



## Christmas on Hallway B

It was days before Christmas and all at Sunnyvale Retirement Home near Hogan's Mountain was quiet. Many residents were consumed by memories of Christmas past with little communication from family. Other occupants had days filled with increased visits with special family activities and for some it was not so joyful even with the efforts of staff and support groups to bring some cheer into their lives.

Kay and Betty Jo, long-time residents of Hallway B at Sunnyvale Home, might be consider busy bodies, but they held all residents of their hallway in great esteem. With

all their own close family members passed to the great beyond, they decided they would be the residents' Christmas gift organizers during this special time. As they moved along hallway B of the building they were whispering and analyzing the desires of each of the residents. These children of yesteryear were again in the thoughts of these special denizens of hallway B.

Mary Jane a sprightly 87, resident of B 102, made it known that she wanted only one thing for Christmas, bathroom products. Mary Jane said the toilet paper provided was rough. A couple of super soft rolls of Angel Soft would be great. Some good smelling body wash and cream would also give a special touch.

Bertha in room B 103 just wanted a good flashlight so she could keep reading her large print book when her roommate wanted to go lights out. She said a second flashlight would be good for her roommate June because she always turned on the lights when she went to the bathroom in the middle of the night.

Marylyn in room B 106 just wanted to see her husband Glenn for Christmas. She just turned 85 on Dec. 14th. Betty Jo knew seeing Glenn was impossible to give her since Glenn had been dead for five years. Betty Jo, creative even in her later years, had an idea to get pictures of Glenn that might be gift-wrapped from Marylyn's son who lived several states away. Marylyn friend, Anna, wanted someone to patch her quilt that kept getting caught on her lift chair.

Grandma Bozeman in B 111 was quite a character. Her only request was a "Sexy Firefighters" calendar because it helped get the young people to talk with her when they came in her room. Mrs. Bozeman even knew that the

bookstore in town put it on sale before Christmas. Jessica, also of B111, just wanted pork chops for dinner on Christmas. Oh! She also said that was with red potatoes and gravy.

Jim, 91 in room 112, just wanted a good-looking woman to dance with on Christmas eve. Jasper, Jim's roommate, wanted a big box of Krispy Crème doughnuts and some M and M's and Reese's Pieces. Lester next door wanted to play with his dog again. Alfred, Lester's roommate wanted a new pillow for his wheel chair and grease for the wheel that kept sticking and squeaking.

Katie, resident of B115, was a dear old lady that loved music and especially singing. In fact, she once was a star attraction on a Christian music radio program. Her request was for the flashing light Christmas tree that played fifteen different Christmas songs. Katie's roommate Sally Jane, wanted Fluffy socks and a Carolina Panther's sweat suit and a toboggan.

Webster, occupant of B116, had been a pianist in his youth. He wanted someone to clean, cut and buff his fingernails so he could try his hand at playing some Christmas songs on the piano in the dining room. Zeb, Webster's roommate at 95 years young, wanted bird seed from Sam's Club. As the two ladies visited they looked out the window at his bird feeder as Zeb named each bird that landed for the seed.

Shannon, resident of room 117, wanted to have a dominoes tournament. He was once known for his skill as a poker player.

John wanted to get his drivers' license, not to drive, but to be able to tell his son that he could drive if he wanted to. Norman, John's roommate, just wanted some Christmas cards from a relative, something he had not had in five years. If he couldn't have that, maybe someone would address some cards, sign his name to them, and mail them to some of his relatives so they would know he is still alive.

Every one of the denizens of Hallway B had the same wish. That wish was just to have someone spend some time with them around the holiday season. Visiting the residents in the retirement facility is truly the most appreciated of all gifts.

As you may have guessed, this whole scenario did not occur. The purpose of this column is to plant the seeds of ideas of what readers might do for residents of local re-

tirement homes. Some group might even consider a "Senior Angel Tree" for residents in such facilities. Enjoy your Christmas holidays! Remember that one day you too might be that resident of Hallway B. If the next generation sees you spending time with older persons, they may choose to do the same for you!



**11-13 SOCCER LEAGUE CHAMPS** - The Bethlehem/Andi Jack - ReMax/Traditions 11-13 Soccer Team captured the ACPR regular season and post season tournament titles. Members of the championship team are pictured from the left. First row: Makayla Robinette, Nate Barnes, Madison Harrell, Jace Miller, Drew Glascoe and Sam Benfield. Second row: Zach Bolick, Gavin Roupe, Sarah Icard, Ethan Brumley, and Zoe Fox. Third row: Coaches Freddie Roupe, Kasey Bolick, and Ed Fox. (Terry Hefner photo).

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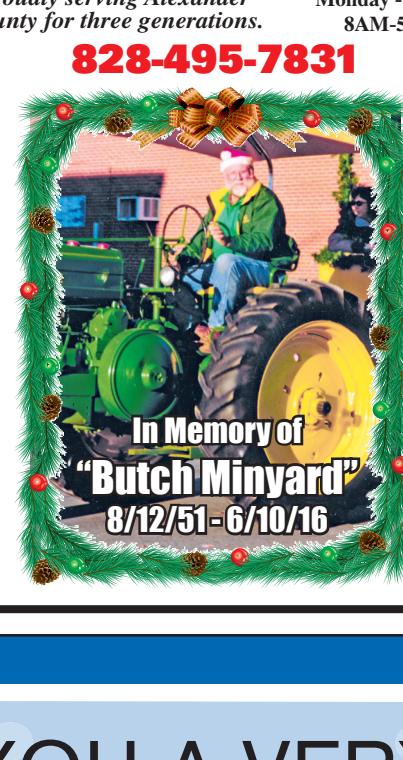
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## Clover Baptist plans drama

The Christmas Drama, "Love Brought A Miracle" will be presented by Clover Baptist Church on Friday evening, December 15, at 7 p.m. in the form of a drama. No reservations are necessary for this presentation and all seating is free. Seating for the Saturday evening, drama/dinner theater is filled and no more seating is available.

Clover Baptist Church is located at 100 Pinewood Road in Granite Falls, just one mile off of Hwy. 321 between Hickory and Lenoir. Pastor Keith Childers, along with the cast, choir and congregation invite everyone to join in the celebration!

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