

DECEMBER

2023



BUCHERT
RIDGE COMMUNITY

RIDGE REPORTER

*From the Entire Staff at
Buchert Ridge Community*



Have a Wonderful Holiday Season!



Holiday Closings & Trash Schedule

A reminder that the Offices will be closed for:

- Christmas – Monday, December 25
- New Years – Monday, January 1

Christmas Week Schedule:

- Trash AND Recyclables will only be collected **once** for that week on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27.**

New Year's Week Schedule:

- **Trash** only will be collected on **Tuesday, January 2.**
- Trash AND Recyclables will be collected as normal on Thursday, January 5.

If you must dispose of trash before the scheduled pick-up, you may use the dumpster near the McMenamin Rec Center.

Seasonal Maintenance Items

Salt Bags - If you have a salt bag, please keep your salt bag scoop in the salt bag for collection at the end of the season. If you run out of salt in your bin, you may refill it from the bins at the mailboxes.

Mechanical Rooms - Please be sure that your mechanical room door is always closed tightly to prevent any pipes from freezing during the winter months.

NOTE: The Mechanical room is not to be used for storage. Mechanical rooms are to be free of combustible materials. Our staff/contractors always need full access to the heater and water heater. If you have combustibles in your mechanical room and need assistance in their removal, please call the Office.

Lawn/Garden Décor - Please remember to remove all outside flowerpots, chairs, solar lights, flag holders, etc. from edges of sidewalks and driveways to prevent damage during snow removal.

Windows - Maintenance calls have been received regarding residents feeling drafts in their homes. Check your windows to make sure they're latched securely.

Outdoor Holiday Lights - The decorated trees and shrubs around the community are on a timer and will turn on and off automatically.

Outdoor Seating Areas

Chairs and benches (including at mailbox areas) will be removed for the winter season. Removal of these items is necessary to avoid damage during the winter.

SNOW? Yes! It's That Time of Year Again

The basics of the Snow/Ice policy are as follows:

- **If snow is predicted and you MUST get out on that day, please call the office by 3 PM at least one business day BEFORE the snow arrives to let us know the time you need to leave. The earlier the office knows, the easier it is to coordinate with the snow removal staff.**
- If you have a true emergency, call the On-Call number at 610-326-4043.
- Do not leave a message at the office after hours or on weekends.
- You must sign a waiver in the Office giving us permission to move and clean your car.
- A set of your car keys will be locked in the office for the snow staff to move your car for plowing.
- It is NOT mandatory to participate with this snow policy.
- If you do not participate, please be aware that your car will NOT be moved or cleaned off, and YOU will be responsible for moving your car temporarily to a designated parking area.
- If you do not move your car, you will be responsible for clearing the snow around your car.
- The snow removal staff will not scrape ice from residents' vehicles.
- If your car has already been moved to the designated snow parking area and you need to use it, please let the office know and your car will be put back in your assigned parking spot.
- If trash/recycle day falls on a snow event day, please know that trash/recycle pick-up may be delayed or even canceled.

Snow removal is typically completed within 24 hours once the snow event has stopped. If possible, we will allow nature to work in our favor to melt the majority of the elements, saving time and resources.

Yard Clippings – Monday Pickups

We will be collecting yard clippings on Mondays during the trash pickup. Please put the clippings out with your regular trash. Do not place the clippings in bags. While your trash may have been picked up and the clippings left behind, we will be through again just to collect the yard clippings. For special cases, call the office to be put on the schedule to have them removed.

Dishwasher Detergent

It has been recommended that dishwasher users should not use liquid or powdered soaps in their dishwashers as they do not dissolve properly. Dishwasher detergent packets should be used instead. It is also recommended running a cup of vinegar every six months to clean out any buildup of detergents or minerals. The cup of vinegar should be placed on your top dish rack. These simple steps will ensure that your dishwasher will work at its peak performance for many years.



Carbon Monoxide Detectors

All homes are equipped with a carbon monoxide detector. It is important to know that the device will beep ONCE if the electric goes out. There are different types of devices. One device will signal a detection of carbon monoxide by beeping 4 times, then a pause followed by 4 additional beeps. It will repeat this 4 beep signal to alert occupants of the detection. The other device will beep in addition to verbally alerting you of carbon monoxide detection. If this 4 beep alert/verbal alert occurs in your home, please leave your home immediately. Have a neighbor call the office or maintenance on-call person right away.

