

November Holidays

ELECTION DAY Election Day is **not a federal holiday**. Congress has never designated it as a federal observance like Flag Day. However, it set the date for Election Day by **statute** in 1845. The phrase “the Tuesday after the first Monday” was chosen in that 1845 statute to prevent Election Day from falling on November 1, which was widely observed as All Saints Day, and was also a common date for annual financial settlements in the 19th century. The 2025 election date falls on Tuesday, November 4. Some states recognize Election Day as a public holiday and government and schools may close, whereas in other states, business as usual. Although not a traditional “holiday”, Election Day is one of the most significant civic events in America. It plays a key role in American democracy, offering citizens the opportunity to choose their leaders (federal, state, and local public officials) and decide on public issues through direct vote. In the Sandy Springs, Georgia, elections this year, all six City Council seats and Mayor are on the ballot. Those elected will each serve a four-year term.

VETERANS DAY In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice was declared between the Allied nations and Germany, thus ending World War I. The following year President Woodrow Wilson established Armistice Day as a federal holiday to honor World War I veterans and promote world peace. After World War II and the Korean War, veterans and service organizations advocated a more inclusive holiday. In 1954 Congress passed a bill, signed by President Eisenhower, to change the holiday's name to Veterans Day, to honor all American military of all wars. Huntcliff Summit will pay tribute to our veterans with special activities including a program and other recognition on November 11

THANKSGIVING Thanksgiving is a national holiday, which was officially set as the fourth Thursday in November by a 1941 law passed by Congress. Before 1941 the date varied and it was sometimes celebrated on the last Thursday of the month, when family and friends came together to give thanks and recognize the blessings of the past year. The origin of Thanksgiving dates back to 1620 when a group of people left England and arrived in North America in search of a place to better practice their faith. They were helped by the local Native Americans to grow and harvest food. In November 1620 the two groups came together for a feast to celebrate; this marked the first Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is the largest eating event in the US as measured by the retail sales of food and beverages and by estimates of individual food intake. In a 2015 Harris Poll, Thanksgiving was the second most popular holiday in the United States (after Christmas), and turkey was the most popular holiday food, regardless of region, generation, gender, or race. (Wikipedia) Thanksgiving was made a national holiday in the mid 19th century and its meal has become a widely observed American tradition, with roast turkey and its trimmings being a central part of the holiday. The first frozen TV dinner was a Thanksgiving dinner triggered by an overabundant supply of turkeys in the year 1953.

HUNTCLIFF HARBINGER



November 2025

The mission of the Huntcliff Harbinger is to announce planned events and activities for residents and interested parties. Also included are photographs and stories of resident artwork, club reports, and staff and volunteer recognition. The HH is written and developed by the Harbinger Editorial Staff.

Editorial Staff: Joan Abram, Erma Davis, Dixie Lampert, Marie Robertson, and Ray Bowyer.

Contributors: Marvin Fellner, Dawn Hamer, Sarah Levy, Lila Nathanson, Hal Parker, Brandt Ross, and Art Schultz.

Distribution Marcia Swanson.

Huntcliff Residents Website: www.huntsumres.org. The web site now has the daily activity schedule.

Highlights of November Events

- Daylight savings time ends November 2. Don't forget to change your clocks.
- Veterans Day observation: November 10 brunch and special events on November 11
- “We are Marshall” presentation on November 13.
- “Remember the Alamo” presentation on November 17.
- Huntcliff Singers November 18 and 22.
- Thanksgiving buffet meal November 27
- “This is Your Life” Maury Gerson on November 19

A Temporary Employee



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Huntcliff Summit had a temporary employee in October.. While Rhannon Purdy was away for a week of training, her substitute was Ryan Fatimo. Ryan's normal base is Charlotte, North Carolina. Most of his life, Ryan has lived in Florida, before he moved to North Carolina. As a high school athlete, he earned a football scholarship. He looks forward to returning to Huntcliff some time in the fu-

Activity Summaries

Hal Parker Players: Observation of the writing profession: "Those who can, do. Those who can't, write the instructions." As a student in a state teacher's college in the 1950's our mantra was "Those who can, do. Those who can't, teach." Finding the humor in our lives is something the Players do every month. Join them to learn how to make our sometimes stressful lives more fun.

