver the goods to the Chaska Food Bank. Your generosity will go a long way in supporting those in need during this special time of year.

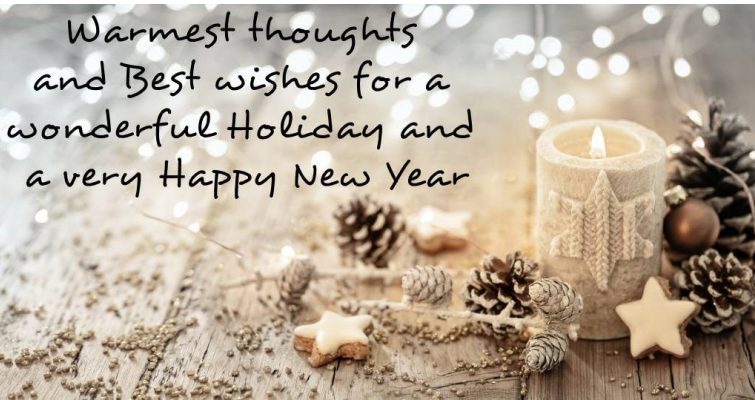
**the Perk**  
DAILY  
 The Daily Perk is distributed to the **mailroom black organizer** (left corner on the counter.) The current date will be on the top and any extra from the day prior will be stored below.

**Raffle Winners**




Anniversary Elegant Lunch: **Sis C. & Jan D.**

Turkey Bandit Turn In: **Della M.**



**Beware of Scams!**  
 During this time of year, we often see a surge in impersonation scams: a person reaching out to you as someone you trust to get personal information. Do **not** give your bank information or social security number to anyone who calls you. Other scam trends to watch for: email attachments, prize claims, memberships, & warranty scams.  
*Tips to avoid scams:* Be wary of false urgencies, verify links by going directly to companies websites, watch misspellings, and verify email sender address.

**Have a suggestion or two for us?**  
 Put them in our suggestion box by the Front Desk. We'd love to hear from you!



# December Birthdays

12/2 Jan M.  
 12/3 Gary S.  
 12/4 JoAnne B.  
 12/4 Pat D.  
 12/5 Dave B.  
 12/15 Cathy B.  
 12/18 Bill E.  
 12/22 Carolyn H.  
 12/22 Jerome R.  
 12/26 Mary G.  
 12/29 Wendell S.

**Gift Wrapping Social**  
*Monday, December 18th @11:00am | Club*  
 Do you need to wrap your presents or need help wrapping? Let's do it together! Just bring the presents you need wrapped on December 18th with your name on it and we'll wrap presents together.

# December Staff Directory

Executive Director	Taryn Bartz	952-906-7221
Maintenance Dir.	Avi Khusial	952-906-7228
Essential Beauty	MaryJane	651-302-5644
Culinary Director	Alex Buko	952-906-7229
Reception	Reception	952-934-7777
Resident Services Coordinator	Kayle Kube	952-906-7224
Nursing Director	Jennifer Whereatt	952-906-7240
Sales and Marketing	Shelley Brady	952-906-7225
Life Enrichment Director	Ali Ashton	952-906-7222
Dimensions Manager	Brittney Severeid	952-906-7232
Resident Council President	Jerry Noack # 330	952-470-6831

**Outings:**  
 12/4 Grocery Shopping @1pm  
 12/5 Men's Lunch Outing to Wildfire @12pm  
 12/11 Shopping: General Store in Minnetonka @1pm  
 12/13 Christmas Lights Outing @5:45pm  
 12/18 Grocery Shopping @1pm  
 12/19 Ladies Lunch to Jimmy's Kitchen & Bar @12pm  
 12/27 Shopping: Trader Joe's @1pm  
 12/27 Christmas Lights Outing @5:45pm  
**\*Please arrive 5 minutes early to departure time**



## Spiritual Matters

### **A message from Chaplain Craig Simenson**

Every year for Thanksgiving and Christmas, my family gathered at Grandma Simenson's farmhouse. The house never got any bigger but the family sure did. Even so, there were always enough seats and always plenty of food to spare. Times changed when Grandma moved out of her own home into town. Still, until her death in 2016, my family continued to gather every year on New Year's Day in the large community room on the first floor of her apartment building.

The last time we gathered as a whole family like that was probably for my Grandma's funeral. Since her death in 2016, we don't get together like we used to. But there are other holiday traditions that have taken root since then that I cherish. Time spent with in laws, my wife Hannah, and our children offer new ways of celebrating together at the same time as new technologies provide ways to stay connected with my own family farther away.

Times change, and traditions with them. But there is a gift to finding a way to gather together with those we love, however we can. When we are able to hold lightly "the way we've always done it," we can both cherish memories of old and also appreciate the ways in which our community of care and support can grow with every new year.

