Volume 19 Number 12

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

December 2025

#### **Greentrees Elves**

Attention Greentrees Elves - the Giving Tree is up!

Time once again to put on your Elf hat and ears and pretend to be a kid again: buy yourself a Christmas present! Please bring a new, unwrapped gift to put under the tree in the Rec Hall. If, like me, you can't decide which toy, or don't know if it is still a favorite, there is an option. This elf never played anything but Clue, and so I'm at a loss. She indicated that Legos© were always a go to, but they have gotten expensive! So, another option is the envelope in the office. Your \$20 and my \$20 gets a basic Lego set. The Florence Police know what the kids on their list want and use the money to buy the expensive things that you and I cannot. Officer Koons, from Florence Police Department, mentioned family games being desired, and last year nail/beauty kits for the older girls were a hit.

Greentrees is no slouch. Every year has seen a Nat Geo Microscope under the tree. Last year had 11 Lego sets. The money is also used for gift cards for the "young adults" on the list. I was so impressed with Officer Koons' knowledge of the kids in her



care. I will put a toy under the tree, but I will also put a check in the office (made out to the Florence Police Department) and trust them with the knowledge of who needs what the most.

Chief Elf Peg Patton 303-913-1833

#### Sewer Scope Project in Early December

So, mysteries are generally very popular—except for the mystery of the vanishing sewage! It turns out that the sewer processing plant near the bottom of Rhododendron Drive is getting gallons and gallons of storm drainage water from Greentrees, instead of sewage. What happens is that we have three "lift stations" that essentially get the sewage to flow down to the plant; the City reports that one station (Center Street & 3<sup>rd</sup>) is working roughly 11 times harder than the others. Obviously, ground water is somehow getting into the system, but why? For example, roots may have gotten in, creating a blockage.

To investigate this mystery, Greentrees has approved a "sewer scope project," whereby a company sends a little, remote-controlled truck with a waterproof video camera into the sewer line to determine what and where the problem is. Once we know that, we can determine what needs to be done. The inspection is not cheap, of course (\$23,000 to inspect roughly 7,000 linear feet of sewer line), but the alternative is sewage backing up into homes. An ounce of prevention is definitely worth a pound of cure. Luckily, repairs can be made from within the sewer line, so we do not have to worry about tearing up roads.

The reason for doing this in the winter is that the water table is high and will tell us if we have infiltration into the system. The areas affected are north of Center St on the east side, and cones will be out to direct traffic where they are working. The inspection will occur in the first two weeks of December (give or take a few days, weather permitting), and we will have at least a preliminary report by the end of December. Individual households do not need to do anything for this inspection.

#### President's Message

It is truly heartwarming to witness the strong sense of community here in Greentrees. Our residents consistently demonstrate what it means to look out for one another time and time again --people make an effort to call, knock on doors, reach out to the office, and, when necessary, request wellness checks. I am very proud of how caring our community is in this regard. This commitment to care is one of our community's greatest strengths. I have seen it firsthand when I lived in Alaska and neighbors kept a watchful eye on my property. Acts like these remind us that even in times when people feel divided, Greentrees stands as an example of what it looks like to come together as one.

Tracie Nash



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#### **Welcome New Residents**

Tracy Anderson—277

We would like to honor and remember our cherished GTV friends, neighbors, and family members who have passed away; however, we must first obtain permission from the deceased's family. If you are aware of a GTV resident who has recently passed, please let us know so we can reach out to their next of kin for permission and details. All approved announcements will be published in the next available newsletter.

#### **General Managers Report**

Maintenance is now fully staffed again, with our injured employee back on modified duty. They have begun putting up Christmas lights, which will be turned on Thanksgiving night.

After they are done with that project, maintenance will be making sure that all the manholes have easy access for the sewer scoping coming up in December and then will get back to trimming and keeping the park looking good.

Water works will begin after the first of the year. The saddle work should take about 3 months. After that we will move back to the east side and start the Isolation Valves. So, around March sometime expect some water shutoffs on the east side.

The office is still looking for an Office Assistant. We have some interviews scheduled. We are also getting everything ready for our end of the year statement mailing. Thank you to the Board members who helped in the office so I was able to still go on my vacation.

James Tennison

6

11

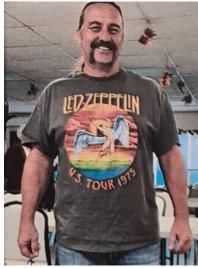
Please verify your directory information (name, phone number, and email address) is accurate. The Office requires up-to-date details to contact you.