Huntcliff Book Club: The Huntcliff Book Club will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, November 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the Veranda. The book for discussion is **The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride** by Joe Siple. It is the story of a lonely 100-year old former Major League ballplayer who is looking for a reason to live. Join us for a lively discussion. Although recommended, having read the book is not a requirement for attendance.

Sunrise Singers: Huntcliff Sunrise Singers continue rehearsals in preparation for their Fall/Winter concert to be held on Tuesday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 22 at 1:30 p.m. in the Essex. Morgan Blacksmith is Music Director. The accompanist is Holly Shavir. Mark your calendars and invite your family and friends.

Huntcliff Mens Club (HMC): The HMC continues to work toward providing exciting, informative and fun-filled activities for both male and female residents. (Some events are for men only.) These activities are always enjoyable. Check the monthly calendar and postings in the elevator, bulletin boards near the mail-room, or the residents web site for dates and times.

Blackjack: Blackjack has returned. Check your monthly activity calendar for specific dates and times.

Opera: The opera for November is "La Boheme" by Giacomo Puccini. It is the story of four artists who share a near destitute, but happy, life in a garret in 1830's Paris and their neighbor Mimi, who is in poor health. Rudolfo, a poet, and Mimi are in love, but Mimi's illness grows worse in the poverty they share. Alas, Mimi's health is not strong enough to survive the rigors of the Parisian winter.

Art Club: After an abbreviated program schedule last month, the film lectures will return for November. We are planning on a documentary on Salvatore Dali, Masterworks of American Art, Women in Art and a few surprises. We look forward to seeing our regular attendees and hope to see new residents at Huntcliff who are interested in our offerings.

Knit and Stitch Club welcomes all residents who would like to be a part of a congenial group of knitters and stitchers—knitting, crochet, cross stitch, needlepoint and quilting. Our projects include providing items for Northside Hospital and shawls to be used on our bus outings. These get-togethers are held each Monday, 1-2 p.m. in the Lobby. WELCOME!!!

CuriosityU Huntcliff Summit continues to present CuriosityU, a series of video lectures by college professors on hundreds of different topics. Recent videos have been on Norman Rockwell, Funny Hollywood Movies, Olympics, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Future presentations will include Mount Everest, Ernest Hemingway, King Arthur, the history of Gaming, and the Salem witch trials. Each presentation is about 50-60 minutes, followed by a discussion of the material, which lasts only as long as residents are interested in speaking about the topic. CuriosityU videos are presented on Sunday at 2:30 PM in the Veranda Room, and each week's topic is posted in advance in the elevators, on the bulletin board, and on the web site..

Brandt Ross Programs: Brandt's presentations include commentary and songs, simultaneously informing and entertaining. For Veterans' Day: "The 107th Anniversary of Armistice Day". Veterans Day honors all those who served in every war to protect our country. "Remember the Alamo". Why this event is such an important part of our history. "We are Marshall", the movie. A true story of the plane crash carrying the Marshall University football team, coaches and boosters (75), all of whom perished. Marshall is in Huntington West Virginia, where Ginny and Brandt were living at the time, and they tell of the collective trauma.



STARRING Starr Shulman

Needlepoint originated in ancient Egypt around 1500 BCE as a craft for sewing tents and clothing. In 16th and 17th century Europe the technique evolved into a decorative art form. It was used for wall hangings, cushions, and furniture upholstery. This hobby has been found to be good for the brain as it stimulates various cognitive functions and promotes relaxation and reduces stress. The craft was introduced to the Colonies from Europe and was a popular pastime for wealthy women and a way to create decorative home items.

We have an incredibly artistic "needleworker" at Huntcliff. Starr (Marsha) has been creating decorative and magnificent needlepoints for over 50 years. She was married 3 years when her college friend introduced her to this craft. She was inspired forever and has been steadfast in this hobby.

When traveling with her husband, they visit needlepoint shoppes in different countries and find unique hand-painted designs from France and other countries. Starr uses only hand-painted canvases, not screen-painted ones. She has a variety of gadgets and stands to hold her large canvases when the pattern is oversize. During Covid she worked for 2 years to complete a breathtaking "Floral" centerpiece canvas. The "Cranes" took her 3 years to complete and a 12x12 canvas can take 6 months to complete. A fascinating and colorful "Pouring Colors" was done on a hand-painted canvas from Bordeaux, France. "Window Panes" is based on a Frank Lloyd Wright painting.