### **The Gathering: Every Thursday @ 11:00am, CR**

**Remembrance Service with Chaplain Craig: 12/1 @ 11:00am, Chapel**

**Worship Service with Chaplain Craig: Every Friday @ 11:00am, Chapel**

**Chicago Cathedral Mass Livestream Service: Every Sunday @ 11:00am, CR**

**St. Hubert's Mass & Communion: 12/12 & 12/26 @ 11:15am, Chapel**

**St. Hubert's Confession: Tuesday, 12/26 @10:45, TH**

**Catholicism Series: Tuesday 12/5 & 12/19 @11:15am, TH**



## **Learn & Explore**

### ***This month...***



#### **Christmas Tree Decorating & Lighting**

*Monday, December 4th @11:00am | Lobby*  
Get festive and join us to help decorate the lobby Christmas tree! Once we complete decorations we will have our annual tree lighting ceremony together.

#### **Active Minds: Tibet**

*Monday, December 4th @ 3:00pm | CR*  
With an average elevation higher than the tallest peaks of Colorado, Tibet has been called the "Roof of the World." Join Active Minds® as we explore the history and controversy that surrounds this unique region. China claims that Tibet has been part of China for centuries, while Tibetans maintain that China illegally invaded the independent country in 1949. We will cover the role of the Dalai Lama and the views of China and the international community as we seek to understand the situation there.

#### **Christmas Guitar Music**

*Saturday, December 9th @ 3:00pm | CR*

Mark Frisbie will be bringing a group of his guitar students to perform some of your favorite Christmas songs. Join us for some wonderful holiday music!

#### **Unwrapping Music**

*Tuesday, December 12th @ 10:00am | CR*  
Join an International Christmas - music and carols from different countries and eras. Another singalong/performance style class.

#### **Christmas Lights Tour Outing**

*Wednesday, December 13th @ 5:45pm | Lobby*  
Come with us on our Christmas Lights Tour through the City of Chanhassen Home Lights Tour.

#### **Seasonal Treats: Polly**

*Tuesday, December 12th @3:00pm | Club*

Join resident Polly for a special seasonal treats this December. Polly will be showing you all how to make the traditional Norwegian waffle cookie Krumkake made on an iron.

#### **Chanhassen High School Orchestra**

*Wednesday, December 13th @9:00am | CR*

Come listen to the Chanhassen Highschool Orchestra play a special set of music for you this holiday season.

#### **Vantage Presentation and BINGO**

*Wednesday, December 20th @1:15pm | CR*

Join the Minnetonka High School Health Science students as they present their final project on how the lives of our community members evolved over a lifetime and understanding their sense of purpose. The presentation will be followed by a sponsored BINGO with cookies!

#### **Games with Eden Prairie High School**

*Wednesdays, December 13th & 20th @2:15pm | CR*

Join the Eden Prairie High School Happiness class to play games! We will have a variety of games to play including scrabble, Yahtzee, uno, finish the phrase, or bring your own game you would like to play!

#### **Riley Crossing Christmas Concert**

*Thursday, December 21st @4:00pm | Lobby*

Invite your family! Delightful Christmas songs will be performed by childcare and residents. Afterward please join us for a cozy community gathering where we will be serving hot cocoa, coffee, and cookies.



## DECEMBER THEATER SCHEDULE

Friday, 12/1 @ 6:00pm • For the Love of Grace

Saturday, 12/2 @ 6:00pm • E.T. Extra Terrestrial

Sunday, 12/3 @4:00pm • The Crown

Tuesday, 12/5 @ 3:00pm • Heartland Season

Friday, 12/8 @ 6:00pm • No Time to Die 007

Saturday, 12/9 @ 6:00pm • The Christmas Chronicle

Sunday, 12/10 @4:00pm • The Crown

Friday, 12/15 @ 6:00pm • The Hughes Brothers-  
Christmas in Branson

Saturday, 12/16 @ 6:00pm • Last Holiday

Sunday, 12/17 @4:00pm • The Crown

Tuesday, 12/19 @ 6:00pm • Heartland

Friday, 12/22 @ 6:00pm • The Noel Diary

Saturday, 12/23 6:00pm • The Holiday

Sunday, 12/24 @4:00pm • The Crown

Tuesday, 12/26 @ 3:00pm • Heartland

Friday, 12/29 @ 6:00pm • Judy

Saturday, 12/30 6:00pm • Gatsby

We would love to hear your **movie requests/suggestions!** Please stop by the mailroom to write movie suggestions in the activity binder.

..... But wait, there's more! .....



Thank you for celebrating four years of Riley Crossing at our Anniversary Elegant Lunch. We are so grateful for our wonderful community.



### Resident Led Cocktail Hour

*Every Saturday at 4:00pm | Club Room*  
BYOB (Bring Your Own Bottle) to Resident Led Happy Hour every Saturday at 4pm. Socialize with other residents while enjoying a drink before dinner.  
*Please help clean up to the best of your ability*

### Dining Room Schedule

#### Meal Times

Breakfast: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Lunch: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Dinner: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### Happy Hour Fridays @ 3:00pm | **Community Room or Community Room Patio**

Come enjoy savory treats and alcoholic & NA drinks every Friday afternoon in the Community Room! We hope to see you there!

