

New Mercer Commons Happenings

NOVEMBER 2025

900 Centre Avenue
Fort Collins, CO
970-495-1000

ADMINISTRATOR
Gina DiGiallonardo
Ext. 2201

NURSE
Ext. 2202

**SOCIAL SERVICES/
ADMISSIONS**
Jessica Maxfield
Ext. 2217
Makayla Kremer
Ext. 2236

ACTIVITIES
Nichole Chase
Ext. 2230

DIETARY
Cindy Miszczuk
Ext. 2205

**HOUSEKEEPING/
LAUNDRY**
Michele Hanna
Ext. 2226

MAINTENANCE
Gary Halsey
Ext. 2228

FRONT DESKS
Commons/ Memory
Ext. 2200
Pines
Ext. 2234



NOVEMBER BRINGS FALL WEATHER AND THANKSGIVING!

BUTTER WATCH OUT! -

"We get that turkey shaped butter every year for Thanksgiving and one year my youngest referred to it as his new pet, for some reason. At the end of the meal, as we were clearing the table, my stepdad's eyes got huge and he started pointing and stammering "the pet! THE PET!"

...because our dog, our actual pet, had just casually walked past the table and ate the entire darn butter turkey in one bite before anyone at the table could stop him! (don't worry, He was fine!)"

BURN THE ROLLS -

"Our mom is notorious for burning the rolls. Everything else will be perfect, but she always puts the rolls in last. Every year, we forget them until the tell-tale smell of "what's burning?". For years, we tried to convince her to put them in with something else, so when she takes out the other side, she will remember them. Nope, they must go in last and all alone by themselves.

So, our standard greeting on holidays is to walk in the door and say, "What's burning?" The response is always, "Just the rolls. " We joke it isn't really a holiday unless the rolls are scorched!



Resident Birthdays

Nov 5 - Linda Strickland
Nov 16 - Phyllis "Jo" Parker
Nov 20 - Bobby Dorris
Nov 23 - Claire Paulson
Nov 29 - Judy Daharsh
Nov 30 - Fran Howerton

Staff Birthdays

Nov 3 - Michele Hanna
Nov 5 - Daniel Valle
Nov 14 - Elizabeth Carroll
Nov 22 - Fatima Avalos
Nov 25 - Selam Berhe
Nov 28 - Fkadu Reta

Staff Anniversaries

Bandana Zimmie - 22 yrs
Gary Halsey - 9 yrs
Selam Berhe - 3 yrs
Shelly Bernat - 5 yrs
Jennifer Barbier - 3 yrs

NOVEMBER FUNNIES & FACTS:

Why did the Mashed Potatoes cross the road?
To get to the other sides!



What did the turkey say to the turkey hunter?
Quack, Quack.



Why do pilgrims' pants always fall down?
Because they wear their belt buckles on their hats!



How many cooks does it take to stuff a turkey?
Only one, but you have to really squeeze him in there!



NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE

New Mercer Commons will be having a Thanksgiving Day service at 9:45am led by Peter Strening in the Commons Dining Room. Afterwards, activities will be passing out goodie bags door to door to show our gratitude for our residents! Be sure to gobble-gobble them up!

NOVEMBER CRAFTS

Activities has several crafts planned for November including fall ornaments, bookmarks, painting, & making custom Thanksgiving cards. Come get crafty!

MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

We have a plethora of musical performances throughout the month of November for our residents to sing along and smile to including 2 Sound Affects performances, Music with Scott, Senior Serenaders, K.I.S.S, Peter & Doti & more!

MUSCLE MOVEMENT

As we get older, it is so important to move our muscles slowly and intentionally. Join us throughout the month for daily morning exercise, Chair-obics, Pilates with Pals, Walking Club & our "Zen Zone: stretch & unwind" activities to relieve those achy joints! We are offering group sessions all week so pop in and pose with us!

THERAPY DOG VISITS!

Furry friends make our days brighter, no doubt. We're offering our residents' group therapy sessions every week with some amazing pups! Join us for a doggone good time.