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|--|-----|--|
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#### Resident Spotlight

Dean Johnson shares unit #698 with Linda, his wife of 24 years, his father Bill Johnson and two small dogs. Dean moved here from Southern California to assist his father (a past Greentrees Board member) with some health issues. He says Greentrees is quiet and friendly, a nice place to live, and he enjoys the hot sauna after a hard day's work.

In Southern California, Dean did all types of construction for many years. Then, midlife, he earned a degree in telecommunications management, eventually working for the Anaheim Convention Center. He is now self-employed using his talent in both areas for the benefit of Greentrees and the greater Florence area.



Dean's hobbies include motorcycles, BBQ and music, and he is a musician and singer in a local band. At times they may be heard practicing in the recreation hall. Dean says that "listeners" are welcome to watch.

Active in his church and the local Elks Lodge, you can see Dean working Elk barbeque events and at their Christmas Dinner.

Sally Daugherty

Reminder: Dumpsters are for yard debris only. Fines apply for disposing of trash or plastic bags. Branches must be under 3 inches in diameter and 3 feet in length.

#### **Travel Feature: The Columbia River Gorge**

I'll start with a nearby travel story. Last April, my husband Bill and I took a cruise on the Columbia River. Logistically, we opted for a Portland-to-Portland round trip itinerary and left our car at the starting hotel. The cruise began on the Washington side, near Washougal and we traveled east as far as The Dalles, then downriver for a lovely day cruising all the way to Kalama, Washington. Seeing the gorge from the river is a completely different perspective from driving the interstate – you can sit back and enjoy it!

The wildlife is plentiful – a variety of birds and sea lions follow the boats. Excursions are available to explore locales at the various stops, and we enjoyed Multnomah Falls, an e-bike ride along the converted old road above I-84, and a bus trip to Mt. St. Helens. Tours of wineries, the Hood River Fruit loop, and the Bonneville Dam were other options. We also discovered the Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum (WAAMM) in Hood River, an impressive and expansive display of vintage automobiles, airplanes, boats and other odd transportation methods.

Aboard the American Harmony, food was delicious and plentiful, and on-board talks and entertainment were tied to the areas visited. A cruise is a relaxing way to delve into the history of a particular region. In our case, we were able to learn more about nearby places that we often just zip by on the interstate.

Ellen Ewing

Recycling: The Activities Committee collects deposit bottles and cans, with all proceeds funding GTV events. Please place your donations in the blue barrel located in the Rec Hall. Thank you for supporting our community events!

Thank you from Activities Committee





#### **Greentrees Emergency Response Team (GERT)**

December is Kitchen Fire Safety Month. With all the holiday baking and cooking having a fire blanket or fire extinguisher in the kitchen is a great idea. For more on fire safety, go to the GERT section of GTV online.

GERT is always in need of medical supplies for our Search and Rescue Bags and also for use in our training and mock emergencies. Open supplies are fine (bandages, gauze, gloves, antiseptic sprays or ointments, etc.). If in doubt, please call before tossing out.

If you need medical equipment, please contact Kristel about our lending program. We have walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, porta potties next to bed, and toilet risers.

If you need equipment or have supplies to donate, contact Kristel Buechner 541-997-0909.

GERT is continuing with Florence Food Share Donations. The Food Barrel is in the Library next to the chess set.

As of November 22, our community has donated 489 lbs in Food and \$1,089 in cash and checks for the Florence Food Share through the help of GERT. We will continue to have the barrel up through the holidays. Please take cash or check donations into the office or contact Kristel to arrange pickup.

Florence Food Share is deeply grateful for the generous support of our community.

Kristel Buechner



#### **Therapeutic Touch Practitioners**

Greentrees Village offers a unique opportunity through its Therapeutic Touch Practitioners (TTP) group, which holds sessions on the third Wednesday of every month. These gatherings take place in the multi-purpose room from 5 PM to 6 PM and provide calming energy treatment, rather than a traditional massage. While the practitioners may ask for your permission to make gentle contact with your shoulders and arms, this is solely to facilitate relaxation during the session. Notably, there is no cost associated with attending.

Mary James and Pat Blue Heron are among the dedicated women who lead these sessions. Mary shared with me

that Therapeutic Touch is a globally recognized therapy, utilized by people seeking relief from various ailments. The TTP group has been a part of the Greentrees community for nearly a year and is eager to welcome more residents to experience their practice. If you are coping with any form of pain, consider joining them for a session on December 17.

