

The Informer

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Halloween at Mayflower? You Need Pumpkins!

Pandemic precautions or not, to make Halloween official, you need to have decorated pumpkins. We displayed them in Grinnell's Mayflower Community. Groups of residents and employees (small and socially-distanced, of course!)



created their own pumpkin creations and submitted them for judging.

Members of the Mayflower Residents Association Social Committee judged the pumpkins and named the winner on Beggars Night Day, October 30th. Alicemary Borthwick, Harriet Adelberg, and Iann Veldhuizen based the selection on creativity, originality, and presentation. They are pictured along with the winning department staff members.

The winner was "Vote for Chicken on Thanksgiving!" Roxanne Wozny and Tawnya Rotz led the Food Services work team after gathering ideas from Food Service Director, Scott Gruhn. The pumpkin turkey consists of these parts, all coming from our Mayflower kitchen: Legs – parsnips with Rice Krispy feet. Head – red pear. Neck (wattle) – cranberries. Beak (snood) – Licorice. Head and neck protuberances (caruncles) – Red grapes. Tail feathers – Buddha's Hand citron.

Talk about creative! Maybe this is part of the reason that Mayflower's food is great.

-Bob Mann, Sales & Marketing Director

Mayflower Celebrates with a Halloween Parade

What is Halloween without a parade—costumes and safe distancing? So, we had one of those in The Mayflower Community on Friday, October 30th. The stars were children of Mayflower employees and their family members.

Pictured is Mayflower's accountant, Kristin Davidson, with her two daughters and sister Aimee



Starting at the corner of 2nd and Broad, the procession headed south with a first stop at

Watertown Square, where prepackaged treats were distributed by Community Life Coordinator, Victoria Collins. From there, they traveled south to 1st Avenue and east to the southeast corner of the Beebe Assisted Living building. Waiting with glee were resident Kay Roberts, an experienced grandmother, and a deer (Julie Smith, BSN, RN). More treats!

The procession finished across the street east in front of Mayflower's Health Center for one more round of goodies.

For our residents, safely sheltered indoors on a blustery day, there was almost as much enjoyment as the families had outfitting their kids.

-Bob Mann, Sales & Marketing Director



It's Halloween! You Have to Dress Up.

Lest you think it is all serious work at The Mayflower Community, take a look at how some staff showed up to work on Beggars Night Day! Maybe our residents were a little scared, but they are COVID-19 free!

Deb Jack, Pearson Receptionist, demonstrates with temperature-taking that we SCREEN even if we SCREAM!

Mayflower Tree Planted in Honor of the Williams'

A donation has been given for the planting of a tree to honor Mayflower resident Bob Williams and his late wife Jan. Planted at the southeast corner of 1st and Broad streets, near the Edwards apartment building, the tree is a red sunset maple that will grow to be about 40-feet tall.

A permanent plaque to be placed at the site will read, "In Honor of Bob and Jan Williams. Peace. 2020."

Pictured with Bob are Mayflower's Director of Facility Operations, Jack Morrison (under tree), and Gardens and Grounds Supervisor, Ben Pearce. The others in the photo are Bob's family members.



UnLOCKIN the Power of Philanthropy:
"Legacy Giving...Simple and Sound!"

The Heart of Gift Planning You



I admit there is nothing particularly endearing or definitive in the term “gift planning.” Hopefully you would choose a gift planning conversation over a root canal; though over the years I have witnessed a few folks say “no thanks” and skip happily off to their dentist (just joking!)

After four recent columns focused on popular gift planning techniques, I step back to the heart of the matter, YOU, and ask the question “what great works do you wish to help your favorite organizations accomplish?” With this in mind, please consider “gift planning basics” plus a few examples based on recent or pending conversations with Mayflower supporters.

Be Proactive ... gift planning is a proactive practice that offers peace of mind and financial rewards no matter your level of giving.

When and How ... gift planning leads primarily to decisions about when to give and the asset you choose to make a gift. While there are no “bad gifts,” a gift may be “good, better or best” depending on when and how you make it.

Mayflower Supporters A ... Gift planning conversations several years ago led Family A to decide that their annual gifts to Mayflower (and other organizations) would come from their IRA. Current conversations with Family A are focused on whether charitable gifts in their estate plan should be altered to come from their IRA, with a primary goal of helping the children of Family A keep more of their inheritance.