RESIDENT BIRTHDAY BASH

On November 20th we will be hosting our Resident Birthday Bash for residents who celebrate birthdays in November. Please join us for games, music, & cake as we celebrate YOU!

"SASQUASH"

Brad Bledsoe, of Fort Collins, Colorado took home second place, with a 2123.5 pound giant name "Sasquash", winning \$6000.

Bledsoe's winning pumpkin also happened to be a very pretty pumpkin and was awarded the coveted Howard Dill award by the judges for an extra \$500.

Bledsoe missed breaking his own Colorado State record by 67 pounds. Bledsoe said, "It was worth driving the two days here, it was a ton of fun. Based on its shape, I thought my pumpkin would be heavier. It wasn't until we lifted it to load that I realized it was concave underneath giving us an idea it would go light to estimated weight measurements. I'm actually known in Colorado for growing ugly pumpkins, so it feels really good to finally have a pretty one!"

An enormous pumpkin nicknamed "Fordzilla," grown by Russ Pugh, of Eugene, Oregon, weighed in at 2,204.5 pounds to take the \$15,000 first place prize in one of North America's most prestigious pumpkin contests, the National Pumpkin Weigh Off at Bishop's Pumpkin Farm in Wheatland, California.



*Not actual photos.
See photo of "Sasquash" on page 4.



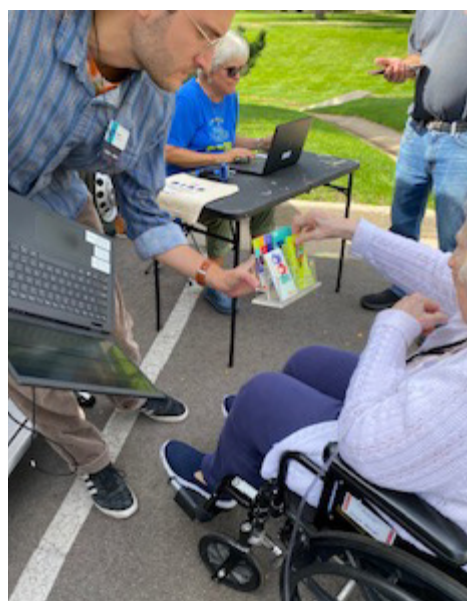
SASQUASH came in 2nd place & was grown right here in Fort Collins!



Don F. & Barb Z. working hard!



Jo painting away!



Residents get crafty during our Puzzle Piece Pumpkin craft!



Poudre Library brings Evie to New Mercer to create library cards and offer a diverse selection of books for our residents!



Residents LOVED making Halloween Charm Bracelets together.



