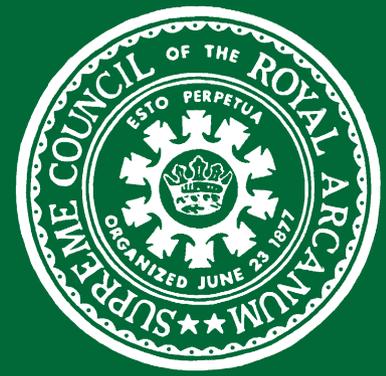
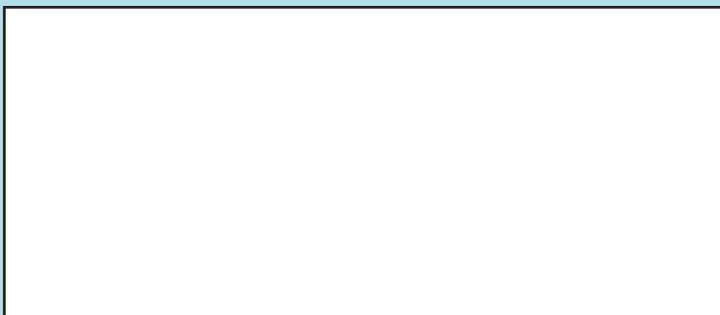


ROYAL ARCANUM
AN INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY PROVIDING FAMILY PROTECTION



Bulletin

Winter Edition



Official Publication of the
**Supreme Council of the
Royal Arcanum**
.....
Fraternal Services to Our
Members Since 1877

A Message from the Supreme Regent Un Message Du Régente Suprême

Nicole M. Covelli - Supreme Regent

Hello Members,

Now that 2025 is behind us, I am looking forward to new adventures in 2026. I've had a wonderful time visiting the jurisdictions of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Illinois, and Pennsylvania. During my visits I have seen many old friends and have made many new ones.

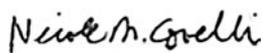
As we begin the new year with friends and family, let us not forget the needs of those outside our Royal Arcanum family. This time of year, many people are struggling to put food on their table and provide other needs for their families. I encourage everyone to please find a way to bring joy to a family in need. There are many ways to help others, whether it be a donation to a food pantry, working at a soup kitchen or collecting items (such as books) for children.

Many people are facing health challenges. Please reach out to anyone you know who is struggling and maybe drive them to an appointment or pick up groceries. The little things we do for others can make such a difference in a person's life. During this time please don't forget "YOU". It is very important to take care of yourself as well. Everyone needs time to relax.

I look forward to visiting more jurisdictions soon to present my program - "**REVIVE our Royal Arcanum Family**". Please reach out to me so we can schedule a visit.

I hope to see everyone in July at the 2026 Supreme Council Session in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Warm Regards in V. M. C,



Nicole M. Covelli
Supreme Regent



Bonjour à tous les membres,

Maintenant que l'année 2025 est derrière nous, j'attends avec impatience de nouvelles aventures en 2026. J'ai passé d'excellents moments lors de mes visites dans les juridictions de Rhode Island, du Massachusetts, de l'Illinois, et de la Pennsylvanie. J'y ai retrouvé de nombreux amis et j'en ai rencontré de nouveaux.

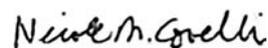
Alors que nous commençons cette nouvelle année entourés de nos amis et de notre famille, n'oublions pas les besoins de ceux qui ne font pas partie de notre famille du Royal Arcanum. En cette période de l'année, beaucoup de personnes ont du mal à subvenir aux besoins essentiels de leur famille. Je vous encourage tous à trouver un moyen d'apporter de la joie à une famille dans le besoin. Il existe de nombreuses façons d'aider les autres, que ce soit par un don à une banque alimentaire, en travaillant dans une soupe populaire ou en collectant des articles (comme des livres) pour les enfants.

De nombreuses personnes sont confrontées à des problèmes de santé. N'hésitez pas à contacter les personnes de votre entourage qui traversent des difficultés et, pourquoi pas, les accompagner à un rendez-vous médical ou faire leurs courses. Les petits gestes que nous faisons pour les autres peuvent faire une grande différence dans leur vie. En cette période, n'oubliez pas de prendre soin de vous. Il est très important de s'accorder du temps pour se détendre.

J'ai hâte de visiter d'autres juridictions prochainement pour présenter mon programme « **REVIVE notre famille du Royal Arcanum** ». N'hésitez pas à me contacter afin que nous puissions planifier une visite.

J'espère vous retrouver tous en juillet lors de la session du Conseil suprême 2026 à Lancaster, en Pennsylvanie.

Cordialement,



Nicole M. Covelli
Régente suprême

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Volume 126 Number 1
 January, February, March 2026



Pawtucket pumpkins
 Page 8



MANNA fundraiser in Pennsylvania
 Page 11



Christmas in New York
 Page 13



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR
 PAGE 4

GIVING AT CHRISTMAS
 PAGE 7

THE MAGIC YARN PROJECT
 PAGE 9

GRAND COUNCIL OF FLORIDA
 PAGE 10

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS
 PAGE 14

VERSATILITY COUNCIL
 PAGE 16

BAKER'S BOX
 PAGE 22

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS
 PAGE 25

JUNIOR GAMES
 PAGES 26 - 29

THE SUPREME SECRETARY
 PAGE 31



Articles and photos must be in the editorial office by **March 23, 2026**. Mail to the Royal Arcanum Bulletin, Home Office, 61 Batterymarch Street, Boston, MA 02110-3208.

Next Publication Date: **May 4, 2026**

How Families Can Save on Groceries

Grocery costs seem to continue to go higher every year. Stretching the food budget becomes critical to many families. But with a bit of planning and smart shopping, it's absolutely possible to keep grocery expenses under control while still feeding your family well. Here's how:

1. Plan Your Meals and Shop with a List

Before you set foot in the grocery store, decide what meals your family will eat for the week and write a shopping list based on those meals. Sticking to a list helps reduce impulse buys and prevents food waste — both of which save money.

2. Buy Seasonal and Budget-Friendly Winter Staples

Certain foods are more affordable and last longer through the winter. Stock up on pantry-friendly staples like rice, pasta, beans, oats, potatoes, and canned or frozen vegetables. These ingredients make hearty meals like soups, stews, and casseroles — perfect for cold nights.

3. Choose Frozen or Canned Produce

Fresh fruits and vegetables can be expensive in winter. Frozen and canned alternatives are often cheaper, just as nutritious, and last much longer. Using them can significantly reduce waste and cost.

4. Cook in Batches and Use Leftovers

Winter is ideal for big pots of soup, chili, or casseroles. Cooking larger batches saves money and gives you ready-to-heat meals throughout the week.

Freeze leftovers in portioned containers for lunches or easy dinners.

5. Buy in Bulk When It Makes Sense

Buying non-perishable foods like grains, dried beans, and canned goods in bulk often lowers the per-unit price. Just be sure you'll use what you buy before it expires.

6. Take Advantage of Sales, Loyalty Programs, and Coupons

Sign up for store loyalty cards, check weekly ads for deals, and collect digital or printable coupons. These strategies can lead to significant savings — especially around holidays when sales are common.

7. Switch to Store Brands

Store-brand products are typically priced lower than name brands but offer similar quality. Switching to these alternatives for staples like pasta, canned goods, or dairy products can add up to big savings over time.

