

## Holiday traditions alive and well at Magnolia Gardens

CONTRIBUTED BY  
RUTH TRACEY

Magnolia Gardens said, “We consider Magnolia Gardens our home and love that every resident that lives here can contribute something of themselves to

add to the décor. It really makes it feel so special – just like home.”

The residents at Magnolia Gardens are also crafting and making decorations for the community. Each neighborhood inside the community is decorating a tree with additional ornaments representing the splendor of the season.

Of course, there will be a wonderful dinner on Christmas day for all the residents who choose to stay at the community over the holiday.

“We try hard to make our holiday meals very special. We prepare dishes that are traditional to our residents and food that they look forward to,” said Bev Fetter, dietary manager.

In keeping with the community spirit, all of the centerpiece decorations for the tables have been made by the residents at Magnolia Gardens.

“There is true goodness and love of the holiday season around us, despite the current state of this world,” said Community Relations Director at Magnolia Gardens Ruth Tracey.

It isn't often that you get to experience old-fashioned traditions being upheld in today's society – and if you get to experience them at Christmas time, it is a special thing indeed.

The residents and staff at Magnolia Gardens are honoring the holiday traditions of the residents who live at the community.

“The holiday season is extremely important to our residents,” said Magnolia Gardens Executive Director Tara Blount. “For me, keeping the cheery and heartwarming atmosphere around them during the holidays is the most important. I want COVID and everything else that comes with this pandemic to be the furthest from their minds.”

This year, the community tree is being decorated with special ornaments from each resident who lives at the community. Some residents have ornaments that date back to Christmas memories from long ago and they bring them immense joy. To see the ornaments hanging on the community tree and the sharing of individual traditions has warmed the hearts of staff as well.

Donna Dick, resident of

JINGLE RUSH 5K RESULTS			JINGLE RUSH 5K RESULTS		
Time	First Name	Last Name	Time	First Name	Last Name
18:03	Ryan	Thompson	49:56	Jenny	Bohrman
18:54	Rob	English	51:52	Sorin	Sundsten
20:31	Brayden	Russell	51:55	Jack	Sundsten
21:40	Tyler	Russell	51:56	Lena	Harding
22:33	Kyle	McNary	52:05	Brandy	Mead
23:10	Piper	Youngmayr	52:05	Dana	Anstey
24:14	Kyle	Woods	54:05	KAREN	ONEIL
24:31	Luke	Monahan	54:06	Star	Stock
25:14	Gabe	Evans	54:08	DEBRA	NEASE
25:17	Trevor	Reeder	55:16	Angel	Reeves
25:37	Cassie	Wolfe	55:17	Zachary	Reeves
25:37	Jackson	Gifford	56:48	Toni	Hutchison
26:12	Evie	Smith	56:48	Catherine	Burke
26:13	Myles	Julien	56:49	Linda	Ferrin
26:14	Grace	Sisson	59:19	Isabella	Evans
27:37	James	Markus	59:19	Peyton	Bickford
29:37	Katharne	Alvarez	59:32	Parker	Evans
29:43	Heather	Murphy	60:37	Emmerson	Bickford
31:20	Jean	Harris	60:38	Sarah	Bickford
32:13	Peyton	Ellison	60:38	Lindsey	Evans
32:39	Serena	Lawrich	62:22	Sandra	Wilkinson
32:40	Zuzanna	Wieckowska	63:29	Jim	Gilroy
32:41	Elise	Chapman	69:32	Julie	Gardner
32:42	Trisha	Chapman	69:36	April	Kishen
32:52	Laura	Hinners	69:57	Amanda	Borrelli
32:55	Russell	Wood	70:02	Jill	Allen
33:03	Samantha	Duncan	70:03	Christina	Claassen
36:39	Kari	Vandergust	70:06	Amy	Chambers
40:11	Chelsea	Nowak	70:09	Myla	Julien
40:43	Hillary	Smith	76:36	Julie	Knurowski
41:41	Dawn	Witteveen	77:08	Bea	Laub
43:44	Rylan	Long	77:08	Miles	Laub
44:29	Kirstie	Shelton	77:17	Tracy	Laub
44:30	Sara	Meyer	77:18	Judah	Laub
46:42	Paxton	Forbes	77:37	Samantha	Mallory
46:47	Josh	Fattal	77:39	Lori	Mallory
48:29	Andrea	Baker	77:53	Claire	Savin
48:30	Rod	Trammel	87:25	Margaret	Grugel
49:03	Annabelle	Stinnett	87:27	Margaret	Grugel
49:56	Isaiah	Fattal	94:26	Sarah	Williams
			94:27	Ashley	Lefler

## Harpies' anthology reading planned at Opal

Local creative writing group, the Cottage Grove Harpies, has recently published an anthology of short stories, essays, and poems written by local authors. The book is titled Language of Shadows and is available at Amazon and Kindle, as well as at the Bookmine and Kalapuya Books downtown.

“With this anthology, we're hoping to lure local writers out of the woodwork and to build a bit of a

writer's community,” said Harpy Ken Roe.

The group is hosting an evening of authors reading from the book on Saturday, Dec. 11 at the Opal Center for Arts and Education, starting at 7 p.m.

“The reading will help us spread the word about this exciting project,” said James Burke, Harpies member and prolific novelist. “We're grateful to the Opal for

hosting us, especially so close to the holidays.”

The event is free and open to the public, though donations to the Opal Center are always appreciated.

Questions and concerns about the reading may be emailed to cgharpies@gmail.com. More information about the Harpies can be found at www.cgharpies.com.

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