



Huntcliff Harbinger

August 2026

The Mission of the Huntcliff Harbinger is to announce planned events and activities for residents and interested parties. Also included are photographs and stories of resident artwork, club reports, and staff and volunteer recognition. It is written and developed by the editorial staff and its contributors.

Editorial staff: Erma Davis, Marvin Fellner, Dixie Lampert, Marie Robertson, and Ray Bowyer

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Huntcliff Residents Website: www.huntsumres.org

Highlights of August Events

- Doctor Doug Radman on "Rim-to-rim of the Grand Canyon"
- Understanding the American Jewish Archives, by Dana Herman
- Chorus concert by the Guys and Dolls singing group
- Trip to the museum of oddities
- Trip to Fernbank Museum
- Imax movie on *tyrannosaurus rex*
- Trip to Federal Reserve Bank
- Trip to Chattahoochee Nature Center
- Voter registration

A Message from Lisa

Last month we celebrated the promotion of Mary Bethune, our Business Office Coordinator. While we were sad to see her go, we are excited for her new, well-deserved opportunity with Sunrise Senior Living.

With this change, we will take a different approach to this position. As our needs have changed over the years, we will be dividing the tasks Mary was responsible for into 3 different roles. We will have "Billing Specialist's" that you can contact to review any billing question you may have. This information will be included on your billing statement and available at our front desk. We will have dedicated "Talent Recruiters" who will help us source quality candidates for the positions we have in our community. Recruiting has become a challenge in recent years, so we are excited to have this dedicated support. We will also have a Human Resources Manager, Brooke Fuller, who will be here to provide support and guidance for our team members. I look forward to this new approach to serving you and our team.

Lisa

Activity Summaries

Hal Parker Players: The Hal Parker Players presented their most recent show of comedy sketches on April 23. We are taking a break in July and August but will be back for a new show in September. If you are interested in joining us, please contact either Jill Sellers or Lynn McCoy. We hope to see you there.

Huntcliff Book Club: This month's selection for our Book Club meeting is a work of historical fiction based on a real-life mystery in 18th century Maine. *The Frozen River*, written by Ariel Lawhon, centers on Martha Ballard, a skilled 18th-century midwife whose diary entries document community life and its secrets. Driven by a sense of justice, she investigates crimes in her community, seeking truth and equity despite social constraints. When the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. As the story unfolds, the author introduces an unsung heroine who refuses to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard. Join us as we discuss this thrilling story about a remarkable woman who left an unparalleled legacy, yet remains nearly forgotten to this day. Mark your calendar: Thursday, August 15, 2:00 p.m. in the Veranda (sixth floor adjacent to the bar)

Huntcliff Singers: The Huntcliff Singers presented their Spring Hootenanny show in June. Performances included folk songs from Peter, Paul, & Mary, Harry Belafonte, The Kingston Trio, Willie Nelson, Sonny & Cher, John Denver, and other great artists. Our sing-a-longs, solos, and duets were accompanied by Hollie Shaver on the Grand Piano and Brandt Ross on the guitar, and conducted by Charlie Cayce.

Our Fall production will begin rehearsals in September. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact our manager, Don Radman.

Blackjack: Blackjack continues every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Essex Room. If you are not sure how to play, our experienced dealers and cashier will be happy to assist you. We hope to see you there.

Opera: Opera in the Evening curator Sarah Levy has chosen *Il Trovatore* by Giuseppe Verdi for her August presentation. Please join her in the Veranda at 5:30 on Sunday, August 16.

A backstory explains the motivations of the main characters: Years ago, an old gypsy woman was unjustly accused of bewitching the Count di Luna's sickly younger brother. She was convicted and executed by burning at the stake. Her daughter, Azucena, vowed revenge, stole the younger brother, and raised him as her own son (Manrico). The disappearance of the younger son leads the di Luna family to assume that Azucena has murdered him. The Count and Azucena are each seeking revenge against the other, one for the abduction/murder of a brother, the other for the death of a mother.

Fast forward to the beginning of the opera, set in Spain during a time of civil war. Count di Luna, leader of the royalist forces, is obsessed with noblewoman Leonora and still fruitlessly searching for Azucena. Leonora is in love with an unknown wandering troubadour. The singer turns out to be Manrico, leader of the rebels and son of Azucena. Many tragic events ensue. Ultimately, Leonora takes poison and dies in Manrico's arms and Manrico is executed by the Count. When the Count realizes that he has killed his own brother, Azucena's revenge is complete.