8. Monitor and Reduce Food Waste

Food waste is one of the biggest hidden grocery costs. Keep your fridge organized, use up older food first, and send leftovers for lunches or repurpose them into new meals to stretch your dollar further.



ROYAL ARCANUM SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

**ROYAL ARCANUM AWARDED \$60,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS
AND GRANTS IN 2025 - APPLY TODAY!!**

Our competitive
scholarships: based on
merit and membership

* (Two) \$10,000 scholarships
awarded at \$2,500 per year
for four years

* (Two) \$8,000 scholarships
awarded at \$2,000 per year
for four years

* (Two) \$5,000 scholarships
awarded at \$1,250 per year
for four years

* (Ten) \$2,000 scholarships
awarded at \$500 per year for
four years

Our competitive
college grants: based
on membership

* (Six) Continuing Education
Grants • \$1,200 each

Our non-competitive
college grants: based
on membership

* (Five) Grants • \$600 each
for high school seniors



All Junior Members age 18 and below taking a SAT, ACT, PSAT, or LSAT
training program are eligible for up to a \$100 reimbursement.

For more information, please contact the Home Office or visit our website, www.royalarcanum.com

DETROIT DOINGS

The holidays are a time for giving. For the 2025 giving season and on behalf of Michigan Grand Council and Detroit Council 21A, I participated in two giving opportunities.

First was the St. Vincent De Paul in Prudenville, MI where they have an Angel Tree Donation for Needy Families. This year I selected two families for whom I could buy needed items as they requested on their Angel. The lower photo shows the presentation of items requested to Mary Stauffer, Manager of St. Vincent De Paul. Items will be delivered to families before Christmas.

The second donation was to Mid Michigan Community Closet. Every year, my church, St. James hosts an annual dinner and selects an organization for church members to assist with donating wish list items. The top photo is my donation of a container filled with shampoo, bodywash, deodorant, toothpaste and other personal hygiene items.

It is always a great reward and joy to know that during the season you have helped a family have a happier holiday season!

Happy New Year!
Jan Brazas



HOME WINTERIZING TIPS

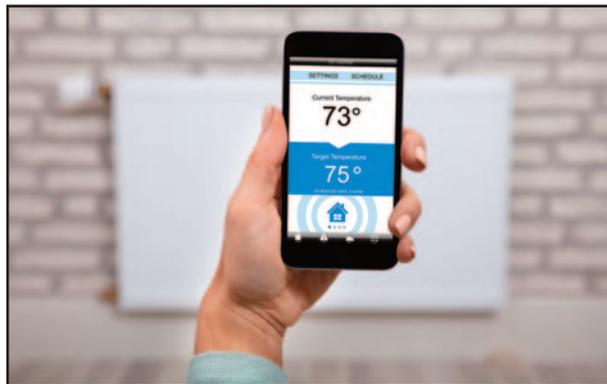
As temperatures drop, winterizing your home can improve comfort, lower energy bills, and prevent costly damage. A few proactive steps can make a big difference throughout the cold season.

Start by **sealing air leaks**.

Check around windows, doors, and attic hatches for drafts. Use weatherstripping or caulk to seal gaps—this is one of the most cost-effective ways to keep warm air inside. Installing door sweeps can also block cold air from sneaking in under exterior doors.

Next, **insulate where it counts**. Proper insulation in the attic, walls, and basement helps maintain consistent indoor temperatures. Even insulating exposed pipes can prevent freezing and bursting during extreme cold.

Service your heating system before winter is in full swing. Replace furnace filters regularly and consider a



professional inspection to ensure efficient and safe operation. A well-maintained system uses less energy and heats more evenly.

Don't forget your windows. If replacing them isn't an option, apply window film or use thermal curtains to reduce heat loss. On sunny days, open curtains to let in natural warmth, and close them at night to retain heat.

Finally, **prepare your exterior**. Disconnect garden hoses, shut off outdoor water valves, and clean gutters to prevent ice dams. Check the roof for damaged shingles and trim overhanging branches that could break under snow or ice.

Winterizing doesn't have to be complicated or expensive. Small efforts now can protect your home, improve comfort, and provide peace of mind all winter long.

GIVING AT CHRISTMAS

Cathy and I had the opportunity again this year to bring some joy to a young kindergarten student and his siblings for a chance to enjoy a Christmas with gifts. We have been involved in this wonderful endeavor for several years now, ever since we moved from Michigan to Charlotte, NC. Along with a group of other volunteers, we purchase gifts for the students in the kindergarten class. This class is taught by a teacher in our neighborhood who is really dedicated to her students. There are 19 children in her class, and these 5 year olds and their families are living near or below the poverty level. The volunteers get a list for each student that contains items they need for use on a daily basis, along with a few toys. If it wasn't for the dedication of the

teacher and the volunteers, these children would not be able to experience a Christmas that many of us take for granted.

We are blessed that most of us in the Royal Arcanum have the resources to enjoy Christmas with our families without worrying about putting food on the table or giving our children gifts once in a while. We have included a couple of pictures showing some of the presents that were purchased and gift wrapped for the children and the teacher of the class. The teacher in the picture is on the left and the lead organizer is on my right.

Fraternally Yours, Mark and Cathy Hefner



Mark and Cathy Hefner getting ready to donate Christmas Wish List gifts.



Mark Hefner with Beverly Garcia-Fitzgerald and Phyllis Hampson donating Christmas gifts for school.

CLAREMONT'S THANKSGIVING PROJECT



Members of Claremont Council #1655, New York, in conjunction with the Supreme Council, conducted an International Fraternal Service Project for the benefit of the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at the Parish of St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus in the Bronx. A monetary donation and generous assortment of groceries were delivered in time to help neighbors in need for the Thanksgiving holiday.



PAWTUCKET PUMPKINS

For many years, Pawtucket Council has brought joy to a lot of elderly people. The members of Pawtucket Council get creative by painting pumpkins every year. When the tradition began, members would get dressed up in their Halloween costumes and visit a local nursing home. We would take turns going into the rooms of the elderly people and delivering a painted pumpkin to each patient. You should have seen the smiles! Some of the people were bedridden, and to have a young child bring them a pumpkin was such a thrill. It makes you feel great to bring such joy to people in need. Since COVID, we have had to discontinue the practice of hand-delivering the pumpkins. We now leave it to the staff at the facility to distribute the pumpkins.



One year, both costumed children and adults stepped into a large elevator to take us to the 3rd floor. All of a sudden, we heard a noise. The elevator had stopped! The adults tried to stay calm so the children would not become afraid. The elevator became extremely warm especially for those in costumes. We called for help and not long after the Fire Department arrived to rescue us. Unbeknownst to us, we were stuck between two floors. We all had to climb out with the assistance of the firefighters.

It was a bit like a clown car. Our rescuers were a little surprised and amused by having to help an array of clowns, skeletons, dancers and pirates. It was quite an adventure!

Submitted by Karen Lockaby



MEDORA COUNCIL: THE MAGIC YARN PROJECT



The Magic Yarn Project

At a recent meeting of Medora Council #1648, the members were discussing which charitable organization they might support. The council regularly supports charities that benefit children in some way, as do many other councils in the Royal Arcanum. We discussed the organizations we have supported in the past, when one of our members suggested a new organization: The Magic Yarn Project.

She explained that the child of a friend, Tessa Dante, had been treated for cancer, and as a result of the treatment, she lost her hair. This organization creates yarn wigs for children to wear, often depicting a character or idol they admire. It makes the children feel a little more normal



Tessa Dante

and allows them to have a bit of dress-up playtime while they're enduring a serious illness.

