



Canyon Lake Senior Center

November 2009 Online Newsletter

Prez Sez

By Marvin Espeland

By the time you read this, we will be about to enter or already are into the month of November.

Since the major holiday in November is Thanksgiving, I tend to think of it as the appropriate time to extend thanks. I normally extend my thanks as being within the meaning of the Thanksgiving holiday. But as I think of that, it is probably not wise to do so as the Thanksgiving events have been so distorted by the historians in order to fit their particular agendas.

For example, what is now considered a myth is that there was a difficult first winter but the Pilgrims survived with the help of the Indians. In the fall of 1621, the grateful village held its first Thanksgiving Day and invited the Indians to a big feast with turkey and pumpkins.

Others say there was a big feast in 1621 but not on Thanksgiving Day. It was a shooting party with the Indians and no mention of a thanksgiving was found in any historical record.

Still others describe a "Day of Humiliation" and prayer credited for saving the harvest. The Pilgrims saw this as a sign that God blessed them and the governor proclaimed November 29, 1623, as a Day of Thanksgiving.

So I believe I will make my thanks as simply coming from the heart, not necessarily as a part of a Thanksgiving holiday meaning. Thanks to all of you that are members of Canyon Lake Senior Center. But a particular thanks to those of you who are "pulling the wagon," for you make it work as a "Place to Stay Young."

Memorandum from Michael

By Michael LaBelle

We are at the beginning of the most exciting season of all for me. The holidays bring forth the goodness in people.

Commercially the stores have had the Christmas decorations out for a while, but the season doesn't really start until the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade concludes with the arrival of Santa Claus. Halloween is just a taste of the holidays to come.

The leaves have turned colors, the nights are cool and the evening sky is clear. Now just a little snow on the ground or a lot really sets the stage for the days to come.

Just as a reminder, we have 2010 monthly pocket planners for members who pay their 2010 dues in advance. The pocket planners are limited and when we run out we're out.

Also, after Thanksgiving, we will have the "Office supply tree" in the Library Lounge with tags for office supplies we will need in 2010. Last year was slim, but we are hopeful for 2010.

Look for the special events scheduled for November and December, and then sign up early to assure a place to enjoy the holidays.

AARP Tax-Aide

By John Wolf, AARP

AARP Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free volunteer-run tax assistance and preparation service, is seeking volunteers to assist in tax assistance and preparation. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome. You do not need to be an AARP member or retiree to volunteer.

Volunteers receive free tax training and are reimbursed on a limited basis for qualified program-related expenses. They help customers one-on-one at tax sites. It is a great way to learn new skills and to be involved in your community. For more information or to volunteer call 342-6198.

Avon Sales to Help Center

By LaVonne Sartorius

Avon products will conduct a fundraiser for Canyon Lake Senior Center 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays November 9, 10, 12, 13 in the Library Lounge.

Items for Christmas and birthdays will be available for shoppers. The Center will benefit from your participation.

CLSC Readies Holiday Cookie Sale

By Millie Roland and LaVonne Sartorius

The holidays are coming. So, it must be time for our annual holiday cookie sale at Canyon Lake Senior Center. The sale will be Saturday, Dec. 12, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. You will be getting a call to bake cookies and goodies for the sale. We hope you'll have the opportunity to enjoy and support this event.

We need help setting up from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11. Your participation in this will be appreciated. Perhaps you would enjoy helping with the sale itself from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Many of you have special recipes for cookies, candies or bars. We hope that you will make some and bring them to the Center on Friday, Dec. 11, any time before 4 p.m. Year after year we find that even specialty items like cranberry relish, dips, coffee mixes, etc., were good sellers, too. If you are planning to leave town before then, you can bring your goodies to the Office. Make sure we know they are for the holiday cookie sale so we don't eat them. Just kidding, we'll freeze them.

Trays or plates of mixed cookies and candies may be ordered ahead by calling 721-8710.

We're really looking forward to meeting new members and having a fun-filled time while getting ready for this holiday cookie sale. Please join us for some socializing, visiting and laughter.

LaVonne will have sign-up sheets on the Activity Counter so that each of you may choose the date and activities that fit your busy schedules.

Joyful Gals And Guys Challenge 2009

By Millie Roland

Recently the Joyful Gals and Guys met for their annual fall picnic lunch in Del Harbaugh's beautiful back yard. This year, instead of having the picnic catered by a business, Millie Roland prepared the food, and Joanne Lux and Nancy Coleman helped serve. Each person had the choice of turkey fruit salad or BBQ pork sandwich, chips, melon, homemade bread, and brownie delight. Everyone enjoyed the food and the camaraderie.

A special thanks to the Joyful Gals and Guys for their generous donation of \$256 to Challenge 2009 at Canyon Lake Senior Center.

November Dancing in the Viking Hall

By Gary Reynolds

Our November calendar will begin with the Easy Sounds Band on November 7 followed by the New Horizons Jazz Band on the 14th. On November 21 the Open Range Band will provide dance music.

There will be no dance on November 28 because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. It will be a short dance month, but, none-the-less, a great one.

Looking ahead to December, we will have Stringbean Svenson and his Fiddlestrings Band which includes his wife, Sally Svenson, Roy Hendrickson from Custer, and Rich Copeland from Rapid

City, plus Neal and Curtis Svenson, sons of Bean and Sally, who will join in for a few of the dance tunes on December 5. The musicians in this band all have a long history of music in the Black Hills, which should give us a great evening of enjoyment.

And, of course, the end of December we will have the annual New Year's Eve Dance with the Easy Sounds Band and Sid Phelps from Spearfish.

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