I personally attended a session last month and found it incredibly beneficial. I experienced a profound sense of relaxation, and my pain did diminish some—I even nearly dozed off! I encourage you to visit the multi-purpose room on December 17 at 5 PM and give this therapeutic experience a try. The least you might gain from this session is a relaxing moment in your day. Keep an open mind and see for yourself the positive effects it can have!



#### **Greentrees Poetry Corner**

#### little tree

little tree little silent Christmas tree you are so little you are more like a flower

who found you in the green forest and were you very sorry to come away? i will comfort you because you smell so sweetly

i will kiss your cool bark and hug you safe and tight just as your mother would, only don't be afraid

look the spangles that sleep all the year in a dark box dreaming of being taken out and allowed to shine, the balls the chains red and gold the fluffy threads.

put up your little arms and i'll give them all to you to hold every finger shall have its ring and there won't be a single place dark or unhappy

then when you're guite dressed you'll stand in the window for everyone to see and how they'll stare! oh but vou'll be very proud

and my little sister and i will take hands and looking up at our beautiful tree we'll dance and sing "Noel Noel" by e e cummings

#### Holiday Haiku

everybody's welcome smiling faces waiting for wonderful food

bake all the cookies holiday calories don't count stretch pants a friend

Your Poem Could Be Here! Submit your poems, comments, suggestions to: gtv.villagevoice@gmail.com.

#### **Veterans Day Appreciation Luncheon**

Thank you to all who participated in our Veterans **Appreciation Day** Luncheon! 46 residents helped our veterans celebrate their service to keep our country safe.



A baked potato bar, salad bar, cake and pumpkin pies for dessert was appreciated by all who attended.

**Patty Harrison** 



New residents must check in with the Office within 7 days of moving in to register and receive the Welcome Packet.



#### Greentrees Village Assistance Fund

Are you in need of financial assistance to pay a utility bill or a home or appliance repair bill? You can call Siuslaw Outreach services at (541) 997-2816 for assistance.

For assistance with HOA fees, you can call Carley Scibetta at (503) 383-8850 for assistance.

This fund is in no way associated with the Greentrees HOA.



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#### **Events Happening In and Around Greentrees Village and Florence**

#### **Holiday Movie Night**

Do you love holiday movies? Come share the joy with friends and neighbors in our Recreation Hall on the Fridays leading up to Christmas! Diane Greer is hosting Holiday Movie Nights on December 5, 12, and 19 at 6 PM. We'd love to hear your favorite movie suggestions—email gtvwebmaster57@gmail.com or call/text Diane at 661-706-1669. Let's make these evenings festive, cozy, and full of holiday cheer together!

#### **Craft Fair**

Need some last-minute Christmas gifts, stocking stuffers, or gift exchange ideas? Come to the Greentrees Holiday Craft Fair on December 6, 9 AM-3 PM, and see the great variety of items for sale.

Custom made aprons, jewelry, knitted and crocheted items, wreaths, rocks, honey and walnuts, baked goods, and a huge variety of other gifts. Buy a soda and chips for \$2 and get a free hot dog!

A few tables are still available; stop by the office to reserve one. \$10 for residents; \$20 for nonresidents. Baked goods donations are much appreciated.

See you there soon!

#### Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!

#### **How Santa Comes To Florence**

Forget those reindeer, the chimney soot, that past midnight ride. Santa has a different plan for 2025.

On Saturday, December 6, Santa has some time on his busy schedule to visit Florence. So, plan ahead. First, Old Town Florence will have a party that afternoon, beginning at 3:30 PM with free balloons and then a walk/bike decorated parade.

The main event begins at 4 PM. Santa and his wife will motor down Bay St. escorted by a fire truck. Lots of honking, too.

Santa will rest while a hayride takes place, followed by some choir singing at 4:30 PM until 5 PM when the Christmas lights are lit, and the holiday season begins!

After the lighting, keep the holiday magic going and head to the Florence Events Center for C.R.O.W.'s Holly Jolly Follies: "Meant to Be" - a heartwarming holiday variety show featuring local talent, music, and laughter.

Sally Daugherty

#### 7th Holiday Card Making Workshop

Sunday, December 7, 2025 10 AM - 2 PM

Come and join us for our 2nd Annual Holiday Card Making Workshop in the Multi-Purpose Room of the recreation hall (the large room in the back).

I will be providing most materials to make 2 holiday cards.

Please bring scissors and glue/double sided tape to create your cards.

And of course you are welcome to bring your own card making supplies.

Bring a snack to share and your own drink.