Interestingly enough, Starr is now living in her late mom's apartment at Huntcliff. She worked here in the late 1990's as secretary to our own Sara Merriman (previous Executive Director of Huntcliff). It's a small world after all! The pictures above show exciting examples of her handiwork and show the intricacy and extraordinary range of subject matter and the stunning finished projects. If you are ready to find a creative hobby that will keep you relaxed and contribute to your brain health and creativity, Starr will surely be a starring inspiration for you to get started in needlepoint.

Visit to Mimms Museum

Eleven residents visited the Mimms Museum of Technology and Art in the Roswell Town Center. It is the largest technology museum on the East Coast. Their primary focus was to view the temporary exhibit "Dali's Lab: Surrealism Meets Tech". Dali's works from the 1970's reveal his fascination with science and how he predicted it would change the world. Ultimately, this exhibit blends the world of the mind with science fiction to create a mind-bending vision of the future.

Other exhibits at the Mimms include: early computer history; working examples; super computers; computing firsts; NASA; retro gaming; and interactive sections and space sections. There is also a massive wall spanning an historical timeline weaving technology, history, cultural and material events. (See where your life span fits on this timeline.) The Mimms is being built in stages and, when completed, will be one of the largest technology museums in the world. It has much to offer our generation, as most of us lived through the events depicted. Grandchildren will especially enjoy the interactive and retro gaming sections.

New Friends



John and Carole Tomlinson moved here from Sandy Springs. They have two children and three grandchildren. John worked as a consultant in international taxation, and Carole worked as a teacher and salesperson.



Dan and Nancy Schrage moved here from Sandy Springs. They have four children and six grandchildren. Dan is a distinguished professor of aerospace engineering at Georgia Tech. Their hobbies and interests are sports, reading, traveling, and their family..



Bill and Shirley Abernathy moved here from Dunwoody. They have one child. Bill worked as a banker and bank examiner. Shirley worked as a secretary. Their hobbies and interests are gardening, hiking, and studying history.



Joyce Rubensohn moved here from Sandy Springs. She has two sons and three grandchildren. She worked as a grade-school teacher and as an office manager for an ophthalmologist. Her hobbies are knitting, mahjong, and canasta.



Lou Norton moved here from Florida. She has two children and four grandchildren. She worked as a lawyer when she lived in Brazil, as an interpreter, and as a teacher. Her hobbies and interests are reading, singing, and helping people.

Merryl Lampert moved here from Austin, Texas. She previously lived in Brooklyn, New York. She has two children and four grandchildren. She worked in sales. Her hobbies and interests are opera, books, music, gardening, and nature. Her special memories are her wedding, and fishing with her father in lakes in New York State.

A Message from Lisa

November is always the time of year we focus on giving thanks. I want to start by thanking Jessica Tucker, our Resident Services Director for all the time and effort she put in to making this year's vaccine clinics run smoothly. A special thank you also goes out to Winsome Barrow, who volunteers her time to assist Jessica in keeping things flowing nicely! We can be thankful for having these brought to us to help keep everyone healthy throughout the fall and winter months. We also must recognize and thank Tuxedo Pharmacy and more specifically, Pharmacist Dawn Sasine. Dawn's grandfather Stanley was a resident at Huntcliff for many years, so Dawn wanted to do her part to help our community.

Of course, a big thank you goes out to all our resident volunteers who truly make this community special. It's easy to take what you do for granted, but people like you remind me of how much goodness and grace there is in the world!

As we enter this holiday season, I hope we can all experience it with grateful hearts and minds.

With sincere appreciation and warmest thanks,

Lisa

November Birthdays

5	Anne Baynham	16	Ginny Ross
6	Daneille Grimes	16	Catherine Walther
7	Betty Hunt	18	Jean Bernstein
7	Elizabeth Abrohams	18	Rochelle Spandorfer
7	Sara Davis Merriman	18	Julian Yudelson
8	Charlie Almand	24	Eileen Belbutowski
8	Mona Weissman	26	Rima Elissa
9	Renee Werman	27	Rosa Alcaide
13	Marie Robertson		

November Anniversary

18 Howard and Laura Schwartz

November Service Anniversary

6 Maurice B. Clack Dietary Services