Mayflower Supporters B ... Family B desires an initial gift planning conversation. In the days ahead, I will ask Family B to give a general assessment of their personal finances, and to summarize the support they wish to provide family members and favorite charitable organizations during life or via their estate plan. If specific charitable planning conversations ensue, we will explore the general makeup of their assets and which giving strategies might be most beneficial, keeping personal and family priorities foremost.

Mayflower Supporters C ... Family C asked for gift planning conversation to discuss the timing of charitable gifts from their IRA to favorite organizations. Specifically, they wanted to evaluate whether provisions of the “Cares Act” (passed earlier this year) made charitable distributions from their IRA better this year or next. They also sought conversation about using charitable gift annuities to supplement their retirement income, and which assets (including their IRA) are good funding sources for this arrangement.

Note to all: As discussed with Family C, charitable distributions from an IRA cannot be used to fund charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts.

In summary, I hope the “basics” and stories above confirm that a gift planning conversation begins “right where you are” and will never ignore your personal and family priorities. With this in mind, I welcome hearing from you, particularly as yearend approaches, with any thoughts or questions on your mind.

I welcome hearing from you for conversation about anything that grabbed your attention.
Doug Lockin dlockin@mayflowerhomes.com or 515.210.6603

As you may know, the Beebe building elevator failed last August, shortly after power returned to campus following the derecho. At 45-years old, it had lived past its productive life, the manufacturer was out of business, and replacement parts were unavailable.



We had only one choice—buy a new elevator. With the assistance of a number of kind gifts from residents and friends, we were able to make this significant decision.

We ordered a custom-built elevator from the Schumacher Elevator Company, Denver, Iowa. To replace the old pulleys-and-weights elevator, the state-of-the-art installation will have a motor-powered pump hydraulic system that will move the “car” up and down on a shaft between guiderails. It will be more efficient and quiet, in addition to having an improved safety system.

The manufacturing was completed in late October, when assemblage began in the Denver plant. Recently, Schumacher began working on the Mayflower campus to remove the old elevator and equipment. They are currently in the process of installing the new electronic components. The car, the box in which we ride, was wood construction. The new elevator is a metal enclosure.

Pictured is the installation of the control board and other electronic connections. Assuming minimal interruptions (there have already been a few), we expect the new elevator to be in service in a matter of weeks. Watch for the celebration!

-Bob Mann, Sales & Marketing Director

Treasure Chest:

The November Treasure Chest

display will be “Past Presidents’ Campaign Buttons—from 1896 to the Present”. Dr. Kimberly Porter, history professor at North Dakota University, daughter of Iann Veldhuizen, resident at Watertower Square; this is her collection.



-Janis Peak, Resident

Get Ready for the Return of Story Circles

We plan to restart the well-known Mayflower Story Circles in January. As you recall, residents gather to listen to stories by other residents about something significant in their lives. The subject matter varies and is announced ahead of time. “Short stories” are encouraged.

The plan is to do the initial stories by way of Zoom, the virtual means of sharing via computer screen. If you do not now have Zoom on your computer and are suggesting holiday gift ideas to your family, consider asking them to get you set up with a Zoom camera. Need more guidance? Contact Joe Derby, Mayflower’s Technology and Risk Management Department Head (jderby@mayflowerhomes.com).

-Harriet Adelberg, Resident



Are You Seeking Lodging for Holiday Guests?

Mayflower has been asked about providing guest rooms, especially in light of the upcoming holidays. As much as we have been honored to do this in the past, we do not feel it is safe during the pandemic. Thus, there are no guest rooms available at Mayflower at the current time.



However, we have negotiated special “Mayflower” rates for accommodations in Grinnell. When you make reservations, ask for the Mayflower rate.

- Country Inn by Radisson. 1710 West St S. 641-236-9600. \$69.00 for a King and/or Double Queen. \$10.00 charge to upgrade to standard suite that includes sofa, fridge, more space. \$20.00 more if you would like a Jacuzzi tub. Includes Wi-Fi and pre-packaged breakfast. Swimming pool and fitness room are closed at this time. <https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/country-inn-grinnell-ia>.
- Grinnell Hotel. 925 Park St. 641-236-9250. \$110.00 for King, Queen, and/or Handicap assessable lofts. Includes Wi-Fi; no-contact check in and out; loaner bicycles; bar, currently no food service; outside patio and fire pit. <https://www.hotelgrinnell.com/>.
- Carriage House Bed and Breakfast. 1133 Broad Street. 641-236-7520. Call for prices. Check website for details. <http://www.carriagehousegrinnell.com/>.
- Prairie Lofts-Downtown Grinnell. Cynthia and Jack Sherman. 641-990-5600. Email: sejaelofts12@gmail.com. www.prairieloftsgrinnell.com/.