Enrico Caruso once joked that staging *Il Trovatore* successfully requires "the four greatest singers in the world "

The most famous song is "The Anvil Chorus."

Art Program: There will be no Art Program in August. We will return with regular scheduling in September and look forward to your return. All programs will be on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. in the Essex room. Enjoy your summer!

Knit and Stitch Club: A new crochet project for Northside Hospital - a small octopus with eight legs! It seems the preemies in the neonatal intensive care unit pull on the legs of the octopus and not on the tubes that are keeping them alive. What a feel good project! Special thanks to our star crocheter, Norma Mayor.

CuriosityU: Please join us as Huntcliff Summit continues to present CuriosityU, a wide variety of video lectures by college professors on hundreds of different topics. Recent videos have been on: Ernest Hemingway; The Scientific Genius (and Rivalry) of Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla; What's So Great About Ballet?; Juneteenth Explained: A Tradition of Remembrance and Revival; Women in the Civil War: How They Shaped America's Most Important War; Our American Declaration; and The Epic Story of American Railroads.

Future presentations will include: The Trial of Socrates: Fact, Fiction, Reality, Myth; 1841: The Year of Three Presidents; and The Last Days of the Dinosaurs. Each presentation is about 50-60 minutes, followed by a discussion of the material, which lasts only as long as residents are interested in speaking about the topic. CuriosityU videos are presented on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the Veranda Room, and each week's topic is posted in advance in the elevators and on the bulletin board.

Brandt Ross Programs: Programs continuing the Celebration of our 250th Anniversary

1. Stephen Decatur and the pirates of the Barbary Coast
2. Andrew Jackson – hero or villain? Or both?

Bunny's Reading Group:-- This unique reading group caters to residents with special needs who enjoy having a book read to them. There is time to socialize while discussing the current selection. They finished Patrick Ryan's "*Buckeye*" and are now reading "*Whistler*" by Ann Patchett. Thursday, 1:00 p.m. at the library.

August Birthdays

1	Renee Dudovitz	19	Joan Capper
3	Julie Bakke	20	Sandy Kole
6	Carol Barrington	20	Winsome Barrow
8	Pat Harper	20	Paul Genter
10	Naomi Gersen	21	Brenda Patten
13	Joyce Rubensohn	24	Elsie McLaughlin
16	Grace Benator	24	Paul Greenberg
16	Manuela Bornstein	26	Linda Kappel
19	Larry Isaacson	26	Lou Norton

August Anniversaries

3	Erwin and Carol Barrington	22	Robert and Adele Weinstein
8	Len and Brenda Dorrien	26	Bill and Shirley Abernathy
21	Jerry and Joyce Leeson	27	Stan and Sheila Schwartz

August Service Anniversaries

14	Brent Andrews	Dietary Services	6 years
15	Antoinette Crawley	Housekeeping	3 years
27	Naima Palmer	Dietary Services	3 years

This Month's Chuckle

Summer doesn't simply arrive; it ambushes you. One day you're enjoying a pleasant breeze, and the next the sun shows up like an over-enthusiastic intern shouting, "I CAN DO EVERYTHING!" while melting your driveway. Even your ice cubes start filing HR complaints.

The weather app becomes a daily dare. It says "Feels like 104°," which is meteorologist code for "Don't go outside unless you have a personal relationship with a fire extinguisher." Meanwhile, mosquitoes hold their annual music festival on your legs. They don't sell tickets. You *are* the tickets.

Every grill in America suddenly wakes from hibernation, demanding to be fed hot dogs. Your neighbor—who hasn't spoken to you since October—now wants to discuss charcoal philosophy for 45 minutes. And somewhere, a beach towel is plotting to return home with half the sand on Earth.

By mid-July, your air conditioner is whispering, "I wasn't built for this," while your electric bill starts writing memoirs. You tell yourself you love summer, but deep down you're Googling "pumpkin spice release date."