All wigs are made by volunteers and are given to patients at no cost. The children get to keep their wigs, even after their treatment ends and their hair grows back, so they can continue to enjoy them. If you know of any child who is suffering from hair loss, reach out to TheMagicYarnProject.com to request a free wig from among the currently available choices.

The Magic Yarn Project was featured on a CBS Sunday Morning episode - you can watch that segment at

<https://www.cbs.com/shows/video/SoDPycpmn67HyT8Rw ohuNchQSjv5LWA/>. In fact, Tessa was featured in that very episode! Tessa chose her wig to look like Elsa from Frozen, one of her favorite movies. She received her wig about two years ago when she was actively undergoing cancer treatment. Today, she is thankfully in remission, but she still loves to dress up with her Elsa wig.

INTEGRITY COUNCIL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Integrity Council of Pennsylvania celebrated Christmas at Popi's Italian Restaurant in South Philadelphia. A donation of \$500 was made to Our Lady of Hope School in Philadelphia. The council also donated a large supply of books for students to read. Our guest of honor was Cindy Harmer, daughter of Lillie Mae and Chuck Panichelli. Lillie Mae passed away on 2/14/2025. Chuck passed away on 11/14/2025. Both were long-time

members of the Royal Arcanum. They were parents of five generations of Royal Arcanum children. Donations were made to the Leukemia Society in Lillie Mae's name and to The American Heart Association in Chuck's name from Integrity Council.

Submitted by Loretta Wehbe



GRAND COUNCIL OF FLORIDA SAVES CHARLIE

My name is Charlie, but it wasn't always. I was once called Chance—because I needed one to survive. Found near a park in Miami, I was starving, injured, and left for dead after an animal attack. Thanks to kind strangers and community support, I received emergency veterinary care, and Malinois and Dutch Shepherd (MAD) Rescue, a 501(c)(3) rescue stepped in to save me.

After months of recovery, including time in the vet's care and a shelter during a hurricane, I was placed in foster care. I was scared, underweight, and unsure how to trust again. My foster family showed me patience and love—even when I struggled—and I needed additional surgery along the way.

That's where the Royal Arcanum's Grand Council of Florida came in. Their generous support helped MAD

Rescue cover my medical bills while continuing to save other dogs like me.

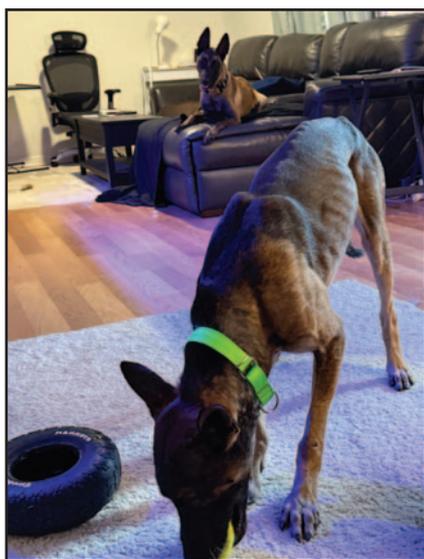
What started as foster care turned into something more. Before long, my foster family realized I was already home. They signed the papers, called it a "foster fail," and gave me my forever name—Charlie.

Today, I'm healing, learning, and loved. I may not be a member of the Royal Arcanum, but I'm proud to be part of a Royal Arcanum family. Thank you for helping save my life and for all the good you continue to do.

With gratitude,
Charlie -The Rescued Belgian Malinois

Submitted by my parents, Ruth and Brent Rupnik

My first night in my foster home. My sister is in the background.



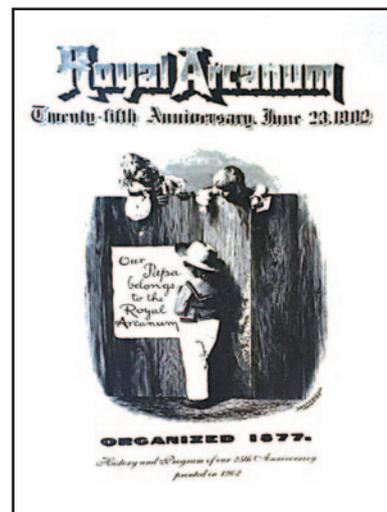
Just after I had my ear surgery. I have gained weight and feel great!



TREASURE FROM OUR PAST

Pictured is the Royal Arcanum's 25th Anniversary book which was produced in 1902 to commemorate the quarter-century milestone of our fraternal benefit society. It outlines the formation, growth, success and challenges that were experienced during the early years of 'The Order'. Councils across the country hosted anniversary activities to promote fraternalism and the expansion of RA jurisdictions.

As members, we share pride in the accomplishments the Royal Arcanum has attained and envision celebrating the Society's 150th Anniversary in June 2027.



INTEGRITY COUNCIL'S VOLUNTEERS

Joe and Joan Tedesco, with support from Integrity Council #586 in Pennsylvania and family, neighbors, and friends helped two charitable organizations in Philadelphia during the holiday season. Their volunteer work raised \$3,395 for MANNA. The organization brings together dieticians, chefs, drivers, and volunteers to cook and deliver medically-appropriate meals and offers nutrition counseling to people who are battling life-threatening illnesses. The fraternalists also provided dozens of pies to St. John's Hospice, an organization that helps homeless persons find dignity, respect, nourishment, and opportunities for new beginnings.

The members are already looking forward to the 2026 Pie Project and helping to make it another success!

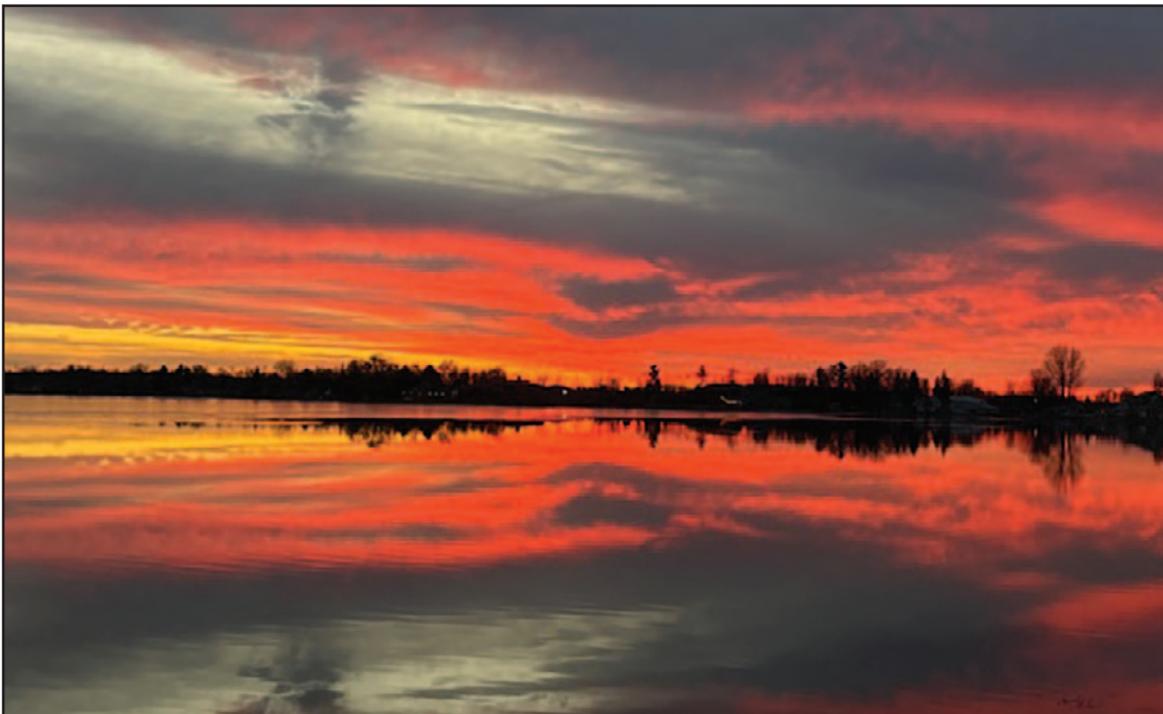


A volunteer stocks cartons of pies for Joe Tedesco to deliver.