Recycle Reminders

Plastic bags are not accepted as part of recycling. If you want to use a bag for your recycling, paper bags are acceptable. If you are disposing of boxes, please break them down to the best of your ability. Please see your Resident Handbook or stop by the office for a complete list of approved items.

Home Safety

The holidays are a popular time to light candles. Be especially mindful to never leave a candle lit when leaving your home for any duration of time. Please use this same consideration when cooking on your stove or in your oven. When leaving a home under these conditions for even a very short time, you run the risk of becoming distracted or maybe even locked out of your home. Blow out all candles and turn off all cooking appliances before leaving your home for any reason. Keep in mind that soot from candles can blacken the walls and ceilings.

McMenamin Rec Center Bulletin Boards

Have you seen the bulletin boards in the McMenamin Rec Center? The bulletin board in the main area is for marketing events and postings from the Sales Team and Office.

If you have something you would like to let other residents know about or have items to sell or give away, you may post that information on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please remember to remove your announcement when the appropriate time has passed.

There are also bulletin boards in the salon area and near the computer in the SRC Community Center.

Shared Spaces

As sales continue to be busy, you have likely noticed many new visitors touring the community. We receive excellent feedback on a regular basis from visitors to the community about the beauty of the campus and the friendliness of the residents.

Please remember to keep all common areas free of personal items including items for decoration or items to give away. The staff decorates common areas for the holidays and seasons. Residents are free to decorate their personal spaces and may post items for sale/free on the Resident Bulletin Boards. Thank you for helping to make SRC/BRC such a special, welcoming place!

BEWARE! Don't be fooled by Scammers!

There have been times when solicitors come through the community presenting themselves as PECO employees. These people are not from PECO but from an alternate energy company. They take many residents by surprise and coerce them into showing them their PECO bills. Even though no paperwork was signed by residents, many find in the following days that their service had been switched from PECO to this alternate company.

Take action!

We are reminding all residents that SRC/BRC are **NO SOLICITING** communities. If someone knocks on your door trying to sell you something or representing a company or even a politician, please do not let them into your home. Call the police and report the person immediately. You may also call the office to let us know about the incident after you call the police.

If you unwittingly allow solicitors to view your PECO bill, it is possible you could be signed up without your knowledge for an alternate electric or gas provider. Residents are encouraged to call PECO to check on the status of their account and ask them to not allow their service to be changed without their express permission.

General Information:

- Anyone soliciting in the township must obtain a permit from the Township.
- Every member of the group must have a copy of the permit along with photo identification.
- No Soliciting communities are listed on the permit (this includes SRC & BRC).
- SRC/BRC has NO SOLICITING signs posted at all the entrances to the community

Daily Bread Community Food Pantry

During the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter holidays, the Daily Bread Community Food Pantry collects special holiday meals for program participants. Inside each holiday “basket” is the fixings for a complete meal, including a main dish, side dishes, and dessert.

In addition to the holiday baskets, the food pantry offers donated toys and the opportunity for pantry participants to “shop” for their loved ones. Dark colored trash bags are provided so that children visiting the food pantry with their parents do not see the gifts being selected for them. Food pantry volunteers care for participants’ children during this time.

Small gifts are available for adults, as well. Each year, the gifts are different based on what is donated. Most often, there has often been a display of warm hats, gloves, and scarves. Sometimes there are new shoes or winter coats donated by a local store.

Please consider donating during this Holiday season. Donations can be made by calling Bill or Carrol Reckard who will collect your donation and deliver it to the Daily Bread Food Pantry. Buchert Ridge has always been very generous and greatly appreciated by the Food Pantry.

Leanne’s Lifechanging Fairies

LEANNE’S LIFECHANGING FAIRIES is an organization helping homeless and people in need. Some of the services include:

- Food distribution
- Help getting employment
- Clothing and necessities
- Help getting an ID
- Help with housing and shelter
- Help with addictions or
- Just someone to talk to

If you have any interest in getting involved or donating, get in touch with Carrol. I have had some involvement with this organization over the last year and find the volunteers to be incredibly kind and generous.

