

Committed to Quality.  
Dedicated to Service.



A Hunt Military Community

101 Northbridge Rd. • Hanscom AFB, MA 01731  
Phone: (781) 861-5062 • Fax: (781) 274-7717 • [www.hanscomfamilyhousing.com](http://www.hanscomfamilyhousing.com)

## December 2012

### Hanscom Family Housing Staff

Kelley Casey ..... Community Director  
Angel Medeiros .... Asst. Comm. Director  
Amanda Carlo ..... Res. Relat. Specialist  
Karen Driscoll ..... Admin Assistant  
John Tew ..... Maintenance Director  
Rob Waters ..... Asst. Maint. Director  
Christina Magner .... Maint. Coordinator  
Tony Wyman ..... Bookkeeper

### Maintenance Staff

David Katt ..... Howard Schon  
Phil Payne ..... Luis Ortiz  
Doug Best ..... George Grimes  
Carolina Amaya ..... Raquel Calles  
Tony Simmonds ..... Milko Moncada



## Maintenance Corner

With winter vastly approaching us, please keep the following in mind.

- Residents are responsible for removing snow up to 50 feet around your home.
- If no on-street parking is mandated during inclement weather, there are a number of overflow parking lots available— Kelly Ln., Top of Patterson Rd., Community Center and Neighborhood Center.
- Ice Melt is available at the Maintenance Shop.

### Christmas Light Decorating Contest

It's time for our annual Christmas Light Decorating Contest. One winner will be chosen from each neighborhood on Tuesday, 18 December. We look forward to seeing all your festive homes.



(Veterans Day Event - 12 Nov. 12) Thank you for your service and dedication. We're grateful that you've chosen Hanscom Family Housing as the place you call home. Each one of these 728 flags represents one of our cherished families.

### Congratulations to Our November Contest Winners!

How many in the Jar Contest - Sam McMenemy  
"I'm Thankful for" Art Contest - Miguel Bannister

### Office Closure

Our office will be closed on 24, 25, 31 December and 1 January due to the holidays. We hope you have a safe and Happy Holiday!

### Marine Toys for Tots Program

The Marine Toys for Tots program collects new, unwrapped toys then distributes those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the local area. Our office is proud to be a drop-off location for this great cause. If you're interested in making a donation, please stop by during business hours.  
[www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org)

### Christmas Social

Santa Claus is coming to Hanscom! Have you told Santa what you want for Christmas? If not, tell Santa when you see him on Wednesday, 12 December. Santa will also be available to take a photo with you and your loved ones. Be on the lookout for more information.

### Freeze Warning

We'll soon be seeing freezing temperatures. When it gets very cold, we recommend that you let your faucets drip to prevent the pipes from freezing. Remember to turn on both the hot and cold faucets to protect both water lines. It also helps to keep your cabinet doors open so heat will circulate around the pipes.

## All About Evergreens

While many trees shed their leaves during the fall and winter seasons, evergreen trees keep their needles even through the most dismal winters. They serve as a symbol of new life and the coming spring.

Many coniferous evergreens have needles, and others have leaves or palms. Coniferous means cone-bearing. The tree's seeds develop inside a protective cone, which can take up to three years to mature.

Although the trees keep their needles through the winter, they do not keep them forever. Evergreens periodically drop older needles, which are closer to the main trunk, while retaining the younger needles farther out on the branch. The life span of a needle ranges from two to 17 years, depending on the type of tree.

Evergreens have been used in landscaping for centuries. Early European settlers in America planted evergreens to block wind and snow. Today, they are also planted for privacy screens and to provide year-round color in landscapes.

Not all evergreens are green. Some have foliage that is red, silver, purple or yellow.

Many types of evergreens are native to the United States, including red and white pines in the Northeast; ponderosa pine, western white pine and Douglas fir in the Rocky Mountains; longleaf, shortleaf and loblolly pines in the South; and sugar pine and coast redwood on the Pacific coast.

