

Morgandale Connections

December 2025

The Morgandale Council Members:

Gary L. Cassel, President

Marianne A. Natali, 1st Vice President

Carrie Ryan, 2nd Vice President

Caren A. Rosch, Treasurer

Cory Anderson, Secretary

Morgandale Holiday Party – 2025



Timothy Cooney is presented with The Lifetime Achievement Award for over 43 years of loyal dedication and unwavering commitment as a volunteer for the Morgandale Community.



Diane McLaurin, Chair of the Social Engagement Committee was also presented with The Bob Farra Making a Difference Award. She has also worked tirelessly, volunteering in various functions here at Morgandale.

The Holiday Party, which was open to all adult residents of Morgandale, was held on Sunday Afternoon, December 7th, at the Edwardian Clubhouse, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Everyone who was able to attend enjoyed a buffet that was laid out in the pool table room. Some of the attendees brought an appetizer or dessert for others to enjoy (which was not required).

Awards (see above photographs) were given out as well as poinsettia plants (if you happened to be seated on one of the lucky chairs) as well as some door prizes.

Thank you to the Social Committee, Management Office, and In House Maintenance Crew who spent extra time trimming the room and Decking the Halls!

Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday Time and a Healthy New Year.

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RECYCLING CORNER

How to Recycle Holiday Lights



I fully expect that at least a few strands of holiday lights will be broken or tangled when we decorate the tree this holiday season. Luckily, there are ways to recycle malfunctioning lights.

Customers can take their old or broken string lights to participating Lowe's or Home Depot locations where collection bins are provided near the entrance or in the back. Once collected, the lights are sent to recycling facilities where materials like copper wire and plastic are separated and repurposed. Availability may vary by location, so it is best to call ahead. The program generally runs from late November through mid-January.

Before recycling, it is important to check the condition of your holiday lights. Begin by examining the lights for any damage such as broken bulbs or frayed wires. Make sure all decorations and attachments are removed. This helps streamline the recycling process. Grouping similar types of lights together, such as LED or incandescent, can make recycling easier. Combine them into bundles using twist ties or rubber bands. Packaging these bundles securely in a box before dropping them off can prevent further damage during transport.

Whether that tangled mess of holiday lights in your closet is working, not working, out of style or just too much work to hang on the side of the house every year, fear not: There is a way to recycle them.

Now, does that make you want to sing "Joy to the World"!

Submitted by: Esther Miller

Recycling/Environmental Committee:

Esther Miller – Chair, Cory Anderson, Christine Carty, Marianne Natali, Cindy Watson, Gary L. Cassel

BUDGET HEARING AND APPROVAL

At the Budget Hearing and Council Meeting on November 20, 2025, the proposed budget for 2026 (which had been sent to all Homeowners on October 28, 2025) was discussed in detail. All Homeowners were encouraged to attend.

After the discussion, the Council met and approved the 2026 budget. As a direct result, the monthly condominium fee will increase to \$292.00 per month, effective January 1, 2026.



Adopted Family

Management met with the church representatives on Tuesday, December 9th, to deliver the Morgandale donations to our adopted family. Our generous Homeowners and Staff donated over \$1,000 in gift cards and provided every gift on the family's wish list. The church was thrilled and stated this was the largest donation Morgandale has provided to a family in the over 20 years we have been partnering with the church. Bravo Morgandale!

FINANCIAL SENSE

January Buffer

January is around the corner.

If you are like most households January finances can sneak up on you. You might feel broke or defeated before you have transitioned to the new year.

January is a tight month. Gifts and credit cards statements may top the list of reasons.

You have traveled to relatives and friends, and those gatherings cost money, possibly an extra tank of gas or an airline ticket and hotel.

Your regular bills do not go away but you may have added to the grocery category as you made cookies to give away or entertained friends at home.

Memberships and renewals may come due that are annual in nature. Remember the gym membership you started last year when you decided this was the year to run a marathon?

Build yourself a January buffer, a small cushion to help with the extras. This can ease anxiety, eliminate overdrafts or the inability to pay off those credit cards. The January buffer is small, and it is intended to be used for this month only.

So how do you fund it? Here are some ideas:

- Points, accumulated points on your credit card can be turned into a cash credit that helps bring down the balance.
- Points at the grocery store can be used to pay for groceries or reduce the cost of gas.
- Cash gifts can be redirected to 'found money.' You do not get the extra sweater or sports equipment, but you do get peace of mind.
- Cashback rewards from travel.
- Returned items or refunds.

Instead of letting this money gravitate to a general place, redirecting it specifically to a January Buffer gives it a special job.

Other things to help with the January shock:

- Make a point to go out to one less dinner.
- Skip the impulse purchases (stop and count to ten).
- Skip the fancy wrapping paper, use good paper bags and decorate them with stamps, drawings, and fancy bows.
- Can you prepay one January bill? Having no cable or phone bill will help you stay on course.
- Be festive but reasonable in your decorations. I often see people who spend lots of money on front porch decorations throughout the year that get tossed after the holiday. How could putting aside the thirty dollars you would spend on the miniature Christmas tree for the porch help in January?

Trimming small amounts, ten to twenty dollars at a time, is the way to get to a good January buffer. Thinking small lends itself to a calmer start to your new year. If you cannot quite get to where you want to be this January, think ahead to 2026. Not putting a big Shamrock out for March? Take that twenty dollars and dump it in the January Buffer.

Till next time, live generously and in gratitude,

Sandi Greene, CLU, Financial Coach

Best Home Committee 2025 Winter Holiday Contest

The Best Homes Committee would like to announce our Winter/Holiday Contest. Our goal is to bring the Morgandale community together by highlighting the beauty of our neighborhood.

