



Arbor Creek



Community Newsletter

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Volume I / Issue 5

December 2002

Happy Holidays!

By: Michael Lederman

It's the most wonderful time of the year... Grandma got run over by a reindeer... Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the wayyyy. Ok I got that out of my system now on to the newsletter.

On behalf of your Arbor Creek Community Newsletter I hope you had a wonderful and delicious Thanksgiving. In our house the last of the turkey is gone and all that remains is the memories of our first Thanksgiving dinner served in our very first house, somehow that made everything we ate taste just a little better then it ever has before.

For Roxanne and I the holidays seem to come one upon another seamlessly, actually this year they did, as Hanukah, began the day after Thanksgiving. As such we had little time to "digest" one holiday before the next began. So as we took down the Thanksgiving decorations we also put up our Hanukah ones.

On behalf of my family and all the people involved with the newsletter we wish all of you a very:

Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa and a Happy and Safe New Year

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Meet the Guys

Robert and Talisha Guy better known as Rob and Tee moved into their new house at 1604 Myrtle Drive on August 16th of this year. Originally from Louisiana they lived for a time in Lewisville before purchasing their new home here in the Arbor Creek Community.

Rob works, as a Business Support Administrator for Fujitsu Transaction Solutions, Inc. and is a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. Tee is an Elementary School teacher for the Garland School District. We can all wish them a happy birthday on September 29th for Rob and May 15th for Tee.

The couple's favorite games are; Boggle, Trivial Pursuit, Dominoes and Spades. They enjoy; traveling, reading, cooking, playing volleyball and watching what they consider is the best team in the NFL, the Dallas Cowboys. They are interested in; Block Parties, Game Nights, Community Involvement in Local Politics, Neighborhood Watch Programs and Community Book Clubs and Garage Sales.

They hope that Arbor Creek will be a neighborhood where everyone takes pride in where they live and are there to lend a helping hand to their neighbors. They believe that in order to do this we need to get to know each other better and that we must be friendly when we come in contact with one another.

You can contact Rob and Tee at 972-294-0323 or by email at userg3918@aol.com and don't forget to take the time to say hello and meet these new neighbors.

Notices

Thanks and many blessings go out to those who donated canned goods to the local food bank.

I put out a challenge to the families that have yet to donate. My family will double whatever the community can donate in the next week to the food bank. So for every can the neighborhood donates the Lederman's will also do so. What a great way to increase our neighborhood's gift to the community. Just drop your donation into the black tote next to the mailbox at 1637 Myrtle Drive.



Hello Arbor Creek'ers

By: Brian Joyce

I thought I would take a moment and write a few things for our new newsletter established by Michael and Roxanne. Michael had asked if I would like to write something to add. Well, I gladly would! (Please note that I'm not the best writer but here it goes!)

First, YOU DID IT! Congratulations to each and every one of you on your new homes! It is a wonderful thing having a home of your own. For a lot of you it was your first, for that I greatly appreciate the opportunity to help each of you through the process. I know it can be overwhelming in making big decisions. So, I hope it was easier than you expected. I'm sure your new home will bring you many years of enjoyment.

Second, things are starting to take shape! As Arbor Creek grows with new homeowners, It begins to take the shape of it's own unique style. Just as you watched your new home become more beautiful at each stage of construction, Arbor Creek is becoming more radiant as the months pass. By next fall we should be concluding our last few homes under construction. I can only imagine how things will look. So far, you all have worked hard on adding to your landscaping and it shows!

Lastly, keep your eye on the new Arbor Creek Website! The Choice Homes warranty technicians thought it would be a great idea to offer additional maintenance tips on the Website as a helpful reminder.

Once again, congratulations to all!
Have a great Holiday season!

Did you know?



The celebration of Christmas in America was very different in our forefather's day. In the Seventeenth century the Puritans did not celebrate Christmas. December 25 was a workday. It was in the late 1700' s that Christmas was once again a happy holiday. The Colonists decorated their fireplaces with greenery, sung carols, and feasted. No one, however, had a Christmas tree. Then Clement Moore, in 1823, wrote the poem "A Visit From St. Nicholas." Saint Nicholas or Santa Claus began to play a big part in the celebration of Christmas.

In the 1840' s, German immigrants introduced the Christmas tree to America. This decoration became a major part of the Christmas tradition. The 1890's had Victorians decorating their trees and homes with lots of lace, flowers, and glass ornaments. Sending Christmas cards became popular during this time. Today, we combine old and new traditions to celebrate Christmas in a way that is meaningful to our family and friends.



Kwanzaa is an African-American holiday created in 1966. It begins on December 26 and lasts through January 1. The name Kwanzaa come from the language of Swahili and means first fruits of the harvest.

To prepare for the holiday, families decorate their homes with Kwanzaa symbols. They place a mkeka, a straw mat, on the table. Corn (one ear for each child in the family) and other foods are placed on the mkeka to remember the earth' s abundance.