-Kellie McGriff, BSN, NHA, Mayflower Associate Director/Administrator

Tips on Staying Safe During the Holidays

CNN recently published an article that highlighted suggestions to stay safe and healthy during the coming cold-weather coronavirus surge, which is expected along with the flu season. We share **this guidance** with you and encourage you to stay happy and sane during this difficult pandemic.

1) Form a pandemic "pod"

Many medical professionals are suggesting that we form pandemic pods, meaning, you physically limit yourself to a specific small group of people and avoid getting close to those outside of your pod. This reduces the risk of getting the virus if all individuals in the pod follow these rules.

2) Put your mental health first

Many individuals are feeling anxious, depressed, angry, and lonely. Being secluded and isolated is against our human nature. Make sure to prioritize self-care and mental health. Integrate essential oils into your daily life, read a new book, or pick up an old hobby



5) Proceed with caution when visiting family during the holidays

If you plan on visiting friends or family during the holidays or if you are expecting guests, make sure to take extra precautions. It's smart to keep away from shopping sites and public dining before traveling. This minimizes the risk of you carrying the virus to another town or state. You may also want to get tested before traveling, to ensure you do not have the virus. If you are expecting company, you may want to request that the same precautions be taken before they visit your home.

such as painting or knitting. If your mental health is at risk, please reach out to a mental health counselor.

3) Educate yourself

Brown Medical School has created an **online app**, where you can calculate your risk of becoming infected. The risk factor is based on your activities, location, and crowd size.

4) Gathering outside is smart, but not always safe

With the weather getting colder, it is more difficult to gather outside. With that being said, gathering around heaters or a fireplace allows for outdoor gatherings year round. Gathering outside is safer than inside, but it doesn't mean you're immune to getting the virus. It's best to wear masks outside when gathering with others, to prevent the spread of the virus.

6) Celebrating the holidays

There are many fun ways to celebrate the upcoming holidays with safety in mind. Carving pumpkins within your household, having grandkids send you pictures of their costumes, or hosting a virtual Halloween zoom party are all great ideas to stay festive. Having a small Thanksgiving meal with your immediate family members or arranging a contactless delivery of homemade pie to a neighbor or family member, is a great way to spread holiday cheer!

7) Stay positive

We know times are difficult. We must stay hopeful and positive to combat this pandemic. It's going to be difficult to get through the holidays but safety must be your priority. "Personal responsibility and small sacrifices now will pay off later."

Available Residencies:

Available Apartments & Patio Homes

As of October 9, 2020

Apartments	Size	Entrance Fee	Features
Buckley #320	592 ft ²	\$ 51,750	One-bedroom. Vinyl wood floor plank. East balcony.
Buckley #101	681 ft ²	63,750	Two-bedroom. First floor. Two exposures.
Buckley #318	887 ft ²	73,750	One-bedroom. LVP flooring. 1½ baths. East-facing balcony.
Altemeier #205	892 ft ²	67,750	One-bedroom. Long great room. Washer/dryer. Two exposures.
Buckley #203	990 ft ²	74,500	One-bedroom. 1½ bath. Office/den. Eat-at island. Courtyard balcony.
Harwich Terrace Patio Home	Size	Selling Price	Features
630 Park St.	1,274 ft ²	\$ 174,500	Two-bedroom. 2 baths. New flooring. Full basement. Big back yard.

November Movies



A River Runs Through It- Nov. 14

Rated PG-13, 123 minutes with closed captions

The Maclean brothers, Paul (Brad Pitt) and Norman (Craig Sheffer), live a relatively idyllic life in rural Montana, spending much of their time fly fishing. The sons of a minister (Tom Skerritt), the boys eventually part company when Norman moves east to attend college,

Armchair Travel

Armchair Travel will take place on Tuesdays 2-3:30pm in Keisel Theater. 11/10 will be China Yangtze River, Oregon Crater Lake and Philadelphia Pennsylvania. 11/17 will be Providence Rhode Island and Mendoza Argentina. 11/24 will be Charleston South Carolina and various places in South Dakota. -Shane Estes

Transition Treks

leaving his rebellious brother to find trouble back home. When Norman finally returns, the siblings resume their fishing outings, and assess both where they've been and where they're going.