St. John's Hospice was a recipient of the pie donations.

WINTER SCENES BY US!



Photographed by our Detroit Council members, Houghton Lake is a large natural inland lake located in Roscommon County in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. It's one of the largest natural inland lakes in the United States and the largest inland lake in Michigan by surface area.



GRAND REGENT OF FLORIDA MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The Grand Regent of Florida and Life Member of the Supreme Council, Diane Calain, has found a unique way to relax while helping others.

As a child, Diane faced medical challenges that required a quiet summer, during which family members and neighbors taught her sewing, crocheting, knitting, and embroidery. That same year—70 years ago—she became one of the first female Junior members of the Royal Arcanum, following a historic vote at the Supreme Session.

Over the years, Diane has continued these skills, often creating afghans during Supreme Council sessions. These handmade items are donated to nursing homes and pediatric hospital units, helping her stay focused while serving others.



Inspired at the Supreme Council Session in Annapolis, Diane expanded her efforts to include children's clothing. With encouragement from friends, her church community, and the Lions Club, donations of fabric and yarn poured in. Graceway Village was chosen as the recipient, supporting underserved and homeless children through its food programs and Children's Boutique.

Just before Christmas, Diane delivered 12 afghans and 20 outfits to Graceway—joined once again by the combined efforts of the Royal Arcanum and the Lions Club. This project is a reminder that small talents, shared with encouragement, can grow into something truly meaningful.



CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK

The Grand Council of New York and Claremont Council #1655 held their annual adult and Junior Christmas lunch party on Sunday, December 7, 2025 at San Martino Ristorante in Yonkers, New York. An afternoon with good company, good food, and good cheer was enjoyed.



Gifts for the children

brought gifts from the Supreme Council Junior Department and from Claremont Council for all the juniors in attendance.

After savoring some delectable desserts and singing holiday carols, members and friends exchanged good wishes for a blessed holiday season and expressed

their gratitude for being able to be a part of such a wonderful day with fellow council members.

The children participated in games and holiday crafts until the arrival of a very special friend—Santa Claus (Dennis DeLeo) who



Santa arrives in Yonkers.



Juniors and adults are happy to welcome Santa.

FRATERNAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

A basic principle taught in geometry class is “the shortest distance between two points is a straight line between them.” GPS systems, with a click of a button provide us with the quickest and shortest route to reach an intended destination. When searching for airline tickets on the computer, it’s not unusual to seek the fastest flight time that hopefully is a direct route to the location where one needs to land.

We are now accustomed to living in a fast-paced world. Streamlining duties and obligations to “wrap them up” in a short amount of time is becoming more common. However, is that the ideal approach? I’d say probably not for everything!

It’s possible that we can get a lot more out of life by sometimes “going out of our way” and not putting so much emphasis on the quickest and shortest means. As fraternalists, it’s our natural calling to go out of our way and do charitable work on behalf of the Royal Arcanum.

Support provided by funds, gifts-in-kind, and service hours makes a positive difference and reaffirms member allegiance to the Society’s core objectives of ‘Virtue, Mercy, and Charity.’ Volunteerism can take a bit of effort but the results make giving the time and going the distance a gratifying experience.

Doing things together is even more rewarding. Now’s the time to catch the Supreme Regent’s ‘REVIVE’ spirit and organize council teams for preparing your springtime activity roster. Take a chance and go out of your way to learn about potential community partners and where a project would be of benefit. Go out of your way and ask family and friends to participate in the endeavor and welcome their suggestions. Go out of your way and announce plans to fellow council members who may have moved from your locale and ask them to join the team, too!

Don’t stop there! Go out of your way and introduce family and friends to the Royal Arcanum. Share the good news of our permanent life insurance products, fraternal programs, member engagement activities, and charitable initiatives of the supreme, grand, and subordinate

councils. It’s always great to have our rosters growing with new adult and Junior members and to welcome them as our new fraternalists-in-action.

The Fraternal Director is very happy to gratefully acknowledge all of the officers and members who went out of their way and responded to the “Holiday Request” to sponsor a gifting project for a charity of their choice. We had superb participation across



the jurisdictions and also recognize the Home Office Associates in Boston for their support to the Toys for Tots Program of the US Marine Corps. Thank you, all!

The International Fraternal Service, Lorraine J. D’Emilio Legacy of Hope, Donald E. Ferry Jr. Spirit of Service, Lend a Hand-Lift a Heart, Sharing and Caring, Youth of the Year, and Junior Writing Award Programs continue this year. The opportunity is yours to

go out of your way and have your council’s service highlighted in 2026.

Congratulations to Luca Conforto and Raeleigh Pizzi, our Society’s newest Youth of the Year Award recipients. Both are inspiring young fraternal leaders.

I wish you and yours a Blessed Passover and Easter season. As you take a breather from all of the hustle and bustle of the work week, why not go out of your way and check in with a member that you may not have seen in a while. Letting someone know that they are cared about can make their day!

With gratitude for all you do...

Cynthia A. Macon

Cindy Macon
Fraternal-Communications Director

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SCAMMERS

Protecting yourself from scams is really important—especially online. Here are clear, practical tips to help you stay safe:

Common Red Flags

Be extra cautious if someone:

- * Pressures you to act fast (“urgent,” “last chance”)
- * Asks for **personal info** (passwords, full address)
- * Wants payment in gift cards, crypto, or wire transfers
- * Says you’ve won something you never entered
- * Pretends to be a company, teacher, celebrity, or friend but the message feels “off”

Money Safety

- * Never send money to someone you don’t know in real life
- * Don’t accept “free money,” “easy jobs,” or “investment tips” from strangers
- * If someone asks you to keep a payment a secret — that’s a scam

Gaming & Social Media Scams

- * Watch out for “free skins,” “robux/v-bucks,” or fake giveaways
- * Don’t trade accounts or items outside official platforms
- * Real moderators/admins will not ask for your password



Online Safety Basics

- * Never share passwords, one-time codes, or recovery links
- * Use strong, unique passwords for each account
- * Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA)
- * Keep your social media set to **private** when possible

Texts, Emails & DMs

- * Don’t click links from unknown or suspicious messages
- * Check the sender’s email or username carefully (scammers copy real ones)
- * If a message claims to be from a company, **go to the site directly** instead of using the link

What To Do If You’re Unsure

- * Pause — scams rely on panic
- * Reach out to a trusted family member or professional for guidance.
- * Search the message online with the word “scam”

If You Think You’ve Been Scammed

- * Stop responding immediately
- * Tell a trusted family member right away
- * Change passwords and report the account or message

HOLIDAY CHEER FOR UKRAINE

Members of Versatility Council #2501 in Bayonne, New Jersey continued their efforts for the Ukrainian children who are in the care of the Felician Sisters in Warsaw, Poland by preparing gift parcels for the youngsters.