There is a need for basic first aid kits. I will be putting these together after Thanksgiving. If you would like to help, please let me know. ~ **Carrol**

Adaptive Equipment

Here at BRC we have a collection of adaptive equipment that may save you time and money. A big thanks to the kind resident that lets us store everything in her garage. If you need anything contact Bill.

We are always looking for donations and just received an extra roomy wheelchair. The most popular items used are shower chairs, wheelchairs, rollator walkers, items to raise a toilet, portable toilets, bed rails and tripod canes. Many items are not covered by insurance.

You may use the items on a temporary basis or may need them long term.



Happy Birthday!

- 4 - Rick
- 5 - Phyllis
- 31 - Jim



Happy Anniversary!

16 - Doug & Judy



Fun Facts

- One of 7 months with the length of 31 days.
- Starts on the same day of the week as September & ends on the same day as April.
- The shortest daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere and the longest daylight hours of the year in the Southern Hemisphere.
- *December 4 – International Free Hugs Day.* Hugs are meant to be random act of kindness, a selfless act performed just to make others feel better.

wonderlist.com



BRC Resident Christmas Luncheon

Let's get together to eat and celebrate the season!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 at 2 PM

Copperfield Inn at Lakeside

Food and drink at your own expense

Order from the Regular Menu

**After the luncheon (approximately 4 PM),
we will return to the McMenammin Rec Center
for dessert, coffee and tea.**

Everyone in the community is invited!

Happy Holidays!

Sandwich Night

Wednesday, December 20

Please note the sandwich night for December has changed to Wednesday, December 20.

Exercise

Please note exercise sessions on Monday, Wednesday, Friday are on a temporary hiatus.

Peace Meditation with Reiki, Singing Bowls and Crystals

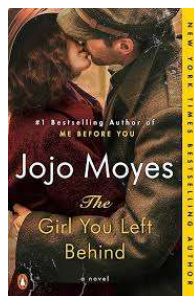
Due to the holiday, we will not have the peace meditation time or the community lunch in December. See you in January!

BRC Pinochle?

Dianna Gattone is organizing a weekly pinochle game for BRC residents. If interested, contact her directly for details or to sign up.

Book Club

Monday, December 4 at 2 PM



December 4

- December 4 “The Girl You Left Behind” by Jojo Moyes
- January “You Don’t Own Me” by Mary Higgins Clark
- February “The Boys from Biloxi” by John Grisham

Contact Jeanette for more information.

“Lies They Teach in School” – Jann Huggens

Tuesday, December 5 at 10 AM

Dr. Jann Huggens assumes the alternate personality of Miss Crabbyboots, an old one room schoolhouse teacher, when she gives her presentation entitled “Lies They Teach in School.” Not only will you learn some interesting information, but you will also have recess and an interactive oral quiz during “class.” At the end of the presentation, you will leave with a report card and some fun to do “homework.” Come out and enjoy this fun-filled, presentation!! **Open to the Public. RSVP by Monday, December 4.** Meets in the SRC Dining Room.

***Brown Bag ART History:
“I’ve Read the Nudes Today, Oh Boy!”***

Titian, Manet and Picasso

Wednesday, December 6 at 12 Noon

Led by Pottstown Art Historian Martin Bradfield. This 4th lecture talks about the symbolism and the significance and the attitude of the “Nude” throughout Art History. The featured artists are, Titian, Manet and Picasso. This fascinating lecture reveals how the nude has gone from an allegorical symbol (Titian), to a realistic scandal (Manet), to eventually amoral problems of geometry and torsion (Picasso).

Bring your lunch and beverage. RSVP by Tuesday, December 5. Open to the public. Meets in the SRC Dining Room.



SRC Resident Christmas Luncheon

Friday, December 8 at 11:30 AM

- For those of you that have signed up, the Luncheon will be on Friday, December 8 at 11:30 AM at Berean Bible Church.
- The doors will open at 10 AM – Enter through the front door.
- Sign in begins at 10:30 AM
- Meal will begin promptly at 11:30 AM.
- Remember to bring your ticket to be eligible to win a door prize.
- Helpers will be available if you are on a cane, walker or in a wheelchair and you require assistance through the buffet line.
- If you are **sick** that day, call the SRC office to have your meal boxed and delivered to you at home.
- **Please remember to wear your nametags.**



Lunch Bunch

***Cancelled for December due to
Resident Christmas Luncheon being on
the same day***

Light Refreshments

Tuesday, December 12 at 9:15 AM

Tuesday, December 12 at 9:15 AM, enjoy light refreshments with your neighbors in the McMenamain Rec Center. Light refreshments is now **only being held the 2nd Tuesday of each month** at 9:15 AM with the resident meeting to follow at 9:30 AM.