The committee members will look at the front gardens, doors of townhouses, single homes, and first floor flats. For second floor flats, balcony areas will be judged.

We will look about the neighborhood from **December 15th – 19th** to find the best-looking Winter/Holiday decorations (within the community guidelines) and select one home to recognize for its outstanding appearance. A certificate and \$100.00 gift card will be presented, and the resident/residence will be recognized in the monthly newsletter.



BLOOD DONATIONS

ARE
Essential



American
Red Cross

Blood Drive

Morgandale Condominium
Clubhouse

1015 Forty Foot Road – Lansdale, PA 19446

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: **Morgandale** to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.

If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.

Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



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\$15 Amazon Gift Card by email! rcblood.org/gifts.**



Scan to schedule appointment

Schedule a blood donation appointment today:

Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767



A Joyful Evening at Morgandale's 2025 Holiday Party

Morgandale's adult residents gathered in high spirits on Sunday afternoon, December 7th, for our annual Holiday Party held at the beautifully appointed Edwardian Clubhouse. The moment guests stepped inside, they were greeted by a warm glow of holiday lights and décor lovingly arranged by our In-House Staff and Management Office. Their efforts transformed the clubhouse into a cheerful, festive retreat perfect for celebrating the season.

The buffet, expertly prepared by Our Towne Catering, was a standout feature of the evening, offering a delicious array of dishes. Adding to the feast were the many generous donations of appetizers, sides, and desserts contributed by our wonderful residents and committee members.

Of course, no celebration is complete without refreshments, and Michelle, our beloved bartender for three years running, kept spirits high as she poured an assortment of drinks. This year's featured specialty cocktail, a Holiday Pomegranate Punch, was a seasonal favorite and added a fun twist to the festivities.

As guests mingled, they enjoyed a charming musical touch—classic holiday tunes played the old-school way on a vintage record player, spinning nostalgic sounds that brought many smiles and fond memories.

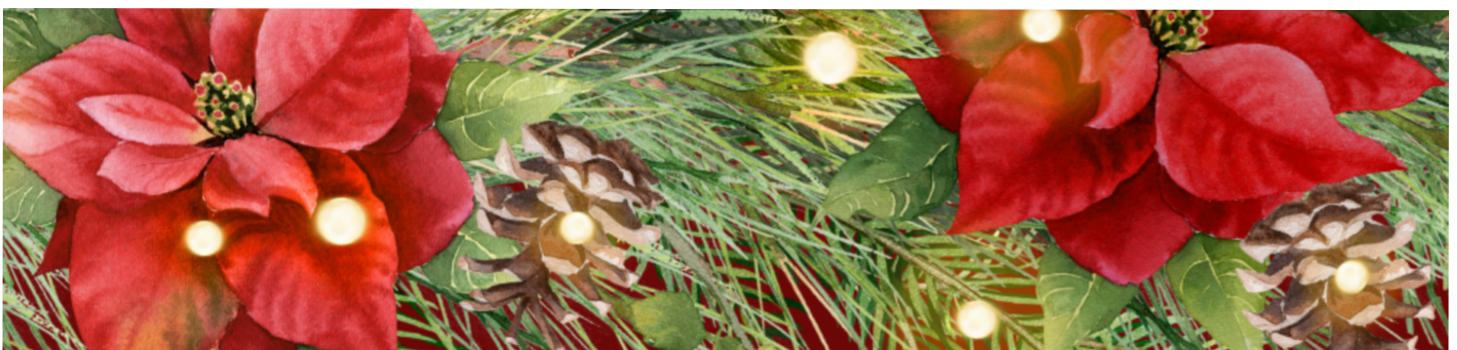
A highlight of the evening was recognizing two outstanding individuals – Tim Cooney and Diane McLaurin Washington -- whose exceptional volunteer commitment has made a meaningful difference in our community. Their dedication embodies the spirit of Morgandale, and we were proud to shine a spotlight on their efforts.

The attendees also enjoyed door prizes and the chance to take home one of the many cheerful poinsettia plants—awarded to lucky guests who happened to sit in the right chairs!

This celebration would not have been possible without the hard work and creativity of the Management Office, our In-House Maintenance Crew, Council, and the Holiday Party Committee, who put in extra time and heart into “Decking the Halls” and ensuring the clubhouse looked its holiday best.

Thank you to everyone who attended, contributed, and helped create such a memorable afternoon.

Wishing all our residents a safe, joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy New Year!



Did You Know? Handy Information

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- Hanukkah Begins – Sunday, December 14
- Winter Holiday Contest – December 15-19, 2025
- Red Cross Blood Drive – Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025
- First Day of Winter – Sunday, December 21, 2025
- Christmas Eve – Wednesday, December 24, 2025
- Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25, 2025
- Kwanzaa Begins – Friday, December 26, 2025
- Boxing Day – Friday, December 26, 2025
- New Year's Eve – Wednesday, December 31, 2025
- New Year's Day – Thursday, January 1, 2026

Management Contact Information:

- Office Hours are Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Fax: 215-368-6375
- www.morgandalecondo.com
- Carol A. Richard, CMCA, AMS, PCAM
Branch Vice President
215-368-6350
- Marilyn Tarves, CMCA
Assistant Community Manager
215-368-6350
Marilyn.Tarves@associamidanatlantic.com

The Lost and Found is in the Management Office. Stop by, call 215-368-6350, or email Marilyn (see above for email address). Towamencin Township information can be found on-line at www.towamencin.org.

For problems with mail delivery, contact the Lansdale Post Office directly at 215-853-3138.



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