Throughout the month of October, when families tend to enjoy apple picking, hay rides, and costume parties, the fraternalists were on a special mission of shopping and searching for “just the right” gifts for the children. With an assist from Mrs. Claus, who provided the ages and sizes, members enthusiastically embraced the project and donated a tremendous assortment of new clothing articles, pajamas, winter outerwear, toys, and other treats that were wrapped and tagged before being shipped



Gen Macon prepares gift bags for the project.

overseas. Additionally, “Bath Bags” containing all things useful for refreshing and reenergizing, were assembled for the moms.

Several cartons were filled to capacity and shipped in time for St. Nicholas Day delivery, a festive holiday that is celebrated throughout many parts of Europe on December 6th.

The council received beautiful acknowledgments from the Sisters

and handcrafted cards from the very grateful children. The activity was another spirited project conducted by the council and one in which the blessings of friendship and remembrance were shared with the spirit of hope while Ukraine sadly remains in crisis.

INTERNATIONAL FRATERNAL SERVICE

Under the IFS program, the Grand Council of New York, in collaboration with the Supreme Council, made a \$1,000 donation to Calvary Hospital in the Bronx. The mission of Calvary Hospital is to care for the medical, emotional, and spiritual needs of patients and their families, at the end of their lives. The hospital provides

hospice and palliative care to adult patients with advanced cancer and other life-limiting illnesses. Hospital representatives were pleased to welcome the Royal Arcanum fraternalists and acknowledged their ongoing support.



Pictured left to right are: Christopher Ayson, Patron Program Manager; Teresa DiBartolo, Caterina DiFranco, Errica Conforto, Maria DiBartolo, John Haley, Senior V.P./ Chief Development Officer; Dennis DeLeo, Amy Cassidy, Director of Development; and Angela Keating, Executive Assistant.

BAYONNE'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The members of Bayonne Council #695 and Versatility Council #2501, New Jersey joined the Friends of Saint Francis in conducting a "Friends Helping Friends Falling into the Holidays" luncheon on November 8, 2025 in Bayonne. The activity was conducted for the benefit of the Felician Sisters' ministries in the United States, Europe, and Haiti and to commemorate the 150 years of volunteer service the sisters have provided in North America.

It was a fun-filled day that brought together friends and families to remember and celebrate the good work that is

continually being done by the Felicians across the globe. As they minister in hospitals, teach in schools, care for the elderly and special-needs youngsters, set up global

missions, and aid the poor, the sisters' presence in these and other programs resounds as they always serve with joyful hearts.

The Arcanians were happy to be a part of the event and to lend their hands and hearts as greeters, kitchen helpers, prize runners,

servers, and a host of other tasks to help make the event a successful and memorable time for all who attended. The fraternal crew is already looking forward to the next celebration!



Gifts for the 'Shopping for Your Holiday Table' raffle



Members serving on the 'Prize Patrol' delivered 75 gifts to lucky ticket holders.

HARRISBURG COUNCIL SPREADS HOLIDAY CHEER

The members of Harrisburg Council #499 enjoy selecting worthwhile organizations and providing them with a monetary gift during the holiday season. Organizations are chosen that are close to the hearts of their members, making the donations special. This year, five different recipients were selected.

Vision Sources of Central Pennsylvania strives to facilitate independence, enrich the quality of life, and empower individuals who are blind or visually impaired. The donation was made in memory of Wyllene Peirce.

The Furry Friends Network works to shelter and find homes for stray animals and those surrendered by their families, works to save their lives, one animal at a time. Harrisburg's donation may also help to fund spay/neuter surgeries to help break the cycle of homeless cats in their area.

Ronald McDonald House Charities provides families of children who are being treated for serious conditions a



Maryann Harshbarger presents a donation to the Furry Friends Network on behalf of the Harrisburg Council.

place to stay and meals to nourish them, all closely located to the hospitals where their children are being treated.

Caitlin's Smiles is a nonprofit that provides arts and crafts activities to children with serious health issues, helping those children to enjoy a touch of fun and play in the midst of their medical struggles.

The Alzheimer's Association works to find ways to end Alzheimer's and all other dementias by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing the quality of care and support those afflicted receive.

From stray and homeless hungry cats and dogs to suffering children to serious adult medical issues, Harrisburg members try to provide a bit of joy to many lives. They are happy to continue their annual giving

tradition this year and look forward to continuing in years to come.



Member Judie Marcus presents a donation to Caitlin's Smiles on behalf of the Harrisburg Council.



Regent Mark Thomas presents a donation to the Ronald McDonald House Charities on behalf of the Harrisburg Council.

OWN A PIECE OF ROYAL ARCANUM HISTORY

Tyler Kolek, a member of Pawtucket Council in Rhode Island, was drafted and became a member of the New York Knicks. Tyler was honored to sign his jersey for the Royal Arcanum and kick off this special event to raise money for the charity at the next Session. Each ticket will cost \$15.00, and the great thing is you do not have to be present to win. The jersey will be mailed to you after the Session. This would be a great addition to the collection of any sports fan....



UPDATE:
The pot has just
been sweetened...
....
We now have
Tyler Kolek's
Rookie Trading
Card!



To get your chance to win a part of history complete the information below and send it to:

**Royal Arcanum
Special Project
c/o Supreme Secretary
61 Batterymarch Street
Boston, MA 02110**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Council: _____

Number of tickets: _____

Total: _____ tickets @ \$15.00 each: = _____

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

Section 19(1), 20 and 21 of the Constitution

The offices, including the committees, shall remain the same.

Forty-five (45) days prior to the start of the Supreme Council Session, the Chairperson of the Supreme Council Executive Committee shall appoint a Committee on Nominations consisting of four Supreme Council Session members (current or past), representing the diversity of our Order, plus the Supreme Regent, who will serve as chairperson for the purpose of developing a slate of officers for the ensuing Supreme Council Session. It is suggested that an announcement of this appointed committee and the nominations procedure be included in the "CALL" to the Session and in the Spring Edition of the Bulletin.

The nomination committee report will be presented at the Executive Committee meeting prior to the Session. At the Registration Desk on Opening Day of the Supreme Council Session, a list of the Nominations will be distributed to the representatives. It is recommended that a brief bio for each nominee be included. For positions that will serve on the Executive Committee, it is recommended that the bio contain relevant information such as qualifications, aspirations for office, their Royal Arcanum history, etc.

At the Supreme Council Session, additional nominations may be made from the floor. All those being nominated shall have been contacted by the member making the nomination in order to insure that those being nominated are willing to have their names on the slate. A bio on each nominee would be helpful. (A resolution will be presented calling for nominations.)

For the election of officers, printed ballots including the names of all nominees shall be distributed. In the case of Line Officers and the Executive Committee, there must be individual ballots (unless the Constitution is changed), but the other committees may be elected on one ballot. Additional nominations will not be entertained at this time. Delegates and Officers will cast their votes, which will be counted by the two appointed tellers and the Judge of Elections, who will count the votes. (A resolution will be presented at the beginning to nominate and elect all Committeepersons and Trustees, collectively, unless there is a contested election. In the case of the two Finance Committee Members, Supreme Trustees, Committee on Juniors and Committee on Appeals, if there are more than two nominees, the two receiving the highest vote will be declared winners).