Friday 12/1 — Cookie Cutter Day: Sugar Cookies with Kahlua & Cream

Friday 12/8 — Santa Theme: Cranberry Brie Bites with Irish Elf Cocktail

Friday 12/15— Ugly Sweater Day: Coconut Shrimp with Christmas Mojito

Friday 12/22— Merry Grichmas: Onion Rings with Margaritas

Friday 12/29— National Eggnog Day: Cinnamon Rolls with Eggnog Cocktail

*Beer and wine will be available as an alternative drink to the special.*

Please arrive no more than 5-10 minutes early to allow us time to complete setup





## Riley Crossing Dimensions Support Group

*Thursday December 21st @4:00pm, Lobby*

Instead of our usual support group this month, we will be inviting family to join their loved ones for the Riley Crossing Christmas Concert with the Community. Every childcare classroom has prepared a Christmas song to perform, and we are excited to feature some talented residents as well! Following the Christmas Concert, we invite you to join us for a cozy gathering where we will be serving hot cocoa, coffee, and cookies. We hope you can join us to watch the heartwarming performances, savor some treats, and enjoy the festive atmosphere!

**Please email [brittney.severeid@fairview.org](mailto:brittney.severeid@fairview.org) if you have any questions regarding our Dimensions Community. Thank you!**



### November Recap

*Dimensions Community*

## Staff Spotlight

### Meet Dimensions Manager: Brittney Severeid



“Hi! My name is Brittney Severeid. I am incredibly excited and grateful to get started here at Riley Crossing as Dimensions Manager.

A little bit about me. I am a graduate of Winona State University where I studied Therapeutic Recreation. I have worked as a Life Enrichment Coordinator for almost three years with a focus on working with residents in memory care. I have a huge passion and heart for working with older adults, specifically ones living with dementia. My favorite part about working with older adults is learning about each individual, their life stories and hearing all the wisdom they have to offer.

When I’m not working, I enjoy running, listening to music, walking my dog Benji and spending time with family and friends. I am looking forward to getting to know my new community and hope to make a difference here at Riley Crossing. “

-Brittney Severeid

*We would love to hear about your incredible life story! If you are interested in sharing your story in the future, please reach out to Activities Director, Ali, at 952-906-7222.*

**A Warm Welcome to our new residents that are joining us in :**

*Welcome*

**Mari G.**

**Juliet G.**

**Nancy C.**

**Mary & Clarence D.**

**Richard M.**



## Community News

### Let's Talk

On 12/11 @4pm



Please join residents for their Let's Talk group as they create a safe space for healing conversations, building strong connections, and allowing residents to choose a compelling topic for each session to be discussed. Let's Talk meets at **4pm every other Monday in the Private Dining Room**. Due to Christmas, there will only be one meeting this month.

Just a reminder that you can tune in to Channel 991 to check out activity updates and more!



### Sue's Card Shop

All greeting cards are available for you to enjoy! You may call Sue J. anytime for special greeting card requests which include: Anniversary, Baby, Birthday, Get Well, Congratulations, Graduation, Sympathy, Thank You, Thinking of You, and Wedding. Looking forward to hearing from you! -Sue

### Christmas Party

Thursday, December 14th, Cocktail Hour @4:30pm, Dining Room

Dinner Served @5:00pm. Dining Room

Celebrate Christmas with the Riley Crossing family at our much-anticipated annual Christmas Party! The festivities start with a delightful cocktail hour starting at 4:30 pm, featuring Bailey's Christmas Cocktail, beer, and wine to set the merry tone.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by the talented Cindy Scheffler, playing piano and singing Crooner Classics and Holiday music. Our culinary team is crafting a special Christmas Menu, featuring a crisp Garden Salad, Smoked Roasted Turkey, Cranberry Sage Dressing, and Gravy Roasted Brussel Sprouts with Bacon. To finish the evening on a sweet note with delicious cream puffs and drawing two raffle winners. To ensure we have a spot reserved for you, please sign up to attend the dinner in the mailroom binder. We extend our warmest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and eagerly look forward to sharing this festive celebration with you all!

## Intergenerational Corner

### Christmas Cookies with the Kids

Wednesday, December 6th @11:00am | Club Room

Join the Duckling classroom for a festive baking and decorating experience with Christmas Cookies! We'll start by making and baking the cookies, and then dive into the creative fun of decorating with festive frosting and sprinkles. We would love for you to join the excitement, share the joy, and savor the delicious results of our holiday baking adventure!

We had a blast handing out candy as the Trick or Treaters came by with the most adorable costumes!



Our Thanksgiving Lunch with the kids was so precious as we went around and shares what we are grateful for.

### Christmas Picnic with the Kids

Monday, December 11th @11:30am, Community Room

Join us for a festive Christmas Picnic Lunch with the Mallards classroom. To ensure we have enough food for everyone, please remember to sign up in the mailroom binder. Your participation will make this holiday gathering warm and bright!

### Riley Crossing Christmas Concert

Thursday December 21st @4:00pm, Lobby

Every classroom has prepared a delightful Christmas song to perform, and we are excited to feature some talented residents as well. Following the Christmas Concert, we invite you to join us for a cozy gathering where we will be serving hot cocoa, coffee, and cookies. We hope you can join us to watch the heartwarming performances, savor some treats, and enjoy the festive atmosphere!