Candles are placed in a kinara, a wooden candleholder. A black candle is placed in the center as a reminder of the richness of African-American skin. Three red candles represent struggles and three green candles represent a prosperous future. A candle is lit for each day of Kwanzaa. The black candle is lit first, and then red and green candles are lit alternately.

There are seven principles of Kwanzaa, one for each day. They are Umoja or Unity, Kujichagulia or Self-Determination, Ujima or Collective Work and Responsibility, Ujamaa or Cooperative Economics, Nia or Purpose, Kuumba or Creativity, and Imani or Faith



The origins of Hanukah or the Festival of Lights are an event that happened 200 years before the birth of Christ. A king named Antiochus attempted to have all Jewish persons under his reign to follow the Greek religion. Under the leadership of Judah Maccabees, there was a rebellion.

After three years of fighting, the Maccabees drove the Greek soldiers away. The Maccabees wanted to rededicate the temple, but were only able to find enough oil for one day. Miraculously, the oil lasted eight days; long enough to make new oil.

An important part of the Hanukah celebration is the menorah. This is a candleholder with eight candles and a shammash or servant candle. One candle is lit by the shammash for each of the night of Hanukah. After the lighting of the candles, people give gifts to one another. People sing and make merry. A popular food for Hanukah is potato pancakes, or latkes, cooked in oil in honor of the miracle.

Children enjoy playing the dreidel game. This is a top game played with nuts or gold-covered chocolate coins. There are four letters of the top, which stand for nun, gimmel, hay, and shin and give the directions for what to give or take during the game. The letters also stand for "nes gadol hayah sham" or "a great miracle happened there.

Contact Information

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Newsletter News!

Your Arbor Creek Community Newsletter now is available as an interactive web site too! By visiting our new web site at:

<http://arborcreekcommunity.tripod.com/newsletter>

On the web site you'll find:

- Web links to companies who provide services to our neighborhood. As well as a one click access to Choice Homes Warranty.
- Past issues of the newsletter to catch up on items you may have missed.
- Instant access to local weather. If you're at the office or away on vacation a quick visit to the web site will let you know what the weather is back at home complete with five-day forecast and satellite images.
- Event listings for a quick look at what's happening in and around our community.
- A Neighborhood Message Board to post and view messages to other neighbors and easily keeps you in touch with the community.
- Voting Booth to share your opinions and see how they compare to other neighbors about various topics. The first topic concerns the placement of a traffic light at the entrance to our community. If you have a topic you'd like to see voted just let us know.
- The New Neighbor Profile in a web based format for ease of use in developing the Meet the Neighbors portion of our newsletter.
- Photo Gallery for pictures of events of interest to our neighborhood.
- New content will be added as necessary if you have a suggestion, just ask all will be gratefully accepted.

If you have items you wish to sell, events you wish to announce, recipes you think others would enjoy just email them to arborcreekcommunity.ev1.net.



Restaurant Review: Roma's Italian Restaurant

By: Jonathan Rhoads

Roma's Italian Restaurant located at 6700 N. Main Street in The Colony is a newly opened Italian restaurant. The atmosphere of the restaurant is very relaxed and each guest is greeted with a bowl of awesome garlic rolls and tomato sauce. My wife Amanda had the Chicken Florentine and I had the Veal Marsala, both entrees were delicious.

The menu is fully loaded with; appetizers, soup & salads, a full line of baked homemade pastas, 11 different chicken dishes, 6-veal entrees and 8 seafood dinners. Both hot and cold subs are also on the menu. They also carry a line of desserts and beverages.

Roma's food is excellent and the service was great they currently do not carry any alcoholic beverages so it makes for a very nice "family restaurant".

Editor's note: if there is a restaurant or store you enjoy or one you think people should avoid please share this information with the neighborhood by way of the Arbor Creek Community Newsletter.

Christmas Trivia Quiz

By: Talisha Guy

Test your Christmas trivia knowledge with this fun quiz.

1. The first instrument on which the carol "Silent Night" was played was:
 - a. A harp
 - b. A pipe organ
 - c. A guitar
 - d. A kazoo
2. America's official national Christmas tree is:
 - a. Displayed at the Rockefeller Center in New York
 - b. Brought from Canada and erected in Washington each year
 - c. Located in King's Canyon National Park in California
 - d. A Scotch pine tree
3. A modern Christmas custom borrowed from ancient Rome's New Year's celebration is:
 - a. Putting up mistletoe to make a "Kissing bough"
 - b. Decorating a tree
 - c. Displaying a wreath on the front door of one's house
 - d. Hanging stockings by the fireplace
4. Which name does NOT belong to one of the Santa's reindeer?
 - a. Comet
 - b. Klaxon
 - c. Blitzen
 - d. Prancer
5. Believe it or not, one Indiana town is called:
 - a. Santa Claus
 - b. Wenceslas
 - c. Noel
 - d. Christmasville

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR
Arbor Creek Community Newsletter**

Answers: C, C, D, B, A