Resident Meeting

Tuesday, December 12 at 9:30 AM

The Resident meetings are typically held the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the McMenamain Rec Center.

All About Birds

Tuesday, December 12 at 10 AM or 1 PM

Presented by Rebekah Sheeler, Environmental Education Specialist, Nolde Forest State Park, enjoy a “Hands-On” program and learn about your feathered neighbors and all of their amazing adaptations. RSVP for one of the timeslots. **Open to the Public. RSVP by Wednesday, December 6.** Meets in the SRC Dining Room.

BINGO! With Home Instead

Friday, December 15 at 1 PM

Susan and Keith from Home Instead are back with everyone’s favorite game! We have extra bingo cards, so we can play several cards at once! Play a few games and try your luck while meeting new friends! **RSVP by Thursday, December 14.** Meets in the SRC Dining Room.



Christmas Cookie Exchange

Monday, December 18 at 4 PM

Attention all bakers! Monday December 18 at 4 PM, bring three dozen (more or less) of your favorite cookies to exchange with other BRC bakers. Bring your own serving plate if you need one. Be sure to bring your own container for your take home goodies. Please call Natalie if you have questions and/or plan to participate, but we're not picky! Any kind of cookie is welcome! Even if you're not baking, please feel free to join us for a cup of coffee and some holiday cheer!



Pottsgrove Middle School (English Language Arts)

Wednesday, December 27 at 1 PM

Come join in on the holiday fun at a wintery themed social afternoon filled with a bucket load of fun events!! These events would include a group trivia game, exciting stations to do various socializing activities, and even a surprise game at the end. This event will be held on Wednesday, December 27 at 1 PM in the SRC Dining Room. This event is brought to you by Kyra, Maddy, and Lexi from the Pottsgrove Middle School. Don't be shy! Come on out to join the super snowy extravaganza with us!

All are invited to help these three students from Pottsgrove Middle School ELA (English Language Arts) achieve their project goal.

Please RSVP to the office by Friday, December 22.

Brown Bag ART History: "The Casual Tease of Death"

Wednesday, January 3 at 12 Noon

Led by Pottstown Art Historian Martin Bradfield. This 5th lecture is one of the most popular offerings. It features many works by the French Revolution era painter, David- with a deep dive into The Death of Socrates and , "The Execution of Emperor Maximillian" by Manet. The lecture also features a "mystery" piece specially commissioned by Martin to tie it all together. The basic themes explored are various portrayals about both "giving" and "receiving" death. The lecture also does a deep dive into the French Revolution, and the intellectual and Artistic climate from that time and references works by Fragonard and subjects like Marie Antoinette's shoes, the guillotine, the frivolity of the Rococo, and the stern impositions of revolutionary France. These themes have echoed throughout history to the current day. **Bring your lunch and beverage. Open to the Public. RSVP by Tuesday, January 2.** Meets in the SRC Dining Room.

Supermarket BINGO! with Amity Place

Wednesday, January 10 at 10:30 AM

Beginning Wednesday, January 10, Donna Uncapher from Amity Place will bring Supermarket BINGO to you every 2nd Wednesday of the month! We have extra bingo cards, so we can play several cards at once! Play a few games and try your luck while meeting new friends! **RSVP by Tuesday, January 9.** Meets in the SRC Dining Room.



American Red Cross Blood Drive *Monday, January 15 from 10 AM to 3 PM*

Register online at www.RedCrossBlood.com.

Food for Thought

- If a poison “use-by” date expires, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
- Which letter is silent in the word “Scent”
... the S or the C?
- Why is the letter W, in English, called a double U? Shouldn’t it be called double V?
- Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.
- The word “swims” upside-down is still “swims”.
- 100 years ago, everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.





