Celebrate Christmas With Bulverde Community Chorus

Submitted By Larry Weaver

Christmas is coming. We get excited, we get busy, we look forward to the fun and the presents. We even start counting down the days. However, as we get closer to Christmas morning, we realize that there is a greater purpose for this holiday. It’s the day that we remember that God proved that he loves us by sending his Son to earth to live among us, to suffer with us, to teach us what God’s message really is.

Does that mean that Christmas has to be solemn and serious? Of course not! It is a joyous time. We should be excited. We should exchange gifts as the Magi illustrated. We should sing Christmas carols. As long as we remember that there is a reason for the celebration.

The Bulverde Community Chorus is going to “Celebrate!” the opening of the Christmas season this year with a program that will accomplish all of these things. There will be carols you can sing along with, there will be songs to laugh with and there will be beautiful music to help us remember that we are celebrating the arrival of our Savior, our Teacher, our Friend. And best of all, we celebrate that He is still with us.

Come “Celebrate!” with the Bulverde Community Chorus on December 14 and 15 at 7:00 p.m. and on December 16 at 3:00 p.m. at the Bulverde United Methodist Church, 28300 Highway 281 North, just north of Borgfeld Rd. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. For more information call 830-980-7745 or email vicki@bulverdeumc.org.

The Bulverde Community Chorus is a growing group of individuals from several area churches and the community who love to get together in fellowship to make music and praise God. No experience is necessary. If you like to sing and would like to join the fun, contact the numbers above for rehearsal times. Then, just show up to make joyful noise!

An Alternative To Driving

By Michelle Houriet, Executive Director
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Retirement is something we all look forward to. You prepare for it. You think about what you’re going to do in your golden years. But there is rarely a plan when it comes to retiring from driving. No one wants to think about it; so for most, it just goes ignored. This means that when the day comes when it becomes a necessity, it’s a lot harder to accept. You may even feel blindsided when your family takes away your keys or your car.

If we live long enough, stopping driving is something that is going to happen, so denial probably is not our most beneficial option. Families should plan ahead and talk about it years before it happens and map out what the alternatives will be. Just because you stop driving does not mean you have to stop doing the things you enjoy or visiting the places you love. It just means you must find an alternative option for transportation. That’s not to say that there won’t be a time of adjustment and maybe a little grieving.

Many of our residents at Independence Hill Retirement Community have had to deal with this. Most move here while they’re still driving, but one factor in deciding to make move is often our transportation plan for when the need arose. Stanley, a resident at Independence Hill, just gave up driving a month ago.

“I am 94 and felt like if I had an accident they would say it was my fault no matter what, so I gave up driving,” he explained. “At first it was hard, it really cut down on my ability to be spontaneous, but I have learned to plan out my trips.”

Another resident just gave up driving two weeks ago after determining that she had only driven 345 miles over the past 11 months. When she calculated how much her car cost to maintain, it just did not make sense to keep it at age 89.

“Living at Independence Hill made my decision to quit driving much easier,” Alice explained. “Using the transportation provided, I can get to any necessary errands as well as all the fun events scheduled for our entertainment.”

Sometimes it just makes good financial sense to give up your car and use the money you save for other things which can include using Uber or a taxi.

Independence Hill’s goal is to help residents remain active and independent for as long as possible in all possible. By providing transportation to doctor appointments, shopping, the pharmacy, grocery stores, church, and errand runs it has made it easy for many residents to be able to tackle this hard decision and make good choices. With residents at a variety of ages, we have many who are still driving so we want to provide resources for them as well. That is why we host AARP Safe Driving Courses throughout the year to keep their driving skills sharp. If you are interested in attending one of these courses please contact us at (210) 209-8956 to sign up and save money on your car insurance.

Independence Hill Retirement Resort Community is located at 20450 Huebner Rd., San Antonio, TX 78258. For more information, call (210) 209-8956 or visit www.independencehill.com.