New Friends



Robbie Kuchar moved here from Marietta, Georgia. She has one child and one grandchild. She worked as a teacher at elementary, intermediate, and high school levels. Her hobby is walking. Her special memories are travel, especially some golfing trips.



Barbara Feese moved here from Appleton, Wisconsin. She has two sons and seven grandchildren. She taught high school and junior high, and worked with her husband to run a family resort. Her hobbies and interests are reading, knitting, crochet, and sewing.



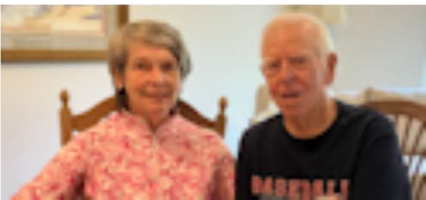
Christy Russell moved here from Chattanooga, Tennessee. She has two children and two grandchildren. Her previous occupations were executive assistant to director of Blue Cross and Blue Shield, legal secretary, and admin support. Her hobbies and interests are reading, gardening, sewing, crochet, hiking, cooking, and baking. Her special memory is graduating from Georgia State University with a degree in business administration.



Anna Rempe moved here from Buckhead. She was born and grew up in Italy. She has two children and four grandchildren. Her hobbies and interests are walking, swimming, and quilting. Her special memories are growing up in wartime Italy.



Arthur Budd moved here from Boynton Beach, Florida, after many years in Boston, Massachusetts. He has two children and three grandchildren. His previous occupation was computer systems manager. His hobbies and interests are chess, checkers, cribbage, bridge, and canasta. His special memories are rescuing two young children from a bee colony, being a father, and being married for many years. He has already joined Hal Parker Players.



Fred and Kathleen Brandt moved here from Dunwoody. They have one child and two grandchildren. Fred worked as a recruiter, and Kathleen worked as a corporate banker and management consultant. Their hobbies and interests are travel, golf, running, sports, music, theatre, and art. Their special memories are family trips.

ART À LA HUNTCLIFF!



Meet Mary Wyman – Our First Featured Artist

From the time she was a young child, Mary has always taken art lessons. This exposure has led to a lifetime of creating art. She uses both oil and acrylic paint and frequently focuses on her love of water and beaches.

As she developed macular degeneration, she realized that she had to adapt to be able to continue painting. Working with wonderful art instructors and the use of technology such as an I-Pad on her easel she has learned to modify and accommodate her artwork. Mary has exhibited at several galleries. She has posted her artwork on Facebook and Instagram. She has been most successful in selling her pieces! She signs her paintings simply as *Wyman*.

NORTH GEORGIA PREMIUM OUTLET MALL



Shop 'til you drop but have lunch in between to keep your energy levels steady. On Friday, June 26th, an enthusiastic and determined group of Huntcliff women and a gentleman traveled to this Premium Outlet Mall to seek out bargains. Discounts were beckoning to these travelers from Chico's Outlet, the Gap, Brooks Brothers, Old Navy, cosmetic, shoe and sporting goods stores, as well as, Marshalls and Ross. Although the weather was very warm, the stores were cool! The group lunched at Culver Butter Burgers, which also featured frozen custard which was a perfect treat to cool off. It was worth the one hour roundtrip to Dawsonville. The photo clearly shows a productive and successful shopping spree.