Exercising
On Winter Break

Hoagie/Sandwich Night

1st Wednesday at 5 PM

Hoagies are pre-ordered and delivered.
(Jeannette)

Light Refreshments

2nd Tuesday at 9:15 AM
(Natalie)

Mexican Train Dominoes

Tuesdays at 2 PM
(Donna)



Fellowship Lunch

4th Tuesday at 12 Noon
(Natalie)

Circle of Support

1st & 3rd Thursdays at 11 AM



Men's Breakfast Club

3rd Wednesday at 8 AM
(Wayne)



Words on Wheels

Book Mobile

2nd & 4th Monday at 10 AM

Book Club

1st Monday at 2 PM
SRC Dining Room

Bible Study

2nd Monday at 2 PM
SRC Dining Room

Yoga – SRC Auditorium

Tuesdays – Chair Yoga – 3:30 PM
Wednesdays – Floor Yoga - 9:30 AM

Pickleball

On Winter Hiatus

Hooks and Needles

1st Tuesday at 2 PM
SRC Game Room



Vietnam Veterans

1st Tuesday at 7 PM
SRC Dining Room

American Legion

4th Thursday at 7 PM
SRC Dining Room



Pinochle

Thursdays at 2 PM – SRC Dining Room

LEGEND FOR AMOUNT OF WALKING

Little Walking



Plenty of Walking

- Sign up with the Office
- RSVP by deadline
- Limited seating
- At least 10 participants needed for SRC Bus trip
- **Payment is due at time of sign up and is by Check Only (Payable to SRC)**

Wednesday – December 13 – Pennypacker Mills



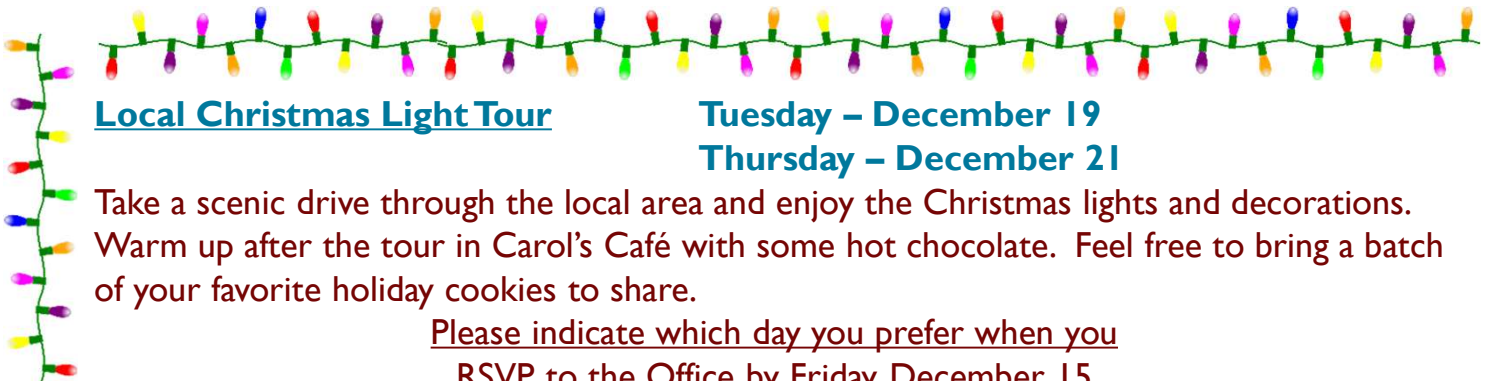
Join us to celebrate the best of vintage Christmas décor and history. Recalling a time when electricity was not available, visitors entered a family home resplendent with sparkling glass ornaments and gold and silver Dresden foil ornaments. Christmas cards, children’s toys, and a beautifully decorated Christmas tree are all part of the holiday season, as we experience the traditions of the Pennypacker family.

Lunch at your own expense at Collegeville Diner

RSVP By Friday, December 8

LEAVE BEREAN PARKING LOT: 10:15 AM

Cost: \$6.00



Local Christmas Light Tour

Tuesday – December 19

Thursday – December 21

Take a scenic drive through the local area and enjoy the Christmas lights and decorations. Warm up after the tour in Carol’s Café with some hot chocolate. Feel free to bring a batch of your favorite holiday cookies to share.

Please indicate which day you prefer when you

RSVP to the Office by Friday, December 15

LEAVE BEREAN PARKING LOT: 6:00 PM

Cost: \$5.00

Wednesday – January 3 – Pottsgrove Manor



Tour the manor with us and learn some local history. Built in 1752 for the Potts family, the home showcases the elegance of early Georgian architecture and tells the history of John and Ruth Potts, their 13 children, and the paid, indentured, and enslaved people who lived and labored there.