The coast redwoods are the tallest trees in the world, with some measuring more than 370 feet.

**“The pine stays green in winter ... wisdom in hardship.”  
—Norman Douglas**



## Keep Holiday Spending Under Control

The holidays can be a wonderful time as people gather with family and friends and make memories. But sometimes what we remember most is the hefty bill at the end of the season. Here are some tips to help you control your spending so all your holiday memories are happy:

*Have a game plan.* Make a list of everything you usually spend money on, including gifts, food, decorations, greeting cards and travel expenses. Decide how much you will spend on the people on your gift list and on the other items. Keep track of all the

spending and don't let yourself go over your limit.

*Put away the plastic.* When you go shopping, use cash. If you don't have the cash, don't buy the item. If you don't have the money now, you likely won't have it next month when the bill arrives.

*Shop smart.* Check prices online and watch for sales flyers so you know where to get the most for your money. If you are making a purchase online, search for promo codes that can get you a discount on the purchase or free shipping.

*Make it yourself.* Homemade gifts are often the most appreciated. They show thoughtfulness and are unique. Make some cookies, potpourri or a photo album. Browse craft books and websites for more ideas.

With a little planning, you can enjoy the holidays without breaking the bank.

## Wash Hands to Stay Healthy

Most of us know to wash our hands before eating or after handling garbage, but are you washing the correct way? What about those not-so-obvious places where germs can hide? Here are some things to remember when it comes to washing hands and avoiding bacteria.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one of the most important steps in stopping the spread of disease is washing hands with soap and clean, running water. To properly wash hands, wet them first and apply soap. Lather the soap by scrubbing palms, the backs of hands and under fingernails. Rinse well and dry thoroughly.

Soap and running water aren't always available, so carry antibacterial gel as a backup. It doesn't kill all germs, however, so don't use it

exclusively. The CDC recommends using a gel with at least 60 percent alcohol. When using antibacterial gel, rub hands together to spread the gel over palms and fingers until skin is dry.

Cold and flu viruses can survive on hard surfaces for up to 18 hours. To reduce the amount of germs you come in contact with in public, hand-sanitizing wipes are a good option. Use them to clean shopping cart handles, door knobs, elevator buttons and restaurant menus—all ranked high on the list of places where bacteria reside.





### The Perfect Party Guest

As the holiday party season gets under way, follow these tips to ensure you always have a place on the guest list:

**R.S.V.P.** When you receive an invitation, reply as soon as possible. Even if no R.S.V.P. is requested, it's considerate to let your host know if you will be able to attend. Take a guest only if you have been invited to do so.

**Perfect timing.** Never arrive early for a party; this puts the busy host in an awkward spot. Arriving at the stated time, or 10 to 15 minutes after, is ideal.

**Mix and mingle.** Be prepared to chat with those you know, as well as new faces. Keep topics casual and upbeat, and avoid potentially sensitive topics such as politics or religion. If it's an office party, remember you're not there to complain about work!

**A helping hand.** Ask your hostess if she needs any help. Even if she declines your offer, the gesture will be appreciated.

**Don't overindulge.** Whether on food or beverages, overindulgence is not only bad manners, it could also cause a shortage of food or drink for other guests.

**Thank you!** Always thank the host for having you. You can do this verbally at the event. If you want to follow up with a handwritten thank-you note, even better. For office parties, it's nice to thank the person or committee that planned the party, either verbally or with an email.



## One Minute Chef

### Chili Rub Slow Cooker Pulled Pork

#### Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne powder
- 3-pound boneless pork shoulder or sirloin roast
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1/2 cup chicken broth

#### Directions:

In small bowl, combine chili powder, salt and cayenne. Rub mixture over all sides of meat, pressing to adhere. Set aside.

In large skillet over medium-high heat, warm oil. Add pork and brown on all sides, six to eight minutes. Transfer meat to slow cooker.