Please email me if you will be attending so I can make sure we have enough materials for all at: josieplummer@gmail.com

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#### **Quilt Show & Sale**

The GTV Quilt Group will be holding the  $2^{nd}$  annual Quilt Show and Sale on Sunday, December 14, from 1-3 PM in the Rec Hall. The group has 100 quilts to display this year; some quilts will also be for sale. Most of the quilts will be going to the Florence Police Department as part of our donation to the Christmas Giving Tree. The fundraising quilt for the Giving Tree will also be awarded at this event.

There are some very special quilts this year. The group was given several quilt tops by a Florence resident to finish and donate. One is a top from the 1920s that is hand embroidered and appliqued! Several others are from the 1970s and 1980s that the group finished and are offering for sale.

The quilts on display, and for sale, range from crib/baby sized to lap quilts and larger. Most proceeds from sales will go to the Police Department as a cash donation to the Giving Tree, with a small part kept for the group's supplies for next year.

For a special gift or something warm to cuddle with on your couch, you will find something at the sale. Or just enjoy the beautiful and artful quilts.

We would like to thank our donors: Lisa Weidman, Shanti Chagnon, Daphne John, Colleen Starkey on behalf of Art Starkey, and Mardi Wetmore for their generous gifts of fabric and funds.

The quilt group consists of Diana Lindsley, Debbie Guttery, Patty Harrison, Nancy Cook, Tracy Cook, Toby Erlenmeyer and Barb Johnson.

Diana Lindsley



#### **Christmas Dinner**

Thursday, December 25, 2025 at 1 PM.

Free for all residents and guests. A donation jar will be available to help with food costs.

Christmas dinner this year will have a new twist at Greentrees Village. We will be serving ham and scalloped potatoes with salads, sides, and desserts provided by our residents. For those who can't eat pork, some turkey will also be available. There might even be some Pumpkin pie from Costco....

Dust off your favorite holiday recipes and plan on joining the fun with your friends and neighbors at the event!

**Patty Harrison** 

#### New Year's Eve Game Night

Join us for the last Game Night of the Year! New Year's Eve Celebration, Wednesday, December 31, 5 PM-10 PM, if we last that long!

Roast turkey for our snack buffet; bring your own treats to add to the mix. Bring your favorite drinks; alcoholic beverages allowed. A multitude of games are available to choose from: dominoes, board games, Mahjong, backgammon, bridge, and many more card games.

Help us ring out the old year and celebrate the new one!

**Patty Harrison** 

#### Celebrate New Year's Day at the Rec Hall

Kick off the year with friends and neighbors from 11 AM to 6 PM.

Enjoy games on the big screen, tabletop fun, shared snacks, and your favorite drinks (BYO).

Let's welcome 2026 together—with laughter, connection, and community cheer!



**York** - York is a young, energetic retriever who's always ready for his next big adventure. Whether it's hiking, running, or playing fetch, he's up for anything that gets his paws moving. Full of curiosity and excitement, York is looking for a partner who loves the outdoors as much as he does. He's playful, friendly, and eager to learn-just waiting for a new adventure to call his own.

**Cleo** - Meet Cleo! A graceful girl with striking white whiskers and natural eyeliner that keeps her looking fabulous. She was abandoned, but now she's safe at OCHS and ready for a true forever home. Cleo loves a quiet, low -energy space where she can be the one-and-only diva. Her perfect day? Curling up in a thick, cozy cat bed like the queen she is. She knows what she likes, but she'll repay you with sweet purrs and warm companionship.

Jaclyn Parker—OCHS



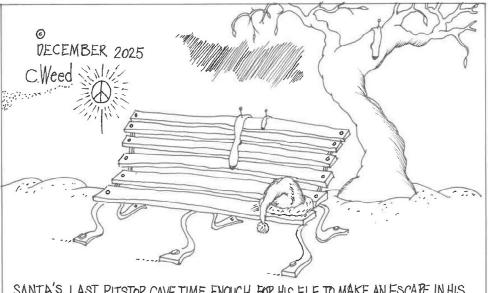


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by C.Weed





SANTA'S LAST PITSTOP GAVETIME ENOUGH FOR HIS ELF TO MAKE AN ESCAPE IN HIS SLEIGH WITH THE REINDEER, TO PICK UP EARLY BARGAINS AT AFTER CHRISTMAS SALES.



Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season and all the best for the New Year!