Strike a pose, Renate!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOVEMBER				MR - Media Room PDR - Pines Dining Room TR - Therapy room RM - In Room/ apartment CDR - Commons Dining Room PDR - Pines Dining Room LIB - Library CK - Cedar Kitchenette DL - Dogwood Lounge 		9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: "The Penguin Lessons" -MR 3:30 Manicures
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History - Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Walking Club - PDR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 T.E.D. Talks: How Trauma Affects Health Across a Lifetime" - MR 2:00 Balloon Volleyball! - CDR 3:30 Pet Therapy! - MR 4:00 Stretch & Unwind - MR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Craft Club: Fall Hoop Ornaments! - PDR 1:30 - Rosary - MR 2:00 Fall into Fitness: Chair-obics Cardio! - MR 3:30 "Human: Neanderthal Encounters - PBS NOVA" - MR 3:30 Wii-Bowling - LIB	Happy Birthday Linda S.! 10:30 Resident Council Meeting- CDR 2:00 Bingo! - CDR 3:30 Ha-Ha-Happy Hour! -Stand Up Comedy* & Cider - LIB	9:30 Mass – MR 10:30 Exercise - LIB 2:00 Watercolor Painting - PDR 3:30 "Icebound: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told" - MR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Wisdom Study – MR 2:00 Sound Affects Performance! – CDR 3:30Group Games: "Mexican Train" – PDR 3:30 Wii-Bowling – LIB	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: "Geronimo: an American Legend" - MR 3:30 Manicures
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History - Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Wordsearch & Wine! - PDR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Creative Writing Club – PDR 11:15 – Communion - MR 2:00 Fall into Fitness: Seated Pilates! 3:30 "Famous Last Words – Dr. Jane Goodall"	VETERANS DAY 9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 "Veterans Day: a Celebration of Our Nation's Military Branches" - MR 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Peter & Doti! – CDR 3:30 Veterans Day Celebration! - CDR	10:30 Senior Serenaders! - CDR 2:00 Bingo! – CDR 3:30 Craft Club: Thanksgiving Cards! - PDR	9:45 Exercise – LIB 10:30 Hymns with Lynn - CDR 2:00 Music with Scott! - CDR 3:30 "Queen Elizabeth & Queen Mary: A Tale of Two Sisters" - MR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Wisdom Study - MR 2:00 BYO Bookmark Craft! - CDR 3:30 Poetry Club - MR 3:30 Wii-Bowling - LIB	9:45 Exercise – LIB 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: "Where the Tracks End" - MR 3:30 Manicures
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History - Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Walking Club - PDR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 T.E.D. Talks: How Mindfulness Changes the Emotional Life of Our Brains– MR 2:00 Word Games! – PDR 3:30 Pet Therapy! - MR 4:00 Stretch & Unwind - MR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Giant Crossword - LIB 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Balloon Ball! - PDR 3:30 "Raiders of the Lost Art: The Hunt for Faberge Eggs" - MR 3:30 Wii-Bowling – LIB	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Watercolor Painting - LIB 2:00 Bingo! - CDR 3:30 Happy Hour: Maple Bourbon Smash - PDR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Group Games: "Stuff the Turkey" - PDR 2:00 Resident Birthday Bash! - CDR 3:15 BOOK CLUB - MR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Music Trivia: Thanksgiving Tunes! - PDR 2:00 Sound Affects Performance - CDR 3:30 Wii- Bowling – LIB 3:30 Word Games: Scattergories! - PDR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind" - MR 3:30 Manicures
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History - Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Wordsearch & Wine! - PDR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Poudre Library Book Mobile Visit! – Pines Parking lot* 11:15 – Communion – MR 2:00 Totally Trivial – Team Thanksgiving Trivia! – PDR 3:00 "Americas Smallest State Filled with U.S. History" - MR	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Creative Writing Club – "I Am Most Grateful For..." - PDR 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Fall into Fitness: Seated Zumba! – MR 3:30 Group Games: Team Turkey War! - PDR 3:30 Wii-Bowling – LIB	9:30 Exercise - LIB 10:15 Music with Kendra! - CDR 2:00 Bingo! – CDR 3:30 Happy Hour – Baked Cranberry Brie & Bubbly*!	THANKSGIVING DAY 9:45 Thanksgiving Service & Goodie Bag Pass! - CDR	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Watercolor Painting - PDR 2:00 Music Trivia! - PDR 3:30 Wii – Bowling - LIB	9:45 Exercise - LIB 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: "Parenthood" - MR 3:30 Manicures
