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This Week's Activities:

Tuesday, Nov. 22, Let's go hear some music at Dairy Queen after dinner!

Thursday, Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Dinner at Hope House, 4:00 pm.

Please note: The office will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

STAFFING UPDATE

As you know, we have been seriously understaffed for the last month or so. Thanks to our faithful relief staff, a couple of family members visiting, and our amazing residents stepping up and pitching in, we have been able to keep everything running smoothly. In fact, residents seem happier overall with the reduction in "managing"! Well, there is a light at the end of the tunnel! After much discussion and looking at things from every angle, we have changed the way we will staff the houses. Instead of live-in house managers, we are going to use different people for different shifts: We have hired a very experienced woman to be our "resident advocate" who will cover the weekdays and all things pertaining to the residents—programming, appointments, special projects, and the kitchen (all menu planning and grocery shopping). We will hire other staff to come in for the dinner shift: prepare the meal, do the heavier (i.e., nosy) housekeeping, and carryout any evening programming. Finally, we have hired an energetic, caring young woman who will be on duty overnight during the week and, here's the big change, she will be AWAKE. She will go between the houses checking to be sure all is well and will also perform light housekeeping. Terry Owen has returned and will be providing the coverage on the weekends. We are hopeful that this arrangement will allow us to continue to provide a caring environment that encourages independence for all our residents.

Connie Shook, our resident advocate, will start this week. Aysja (Aisha) Pryor, our overnight staff, will start Monday after Thanksgiving. We hope you will join us in welcoming them to the Hosanna Community family!

Today's column, in honor of a holiday/event I feel is far too overlooked, will address an issue that disturbs me. I intend on giving an appropriate fix, and then reiterating my belief that we all have many blessings for which we should be thankful. I want to stress that NO ONE deserves to be made fun of, harassed in an inappropriate manner, put down purposely to damage one's feelings, or laughed at because they are handicapped or have special needs. The Bible is clear in expressing God's message: we are to love one another as HE loves us. It is in our best interest to care and love one another, not make fun of others. It should be obvious that "living in his image" does not include finding humor in a ny fault of someone. The Lord offered HIS son to us as a means to help forgive our sins, and when we become believers in HIS promise to love us forever we gain the miracle of eternal life. So, I ask you for Thanksgiving Day this year, be appreciative for all your continue to receive. Don't waste your time making fun of or faulting others, and try to behave respectfully at the dinner table in both your manners and the amount consumed. I hope you enjoy a wonderful holiday and with every best personal regard and personal wish, I am,

ECR

**Connor's
Corner**

Due to a problem with my laptop, there are no pictures this week!