From the Communications Committee





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M E G W E S A W G R R E P E L I K Z A G CANDYCANE

H F S V E D O N N V I P R I O S U L D T CHEER

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ERYHMEIWPUCTVSWCNNVL

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Sudoku

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|   |   | 3 |        | 8 | 4 |   |   |   |
| 6 |   |   | 2      |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 2<br>4 |   |   |   | 2 |   |
|   | 3 |   |        |   | 9 | 6 |   | 5 |
| 1 |   |   | 8      |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 7 |   |        | 9 |   |   |   | 4 |
|   |   | 5 |        |   |   |   |   | 9 |





MISTELTOE

**COOKIES** 

**DINNER** 

**FESTIVE** 

**FROSTY** 

**GRICH** 

**HOLLY** 

**ICICLES** 

**ELVES** 

**CRANBERRIES** 

**GINGERBREAD** 

HOT CHOCOLATE

**MITTEN** 

NORTH POLE

NUTCRACKER

**ORNAMENTS** 

**PRESENTS** 

RADIO FLYER

REINDEER

SANTA CLAUS

**SCARF** 

SLEIGH RIDE

**SNOW** 

**STOCKING** 

TOYS

## AT THE MOVIES



#### By Jim Negri

**GENRE: Holiday Movies** 

A Christmas Story - 1983: Based on the humorous writings of author Jean Shepherd, this beloved holiday movie follows the wintry exploits of youngster Ralphie Parker (Peter Billingsley), who spends most of his time dodging a bully (Zack Ward) and dreaming of his ideal Christmas gift, a "Red Ryder air rifle." Frequently at odds with his cranky dad (Darren McGavin) but comforted by his doting mother (Melinda Dillon), Ralphie struggles to make it to Christmas Day with his glasses and his hopes intact.

A Hobo's Christmas - 1987: A hobo (Barnard Hughes) hops a freight train to Salt Lake City to be with his estranged son (Gerald McRaney) and grandchildren after realizing that he doesn't have many Christmases left.

**An Evergreen Christmas - 2014:** After her father's unexpected death, a singer (Charleene Closshey) becomes torn between pursuing her career and saving her family's Christmas-tree business in small-town Tennessee.

**Angels and Ornaments - 2014:** During the holidays, a mysterious co-worker (Sergio Di Zio) tries to play matchmaker for a musician (Jessalyn Gilsig) and her childhood friend (Graham Abbey).

**Bishop's Wife, The - 1947:** Dejected by his efforts to raise money to build a cathedral, Bishop Henry Brougham (David Niven) beseeches heaven for guidance, and is visited immediately by Dudley (Cary Grant), who claims to be an angel. Henry is skeptical, then annoyed when Dudley ingratiates himself into the household as his assistant -- and worse, wins the attentions of Henry's long-suffering and kindly wife (Loretta Young). When Dudley continues to intervene in Henry's struggles, the bishop decides to challenge heaven.

**Christmas Secret, The - 2014:** A struggling single mother (Bethany Joy Lenz) searches for a lost family heir-loom that she hopes will bring her love and good fortune in time for the holidays.

**Going My Way** - **1944:** Father Charles O'Malley (Bing Crosby) is an easy-going, golf-playing young priest whose entry into a tough neighborhood parish in midtown Manhattan is viewed with skepticism from all quarters, especially the aging Father Fitzgibbon (Barry Fitzgerald). While dealing with some unfinished business from his former life in the form of an old flame who now sings at the Metropolitan Opera (Rise Stevens), Father O'Malley inspires the youth of his parish by forming a boys' choir.

**Holiday, The - 2006:** Dumped and depressed, English rose Iris agrees to swap homes with similarly unlucky in love Californian Amanda for a much-needed break. Iris finds herself in a palatial Hollywood mansion while Amanda navigates the lanes of a picture-perfect English village. Soon enough, both lovelorn ladies bump into local lads perfect for a romantic pick-me-up.

**Love Actually - 2003:** Nine intertwined stories examine the complexities of the one emotion that connects us all: love. Among the characters explored are David (Hugh Grant), the handsome newly elected British prime minister who falls for a young junior staffer (Martine McCutcheon), Sarah (Laura Linney), a graphic designer whose devotion to her mentally ill brother complicates her love life, and Harry (Alan Rickman), a married man tempted by his attractive new secretary.

Mrs. Santa Claus - 1996: It's a week before Christmas and Mrs. Claus (Angela Lansbury) is feeling unappreciated when Santa Claus (Charles Durning) refuses to look over her new route for distributing presents. She goes for a test drive on the sleigh, but lands in New York City due to horrid weather, injuring her reindeer. While she is incognito as "Mrs. North," she befriends neighborhood inhabitants and helps them resolve some of their own issues, which run the gamut from worker abuse to unrequited love.