Happy Birthday Francine H.! 9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History - Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Walking Club - PDR	2025				All activities are subject to change. New Mercer Commons Assisted Living	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOVEMBER				O - Oak (Morning Activities) P - Pine N - Native Fir (Afternoon Activities) M - Maple 		9:45 Exercise 10:30 Group Crossword Puzzles 2:00 Balloon Volleyball! 3:30 Manicure 1
9:45 Exercise 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation 2:00 Walks & 1:1’s 2	9:45 Exercise 10:30 – Wisdom Study 2:00 Balloon Ball! 3:00 “Caramelo” 3	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Bananagrams 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Craft Club 3:30 Group Games: Guess the Word 4	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Fall Scattergories! 2:00 Puzzles with Pals! 3:30 Books a la Carte 5	9:30 Roman Catholic Mass - MR 10:30 Bingo! 2:00 Team Turkey Throw! 3:30 Pictionary 6	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Group Games 2:00 Sound Affects Musical Performance! - CDR 3:30 Art Hour: Coloring & Classical Music 7	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Reminiscing 2:00 Balloon Ball! 3:30 Manicures 8
9:45 Exercise 10:30 Hot Topics Discussion Group 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: “Are You There God? It’s Me, Maragaret.” 9	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Scattergories! 11:15 – Communion - MR 2:00 Balloon Ball! 3:30 Pet Therapy Visits with ATD 10	VETERANS DAY 9:45 Exercise 10:30 “Veterans Day: a Celebration of Our Nation’s Military Branches” 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Peter & Doti! – CDR 3:30 Veterans Day Celebration! - CDR 11	10:30 Senior Serenaders! - CDR 2:00 Hula Hoop Chair-obics! 3:30 Musical Memory Trivia! 12	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Hymns with Lynn - CDR 2:00 Music with Scott! – CDR 3:30 “Icebound: The Greatest Dog Story Ever” 13	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Worship - CDR 2:00 Art Hour: Coloring & Classical Music 3:30 Manicures! 14	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Group Crossword Puzzles 2:00 Balloon Volleyball! 3:30 Manicures 15
9:45 Exercise 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation 2:00 Walks & 1:1’s 16	9:45 Exercise 10:30 – Wisdom Study 2:00 Art Hour: Coloring & Classical Music 3:00 “The Penguin Lessons” 17	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Bananagrams 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Card Making Club 3:30 Trivia & Treats! 18	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Turkey Toss! 2:00 Musical Memory Trivia! 3:30 Books a la Carte 19	HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOBBY D.! 9:45 Exercise 10:30 Turkey Scavenger Hunt 2:00 Resident Birthday Party! - CDR 3:30 “Raiders of the Lost Art: The Hunt For Faberge Eggs” 20	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Group Games: Pictionary! 2:00 Sound Affects Musical Performance! - CDR 3:30 Apple Cider & Short Stories! 21	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Reminiscing 2:00 Balloon Ball! 3:30 Manicures 22
9:45 Exercise 10:30 Hot Topics Discussion Group 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: “Parenthood” 23	9:45 Exercise 10:30 “Stuff the Turkey” Game! 11:15 – Communion - MR 2:00 Balloon Ball! 3:30 Pet Therapy Visits with ATD 24	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Gratitude Dice Game! 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Craft Club! 3:30 T.E.D. Talks 25	9:30 Exercise 10:15 Music with Kendra! - CDR 2:00 “Roll a Turkey” - Craft 3:30 “A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving” 26	THANKSGIVING DAY 9:45 Thanksgiving Service & Goodie Bag Pass! - CDR 27	9:45 Exercise 10:30 Farkle 2:00 Art Hour: Coloring & Classical Music 3:30 Manicures 28	HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUDY D.! 9:45 Exercise 10:30 Group Crossword Puzzles 2:00 Balloon Volleyball! 3:30 Manicures 29
9:45 Exercise 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation 2:00 Walks & 1:1’s 30	2025				All activities are subject to change. New Mercer Commons Memory Care	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOVEMBER				MR - Media Room PDR - Pines Dining Room TR - Therapy room RM - In Room/ apartment CDR - Commons Dining Room PDR - Pines Dining Room LIB - Library CK - Cedar Kitchenette DL - Dogwood Lounge 		ALL SAINTS DAY 9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: “The Penguin Lessons” - MR 3:30 Manicures