The NOMINEE with the majority of votes based on the Order's established ratio between delegates and officers shall win the election to his or her respective office. In the case of the committees, the required members for each committee with the highest number of votes shall be elected (the two Trustees, the three members of the Committee on Laws, the two additional members of the Finance Committee, the two members of the Committee on Juniors, and the two members of the Committee on Appeals).

Send bios to Chairman Cynthia Macon, 24 East 43rd Street, Bayonne NJ 07002 or email to CAJMacon@aol.com.

Bios should be in the Chairman's hands by June 10, 2026.

HARRISBURG COUNCIL 499

This year Harrisburg Council celebrated Christmas in a more family-oriented way - with a luncheon. The arts and crafts and gifts were presented by Boston's Home Office and Santa.

We had a total of 23 adults and Juniors in attendance and a nice meal was enjoyed by all. Stories of planned holiday events were shared and a more intimate time was spent.

We also plan to gather this year for a 2026 picnic and discussed that at our event. The Juniors truly liked the fans that Boston chose and of course, the puppets.

Good health and peace to all from Harrisburg Council 499!

Sincerely, Paulina P. Thomas - Secretary



BAKER'S BOX: RAINBOW COOKIES

We hope you enjoy this recipe for three-color cookies shared by Past Supreme Regent Errica Conforto.

INGREDIENTS

Cooking spray/ butter

8 oz. almond paste

1 cup sugar

2 1/2 sticks unsalted butter, cut in pieces and softened

4 large eggs, separated

2 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoons salt

Red and green food coloring (gel preferred)

15 oz. jar smooth apricot jam

1 pound bittersweet chocolate chips.

SPRAY OR BUTTER AND FLOUR THREE 9 BY 12 INCH JELLY ROLL PANS AND LINE WITH PARCHMENT PAPER. PRE-HEAT OVEN TO 350°.

Combine the almond paste and the sugar (save two tablespoons on the side) in a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Mix until the mixture becomes fine crumbs. Beat the 2 1/2 sticks of butter, a few pieces at a time, until well-combined. Beat the egg yolks, one at a time, until smooth. Sift two cups of flour and the salt and add to the mixer and beat until just combined.

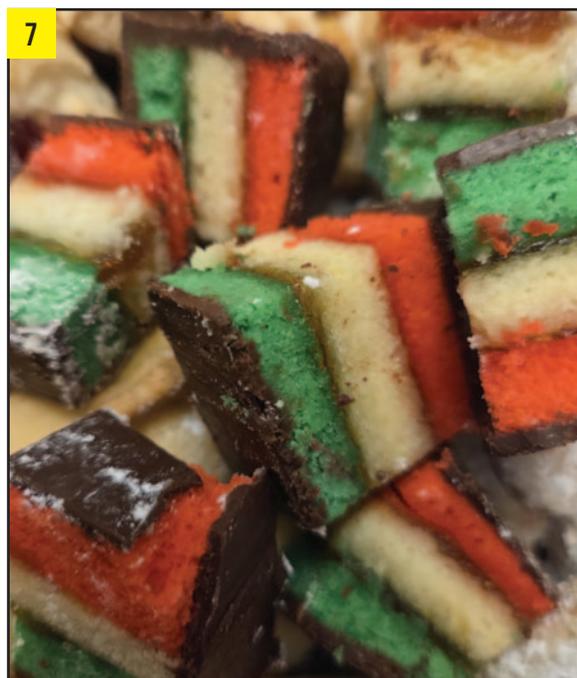
In a clean bowl, whisk egg whites until foamy and slowly add the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar and whisk until firm peaks form (use a hand mixer). Fold about one third

of the egg white mixture into the almond batter and mix with a rubber spatula; then gently fold in the rest. The batter should be fluffy.

Divide the batter evenly among 3 bowls. Stir enough red color in a bowl, the other with green and leave the third one uncolored. Transfer the batter to prepared pans (one for each color) and spread the batter to the edge of each pan. Bake in oven for 8-10 minutes. Cool completely in pan.

Spread half the jam over the green cake layer. Unmold the plain cake layer by inverting it onto another pan or cutting board. Peel the parchment paper and carefully slide the plain layer on top of the green layer, spread the remaining jam on top of the uncolored layer. Unmold the red cake layer and slide it onto the uncolored layer. Cover the cake with plastic wrap and top with one of the empty pans. Place several heavy cans on top to weigh down the layers. Refrigerate at least 4 hours or overnight.

Remove the cans and plastic wrap. Place a cutting board on top of the cake and flip to unmold. Remove the parchment paper from the top of the green layer. Trim the side with a knife to make straight edges. Melt the bag of the chocolate chips in a heat-proof bowl over a pan simmering water, or use a microwave oven. Pour over the cake and smooth the top and sides with a spatula or a long knife. Let set slightly and scrape wavy lines into the chocolate with a fork. Store in a container until ready to cut and serve.



THE HEAD OF THE CHARLES REGATTA

Every October, the banks of the Charles River come alive as rowers and spectators gather for the Head of the Charles Regatta, one of the most iconic rowing events in the world. Held between Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts, this annual competition has grown into the largest multi-day rowing regatta globally, drawing athletes and fans from across the United States and around the world.

Unlike traditional side-by-side races, the Head of the Charles is a head race, meaning boats start one at a time and compete against the clock. Crews navigate a challenging three-mile course featuring sharp turns and multiple bridges, making strategy, precision, and endurance just as important as speed. Rowers compete singly, in pairs, in fours or by eights, and in all types of weather conditions, from beautiful sunny skies to freezing drizzle; the Regatta has been canceled outright only one time in its 60-year history.

First held in 1965, the regatta welcomes a wide range of participants. High school teams, collegiate programs, alumni, masters rowers, and elite international athletes including para rowers all compete in more than 70 events throughout the weekend. In total, more than 11,000 athletes take part each year, creating an unmatched atmosphere of competition and community.

Amy Fitzgerald, Alpha-Agassiz Council #1, was one of those athletes in 2025. First entering this competition in 1988 in a collegiate eight, Fitzgerald competed for the remainder of her undergraduate years, not returning until 2014, and again in 2016, in an alumni eight. The event rekindled a love of the sport, and Fitzgerald found herself joining MIT's Rowing Club, the oldest collegiate club team on the river. Fitzgerald has since represented MITRC for the past four years of Head races.

There are many boathouses located on the famous course, including Harvard, BU, MIT and Northeastern boathouses, as well as Club boathouses like the Cambridge Boat Club, Riverside Boat Club and Community Rowing Inc., and though these boathouses open their (bay) doors to visiting teams to launch from, there isn't enough space for all of the boats and rowers. Every year, teams like MITRC volunteer to work with Regatta staff to install - and then remove - hundreds of feet of floating docks at the finish line of the race, affectionately known as FALS (Finish Area Launching Site).

Today, the Head of the Charles Regatta is more than just a race—it's a celebration of rowing, teamwork, and tradition, bringing together generations of athletes and spectators along one of America's most historic rivers.

Submitted by Amy Fitzgerald



YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARDS



The Royal Arcanum is pleased to announce that Luca Conforto and Raeleigh Pizzi were selected to receive the Society's 2025 Youth of the Year Award in recognition of their volunteer service and active participation in their councils and in their communities. The Supreme Council congratulates these young fraternal leaders, commends their example of volunteerism, and wishes them happiness and success in their future endeavors.