**Polar Express, The - 2004:** Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis ("Forrest Gump"; "Cast Away") reunite for "Polar Express," an inspiring adventure based on the beloved children's book by Chris Van Allsburg. When a doubting young boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole, he embarks on a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe.



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**OFFICE PHONE:** 541-590-3003

 $\textbf{EMAIL:}\ greentrees villagehoa@gmail.com$ 

**MAINTENANCE PHONE:** 541-997-1371

**MAINTENANCE CELL** 

(Evening and Weekends): 541-999-6231

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## The Village Voice is A Publication of Greentrees Village, Inc.

**Editor: GTV Communications Committee** 

Email: gtv.villagevoice@gmail.com

Contributing Members: Diane Greer, Tracie Nash, James Tennison, Jim Negri, Kristel Buechner, Sally Daugherty, Eleanor Sumpter, Joy Plummer, Colleen Starkey, Peg Patton, Mike Cox, Patty Harrison, C. Weed, Diana Lindsley, OCHS—Jaclyn Parker, Ellen Ewing, Laura Belala, Joel Vanadrighem, Jack Stephen, Will Von Dauster, Bonnie Costa, Judy Chandler, Frank Vigna, Susi Bowden, Bob and Jo Mallory

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#### G.T.V. MARKET UPDATE



| MLS       | STAT | LIST \$   | ADDRESS   | #BED | #BATH | SQ FT | LISTED    |
|-----------|------|-----------|-----------|------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 663270430 | ACT  | \$268,000 | #218 EAST | 2    | 1     | 960   | 11/9/2025 |
| 730692234 | ACT  | \$158,000 | #113 EAST | 2    | 1     | 924   | 10/4/2025 |
| 258696579 | ACT  | \$345,000 | #6 EAST   | 3    | 2     | 1512  | 10/3/2025 |
| 203192262 | ACT  | \$197,500 | #155 EAST | 1    | 1     | 576   | 10/2/2025 |
| 592575119 | ACT  | \$250,000 | #279 EAST | 2    | 1     | 924   | 9/29/2025 |
| 344579839 | ACT  | \$254,000 | #29 EAST  | 3    | 1     | 1308  | 9/22/2025 |
| 141658846 | ACT  | \$239,900 | #214 EAST | 2    | 1.5   | 841   | 9/19/2025 |
| 763366323 | ACT  | \$339,000 | #521 WEST | 2    | 2     | 1440  | 9/9/2025  |
| 711905203 | ACT  | \$225,000 | #41 EAST  | 2    | 2     | 938   | 8/28/2025 |
| 520926056 | ACT  | \$289,000 | #207 EAST | 3    | 2     | 1816  | 7/30/2025 |
| 463471603 | ACT  | \$398,000 | #673 WEST | 2    | 2     | 1836  | 7/11/2025 |
| 229601328 | ACT  | \$219,000 | #261 EAST | 2    | 1     | 924   | 7/10/2025 |
| 141991553 | ACT  | \$280,000 | #572 WEST | 2    | 2     | 1248  | 7/8/2025  |
| 465391432 | ACT  | \$245,000 | #518 WEST | 2    | 2     | 1248  | 6/16/2025 |
| 413071370 | ACT  | \$245,000 | #429 EAST | 3    | 2     | 1728  | 6/6/2025  |
| 689410988 | ACT  | \$365,000 | #676 WEST | 3    | 2     | 1512  | 6/2/2025  |
| 253283281 | ACT  | \$325,000 | #695 WEST | _ 2  | 2     | 1539  | 3/25/2025 |
| 24399954  | ACT  | \$329,997 | #694 WEST | 3    | 2     | 1539  | 8/13/2024 |
|           |      |           |           |      |       |       |           |
| 301553513 | PEN  | \$260,000 | #103 EAST | 2    | 2     | 938   | 9/30/2025 |
|           |      |           |           |      |       |       |           |

#112 EAST

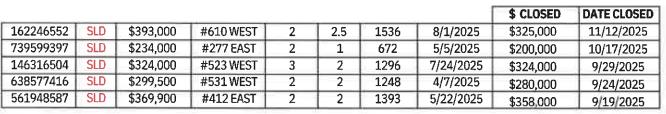
| KATRINA RUPP<br>REAL ESTATE BROKER |
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### REAL ESTATE SERVICES, INC.

- Katrina@WCRESI.com
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6/21/2025



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