OUR DOG DAYS OF SUMMER



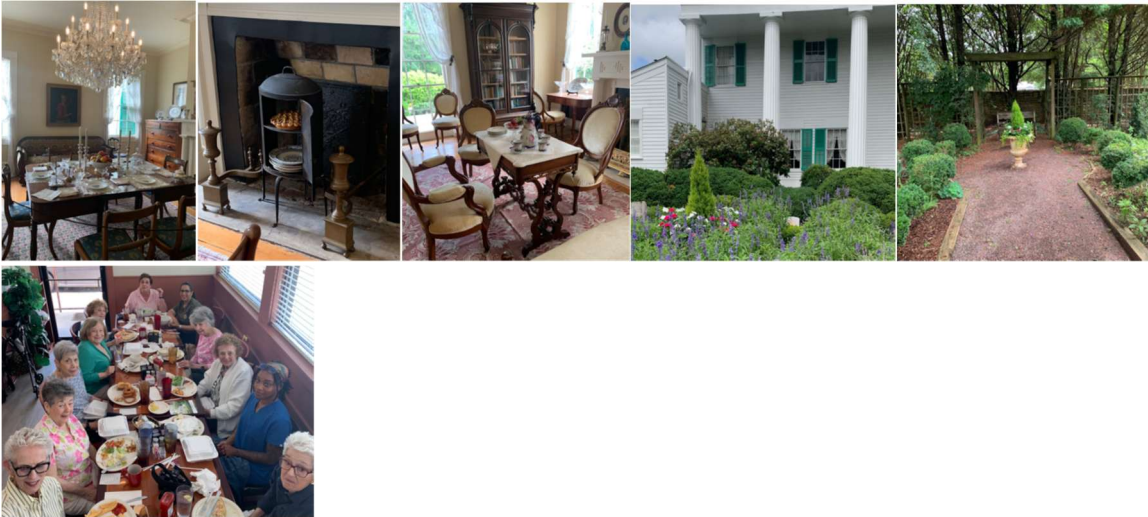
Pups on Parade Fashion Show was held on Monday, June 22nd. Close to a dozen Huntcliff canine residents and grand-dogs participated in the event. These well-behaved dogs proudly pranced around and happily welcomed all the attention. Toby, Lou Norton's 2 year-old Yorkie won 1st Prize (a large basket of doggie delights). He and Lou wore matching Brazil T-shirts. His bark indicated how happy he was because he loves people and being the center of attention. Adele Weinstein's daughter paraded the grand-dogs who wore matching raincoats. They were not going to miss this party. On a most heartwarming note, Pinky gave her dog Sheba to Ron Kolze who recently experienced the unexpected loss of his dog. She and Sheba wore stunning matching dresses. Thank you to Toby, Coco, Pippa, Lassie, Massey Jane, Mimmie, Sheba, Finley & Winston, Katie and Bella for sharing the "catwalk" runway. Hot dogs, potato chips and cupcakes were served to the residents for lunch. The event was well-organized, festive and fun. The photos tell the whole story.

ARCHIBALD SMITH PLANTATION



On Friday, June 12th, a Huntcliff group visited the Archibald Smith Plantation, a historic museum built in 1845. It features original outbuildings and period furnishings. The site is one of the best preserved examples of regional vernacular farm architecture. It is also an example of a well-to-do family in early Roswell. This family brought 25-30 enslaved people with them when they arrived here. This home of three generations of the Smith family illustrated southern life, including history of slaves, family furniture, letters and a piano from 1833. The house was sold to the City of Roswell in 1986 and opened as a museum in 1991. Descendants of the Smith family ensure its preservation. "The home grounds have become one of the best examples of architecture, culture and historical interpretation found in the region". The photos clearly illustrate the quality of the period furniture, antiques, art objects and style of living in that time period. After the tour, the group lunched at Chick-fil-A and as a special treat, went to Whitt's for dessert afterwards. A tasty and cooling way to complete this excursion.

BARRINGTON HALL



Barrington Hall, built in 1842 has been recognized as one of the best examples of historic Greek revival architecture in the United States. The residence exhibits the antiques, history and culture of the Civil War period. The property is over 2000 acres and once housed 70 enslaved people. It also had 300 acres of cotton farmland. It took 5 years to build the house for Roswell King's son, Barrington, who co-founded Roswell. The home consists of original family furnishings and period pieces, as well as slave quarters and outbuildings. It is on the National Registry of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of Interior. Today, this historic home of Roswell survives as a testimonial to the abilities and hardships of Roswell's first black inhabitants. When visiting, the Hall offers a welcoming environment in spite of crystal chandeliers, antique lamps, antiques and period furniture on display. It is a look into 19th century life in the Atlanta area. It has one of the oldest public antebellum gardens in the Atlanta area which today are quite lovely to walk around. It was amazing to see a large bee feasting on the flowers in the back garden while smaller bees were enjoying flowers in the front yard.

The property was passed down through generations until it was finally purchased by the City of Roswell in 2005. Barrington Hall is owned by the City as a house museum. It is ranked as one of the '50 Most Beautiful Homes in Metro Atlanta'. After touring the Hall and strolling through the gardens, our Friday, June 19th excursion group finalized the day with a welcoming lunch at the Diner.