Luca Conforto is a 16-year-old Junior member of Claremont Council #1655 in New York. Currently he is a Junior attending Frank McCourt High School in Manhattan. Luca enjoys basketball at school and with friends. He is an avid traveler and excels in photography. He works a few hours each week at a local pet market and has been recognized for his courteous and prompt service to customers.

Luca volunteers as a counselor-in-training for Preston High School's summer camp and mentors the 7-and 8-year-old participants. This has been a rewarding experience for Luca, working with the counselors and youth to provide a well-rounded program of activities. He has been a reassuring presence for the children and very



Luca Conforto

encouraging of their achievements at the camp.

Luca has been a supportive participant in the council's charitable programs, including the food pantry-turkey runs and gifts for Children of Promise NYC.

Raeleigh Pizzi is a 14-year-old Junior member of Versatility Council #2501 in New Jersey. She is currently an eighth-grade student at Saint James Elementary School in Red Bank. She is a dedicated student-athlete and enjoys writing and painting.



Raeleigh Pizzi

Raeleigh is an accomplished basketball player. Spending "time on the court" has led her to attain achievements such as Lady Lancer Basketball Camp foul shooting winner, MVP at St. Mary's, For the Love of the Game Award, and Champion at Lions Pride Basketball Camp. Basketball has taught her the values of discipline and perseverance.

Raeleigh has volunteered for a children's Breakfast with Santa. She is also a Royal Ambassador who volunteers for school open houses and provides tours for new students. Together with her family, she participates in the council's charitable service programs, including the Help for the Ukrainian Children project and support for special-needs children.

This year's award recipients are leading by example. Our Society envisions bright futures for both of them!

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT NEWS AND VIEWS

I wish all our members a happy and healthy 2026!

Congratulations and good luck to our high school seniors who have applied for our Royal Arcanum scholarships and grants this year. Please make sure that you send in all the necessary documentation and a photo of yourself, as requested, before the deadline of March 31, 2026.

All of our Royal Arcanum college students who send us their college mailing address will receive a little something special from our department in the spring. *This is the last call.* Please check our website for additional information (www.royalarcanum.com) or contact the Home Office at 1-888-272-2686.

I hope all the Juniors enjoyed their Christmas gifts that were sent from the Home Office Junior Department to the councils that hosted a Christmas party or just a family get-together. This year we had a red plush dinosaur for the little ones, and a handheld fan for the older children. Looking forward to seeing lots of Christmas pictures in this Bulletin.

Valentine's Day cards will soon be sent from one of our Junior Committee ladies to younger Juniors up to six years old, so that they are received in time for the holiday.

Our Youth of the Year Award recipients this year are Luca Conforto of Claremont Council # 1655 in New York, and Raeleigh Pizzi of Versatility Council # 2501

in New Jersey. Congratulations to both members. You can read more about them on the facing page.

If any adult member wishes to nominate a Royal Arcanum Junior member in good standing who distinguishes himself in their community and council with volunteerism, submit the application form found on our website. Program regulations and rules are also available there. The deadline is November 30th, 2026.

A special thank you goes to our Junior Committee ladies who take turns every six months sending our birthday cards and Valentine's Day cards to our Juniors. Hope to see you all at our 107th Supreme Council Session this July.

Wishing you and your families a very happy St. Patrick's/ St. Joseph's Day and a blessed Easter and Passover.

Fraternally in V.M.C.,

Errica Conforto
Junior Director



**Junior Department
Director
Errica Conforto**



WINTER WORD SEARCH

○ BOOT

○ COAT

○ COLD

○ SNOW

● ICE

○ HAT

○ GLOVES

○ JACKET

○ WINTER

○ SCARF

○ FREEZE

○ SKI



P	A	L	I	P	A	B	U	S	A	T	Y	S
S	B	P	O	L	N	T	A	G	N	Q	I	A
C	O	A	T	Q	S	K	I	P	S	U	C	E
A	O	O	O	B	F	L	A	O	C	G	E	R
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X	C	H	Z	K	G	E	V	A	F	H	B	U
C	A	X	E	B	V	S	K	U	A	W	F	W
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T	O	G	S	N	O	W	J	A	C	K	E	T
X	R	C	O	P	L	R	N	J	Y	A	Z	E
Q	U	A	N	I	M	L	O	G	K	J	E	R

(The words may be hidden vertically, horizontally and diagonally)

JUNIOR CONTEST RULES

Our rules provide that a Junior can win only one prize per issue of the Bulletin. Members from the same family can submit answers to same puzzles in order to win. Puzzle entrants are restricted to Juniors no older than 17 years 11 months. All entries must be received prior to distribution of the next Bulletin.

All Junior entrants can earn a \$10.00 gift certificate award from Amazon.com!



Junior Must Submit:

Name

Age

Council

Email Address

**PLEASE SEND ALL ANSWERS TO:
JUNIOR DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARCANUM,
61 BATTERYMARCH ST., BOSTON, MA 02110-3208
OR EMAIL YOUR ENTRY AND ADDRESS TO
INFO@ROYALARCANUM.COM**