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Walking Club - PDR 2	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 T.E.D. Talks: “How Trauma Affects Health Across a Lifetime” – MR 2:00 Balloon Volleyball! - CDR 3:30 Pet Therapy! - MR 4:00 Stretch & Unwind – MR 3	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Craft Club: Fall Hoop Ornaments! - PDR 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Fall into Fitness: Chair-obics Cardio! - MR 3:30 “Human: Neanderthal Encounters- PBS NOVA” - MR 4	10:30 Resident Council Meeting -CDR 2:00 Bingo! - CDR 3:30 Ha-Ha-Happy Hour: Stand-Up Comedy & Cider*! - LIB 5	9:30 Mass- MR 10:30 Exercise – MR 2:00 Watercolor Painting - PDR 3:30 “Icebound: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told” - MR 6	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Wisdom Study - MR 2:00 Sound Affects Performance! - CDR 3:30 Group Games: Mexican Train - PDR 7	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: “Geronimo: an American Legend” - MR 3:30 Manicures 8
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Wordsearch & Wine! – PDR 9	9:45 Exercise- MR 10:30 Creative Writing Club - PDR 11:15 – Communion - MR 2:00 Fall into Fitness: Seated Pilates! - MR 3:30 Group Discussions - “Famous Last Words with Dr. Jane Goodall” - MR 10	VETERANS DAY 9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 “Veterans Day: a Celebration of Our Nation’s Military Branches” - MR 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Peter & Doti! - CDR 3:30 Veterans Day Celebration! – CDR 11	10:30 Senior Serenaders! - CDR 2:00 Bingo! - CDR 3:30 Craft Club: Thanksgiving Cards! - PDR 12	9:45 Exercise – MR 10:30 Hymns with Lynn - CDR 2:00 Music with Scott! - CDR 3:30 “Queen Elizabeth & Queen Mary: A Tale of Two Sisters” - MR 13	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Worship - CDR 2:00 BYO Bookmark Craft! - CDR 3:30 Poetry Club – MR 14	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: “Where the Tracks End” - MR 3:30 Manicures 15
HAPPY BIRTHDAY PHYLLIS “JO” P.! 9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Walking Club - PDR 16	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 T.E.D. Talks: How Mindfulness Changes the Emotional Life of Our Brains – MR 2:00 Word Games! – PDR 3:30 Pet Therapy! - MR 4:00 Stretch & Unwind – MR 17	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Giant Crossword! - LIB 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Balloon Ball! - PDR 3:30 “Raiders of the Lost Art: A Hunt for Faberge Eggs” - MR 18	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Watercolor Painting - LIB 2:00 Bingo! - CDR 3:30 Happy Hour: Maple Bourbon Smash - PDR 19	9:45 Exercise – MR 10:30 Group Games: “Stuff the Turkey!” - PDR 2:00 Resident Birthday Bash! -CDR 3:15 BOOK CLUB – MR 20	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Music Trivia: Thanksgiving Tunes! -PDR 2:00 Sound Affects Performance! - CDR 3:30 Word Games: Thanksgiving Scattergories! - PDR 21	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass: “The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind” - MR 3:30 Manicures 22
HAPPY BIRTHDAY CLAIRE P.,! 9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Wordsearch & Wine! – PDR 23	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Poudre Library Book Mobile Visit! – Pines Parking Lot* 11:15 – Communion - MR 2:00 Totally Trivial – Team Thanksgiving Trivia! - PDR 3:00 “Americas Smallest State Filled with U.S. History” - MR 24	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Creative Writing Club: “I Am Most Grateful For...” - PDR 1:30 – Rosary - MR 2:00 Fall into Fitness: Seated Zumba! - MR 3:30 Group Games - Team Turkey War! - PDR 25	9:30 Exercise - MR 10:15 Music with Kendra! - CDR 2:00 Bingo! - CDR 3:30 Happy Hour: Baked Cranberry Brie & Bubbly! - PDR 26	THANKSGIVING DAY 9:45 Thanksgiving Service & Goodie Bag Pass! - CDR 27	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Watercolor Painting - PDR 2:00 Music Trivia - PDR 3:30 Word Games: Scattergories! - PDR 28	9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Giant Crossword - MR 2:00 Movie Matinee & Popcorn Pass:” Parenthood” - MR 3:30 Manicures 29
9:45 Exercise - MR 10:30 Today in History – Coffee & Conversation - PDR 2:00 Bingo! - PDR 3:30 Walking Club - PDR 30	2025 All activities are subject to change. New Mercer Commons Pines					