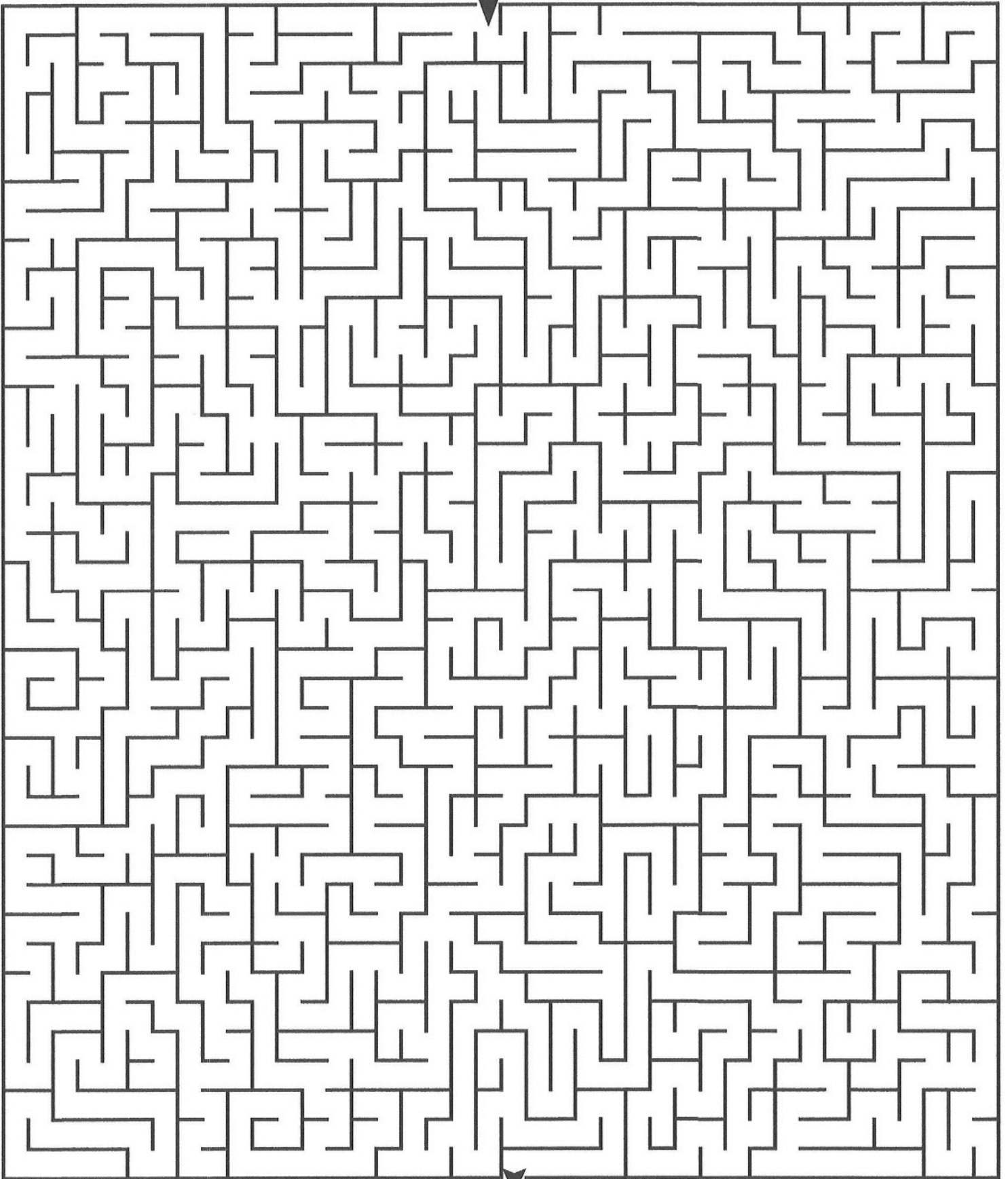
Lunch at your own expense at Sunflower Cafe

RSVP By Wednesday, December 27

LEAVE BEREAN PARKING LOT: 10:30 AM

Cost: \$6.00

START



FINISH