Add broth to skillet, scraping up any browned bits, then add broth to slow cooker. Cover and cook until pork is very tender, six to eight hours on low or four to five hours on high.

Transfer meat to cutting board and let rest 10 to 15 minutes. Use two forks to shred meat into bite-sized pieces. Moisten and season with cooking juices to taste.

For more recipes, visit [www.PorkBelInspired.com](http://www.PorkBelInspired.com).



### Wit & Wisdom

“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home.”

—Edith Sitwell

“Hot coffee and cold winter mornings are two of the best soul mates who ever did find each other.”

—Terri Guillemets

“Winter is the season in which people try to keep the house as warm as it was in the summer, when they complained about the heat.”

—Unknown

“Winter is the time of promise because there is so little to do—or because you can now and then permit yourself the luxury of thinking so.”

—Stanley Crawford

“While I relish our warm months, winter forms our character and brings out our best.”

—Tom Allen

“I think winter wear is communal. You get some gloves and a scarf from a lost-and-found box, wash them, wear them for a while until you lose them. Then somebody else does the same thing.”

—Adrian Grenier

“Perhaps I am a bear, or some hibernating animal underneath, for the instinct to be half asleep all winter is so strong in me.”

—Anne Morrow Lindbergh

“What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.”

—John Steinbeck

# December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>DECEMBER</b>						1
2	3 Rent Is Due	4	5	6	7  Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 Hanukkah Begins at Sundown
9 Hanukkah	10	11	12 Christmas Social	13	14	15
16	17	18 Christmas Light Decorating Contest Winners Selected	19	20	21 Winter Begins	22 
23/30	24/31 Office Closed	25 Christmas Office Closed	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27	28	29

## New England Patriots

### Home Games

Gillette Stadium  
Foxborough  
(800) 543-1776  
www.Patriots.com

- Dec. 10 vs. Houston Texans
- Dec. 16 vs. San Francisco 49ers
- Dec. 30 vs. Miami Dolphins

### Through Dec. 31

#### Edward Weston: Leaves of Grass

Museum of Fine Arts  
(617) 267-9300  
www.MFA.org

### Dec. 2

#### Michael Dutra: "Strictly Sinatra"

Scullers Jazz Club  
(617) 562-4111  
www.ScullersJazz.com

### Dec. 5-9

#### Mummenschanz,

#### 40th Anniversary

Citi Performing Arts Center  
(866) 348-9738  
www.CitiCenter.org

### Dec. 5-Jan. 20, 2013

#### "Pippin"

Loeb Drama Center  
(617) 547-8300  
www.AmericanRepertoryTheater.org

### Dec. 7

#### Flam! Pan-Asian MicroJam for

#### J Dilla and Olivier Messiaen

Berklee Performance Center  
(617) 747-2261  
www.BerkleeBPC.com

### Dec. 7

#### The Dan Band

Wilbur Theatre  
(866) 448-7849  
www.TheWilburTheatre.com

### Dec. 10

#### The Berklee Rainbow Band:

#### A Lifetime of Great Music

Berklee Performance Center  
(617) 747-2261  
www.BerkleeBPC.com

### Dec. 12

#### NEC Philharmonia + Litton

New England Conservatory  
(617) 585-1260  
www.NECMusic.edu

### Dec. 15

#### Tyler Ward

Brighton Music Hall  
(617) 562-8804  
www.BrightonMusicHall.com

### Dec. 15, 16

#### Leonard Cohen

Citi Performing Arts Center  
(866) 348-9738  
www.CitiCenter.org

### Upcoming Events:

### Jan. 19-March 24, 2013

#### Drawn to Woods by Paul Olson

Arnold Arboretum  
(617) 524-1718  
www.Arboretum.Harvard.edu

### Feb. 25, 2013

#### Women of the World:

#### Unity in Diversity

Berklee Performance Center  
(617) 747-2261  
www.BerkleeBPC.com

*Dates and venues are subject to change.*

# Boston AREA EVENTS