Funny Face- Nov. 21

Not rated, 103 minutes with closed captions

Dispatched on an assignment, New York City-based fashion photographer Dick Avery (Fred Astaire) is struck by the beauty of Jo Stockton (Audrey Hepburn), a shy bookstore employee he's photographed by accident, who he believes has the potential to become a successful model. He gets Jo to go with him to France, where he snaps more pictures of her against iconic Parisian backdrops. In the process, they fall for one another, only to find hurdles in their way.

Call Deb Jack, receptionist, at 641-236-6151 on Monday after 10am; you may sign up for each weeks' respective movie on the Monday before that Saturday's showing. (11/9 & 11/16)

Recent Mayflower independent living transition activity includes:



Moved In:

- o Dan and Jill Kaiser from Grinnell to Pearson #203
- o Carol Grant from Mountain Home, Arkansas to Pearson #208

Move in Process:

- o Fred and Patty Johnson from Buckley #318 to 515 State Street Harwich Terrace home

Plans Delayed – Construction of two new Harwich Terrace homes at Hamilton and State. Will reconsider Spring, 2021.

-Bob Mann, Sales & Marketing Director

(bmamm@mayflowerhomes.com)

“I wish we had moved sooner!”



Booklist for November:

A Plain Vanilla Murder by Susan Wittig Albert
Anxious People (LP) by Fredrik Backman
Lyrical Iowa 2020 by Marilyn Baszczyński
Piece by Piece by Laura Bradford
Far from the Madding Crowd (LP) by Thomas Hardy
Beach Read by Emily Henry
Sins of the Fathers by J.A. Janice
The Love Song of Miss Queen Hennessy by Rachel Joyce
The Topeka School by Ben Lerner
The Godmothers by Fern Michaels
Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes
Caste by Isabel Wilkerson



Book Review

The Gilded Years
by Karin Tanabe

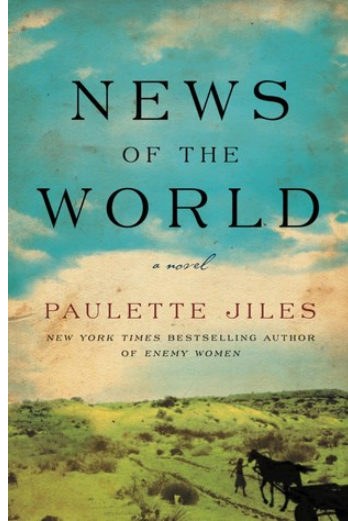
Since childhood,
Anita Hemmings
longed to attend
the country's

Book Review

News of the World by Paulette Jiles

This book is a compelling work of historical fiction set in 1870. It tells the story of a retired army captain who is travelling through the small towns of northern Texas. He earns his way by doing readings from the newspapers of

most exclusive school for women, Vassar College. Now a bright, beautiful senior in the class of 1897, she is hiding a secret that would have banned her from admission: Anita is the only African-American student ever to attend Vassar. With her olive complexion and dark hair, this daughter of a janitor and descendant of slaves has passed as white. Now she's pulled into the elite world of roommate Louise Taylor, scion of one of New York's most prominent families. This is a true story.



the day to people in small towns willing to pay to hear the "News of the World." He is given \$50 to return a young girl to her relatives in San Antonio. The ten-year old Johanna has been raised by the Kiowa Indians who had kidnapped her four years before. After four years this young girl has become accustomed to the Kiowa language and way of life and does not trust her new companion.

The book chronicles the development of the relationship between the elderly man and the young girl as they travel together over 400 miles of difficult and dangerous terrain. Kent and I read this together and both give it two thumbs up. We look forward to the movie based on this book which is scheduled to come out this December with Tom Hanks as Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd.

-Katherine McClelland

Residents' Birthdays

Jack Mutti on November 5
Paul Munyon on Nov 9
Chris Hunter on Nov 13
Dorothy Martinek on Nov 14
Jack Gustafson on Nov 17
Jeanne Schild & John Sadler on Nov 18



In Memoriam:

Wendell B. Sleuwenhoek, 94, passed away on October 27, 2020. A Celebration of Life service will be held in Spring 2021, for him and his wife, Golda, who passed away July 19, 2019. He will be remembered as a kind man full of wisdom and a love of people. His quick smile, lighthearted banter and easy-going nature endeared him to all, and especially to Golda, who was the light of his life. They were blessed to have had many years together and especially as they transitioned to the Mayflower Health Center, where they appreciated the care they received during their final years.

-Rita McVey

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