COLOR BY NUMBER

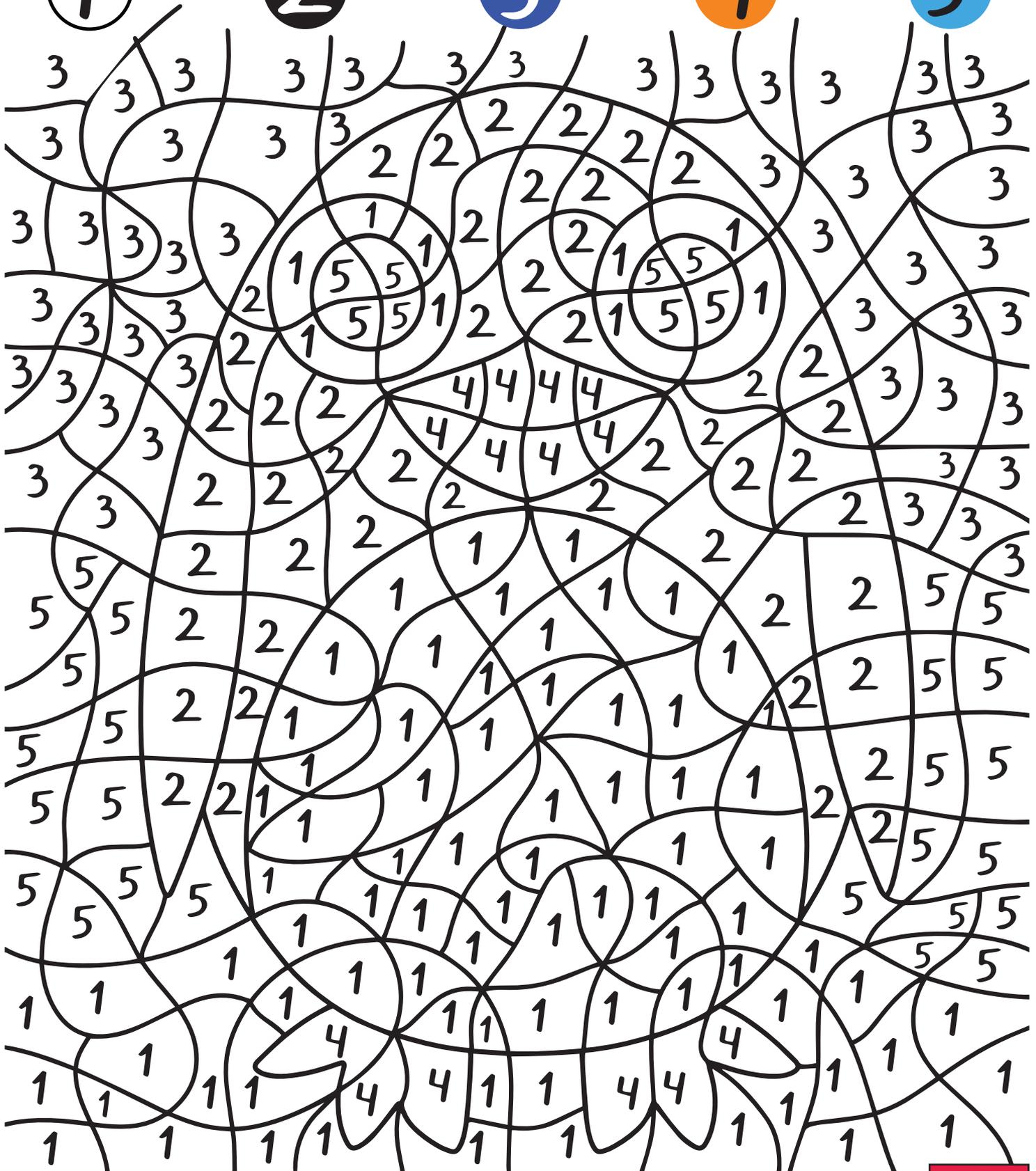
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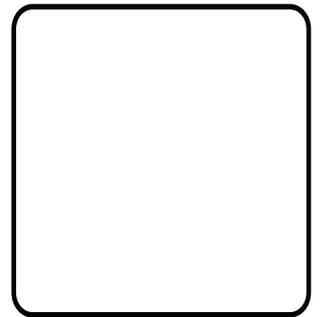
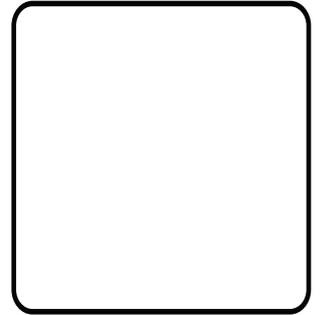
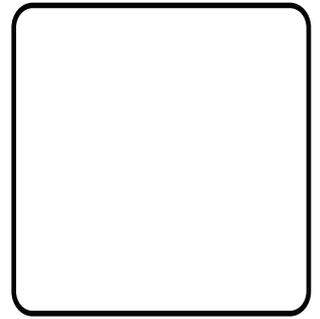
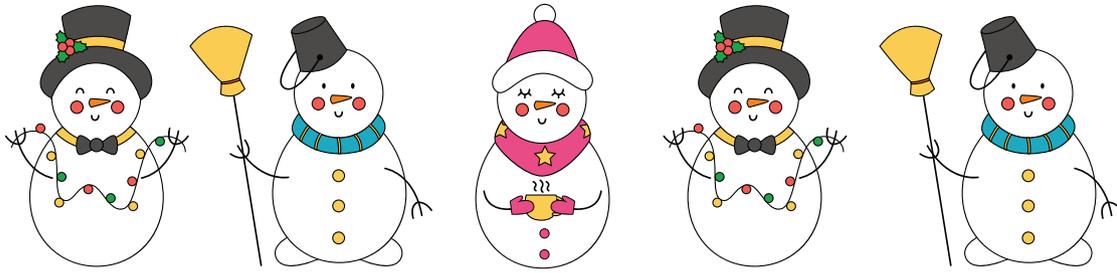
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WHAT COMES NEXT?



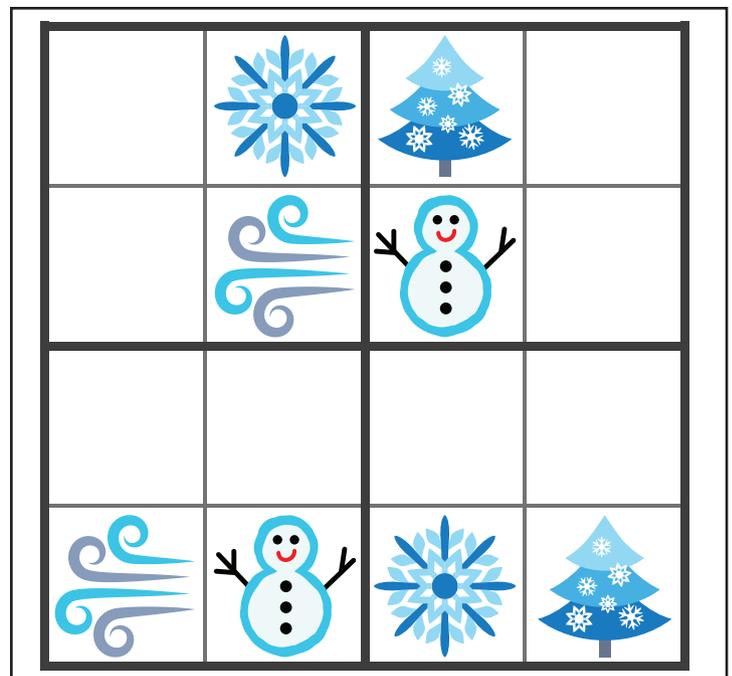
SUDOKU FOR KIDS

Basic rules

Grid: The puzzle is a grid, often with smaller squares or "blocks" inside.

No repeats: Each row, each column, and each block must contain a full set of numbers (or colors, shapes, etc.) with no duplicates.

Fill in the blanks: You must fill in all the empty squares using logic, not guessing.



JUNIOR WINTER COLORING





**ROYAL ARCANUM
107th SUPREME COUNCIL SESSION
WYNDHAM RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA
JULY 26-29, 2026**



www.wyndhamresortlancaster.com

Cost Per Person
U.S.
\$ 399
\$ 599

Occupancy
Standard Room
Double
Single

Points for Free Trip
U.S.
570
860

Please enter my reservation for the Royal Arcanum's Supreme Council Session at the Wyndham Resort and Conference Center, 2300 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA 17602. (Phone: 717-299-5500).

My party will consist of the following persons: (type or print only) / Use additional paper if necessary.

M _____ Council No. _____

Address _____

Spouse (please enter first name) _____

Children (enter names & ages) _____

Room Type (circle) Single-Occupancy Double-Occupancy

Bed Type (circle) [1] King Bed [2] Queen Beds

Have you earned a prize trip? [] Yes [] No [] No. of trips _____

Package includes: Sunday Welcome Dinner, Tuesday Theme Dinner Party, Daily Breakfast. Situated in the heart of Amish Country, the resort provides contemporary accommodations and exceptional amenities. The property covers 160 sprawling acres. Featured are an 18-hole golf course, outdoor and indoor pools, basketball court, kids' indoor play area, on-site fitness center, and a 1.9-mile walking trail. Free Wi-Fi. Free Parking. Dutch Wonderland Amusement Park, history museums, theatres, outlet shopping and more are within easy reach.

Harrisburg International Airport is approximately a 25-minute drive to the resort.

Arrangements for members to extend their hotel stay in Lancaster before or after the Session (if rooms are available) can be made for an additional charge.

Arrival date _____ Departure Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

IMPORTANT: Names and home addresses of ALL individuals must be supplied.
Guest rooms will be available after 3:30 pm on Sunday, July 26th. Departures will be on Wednesday, July 29th.

**A Deposit of \$50.00 per person (Adults and Juniors),
including OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES, is required with each reservation.**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ROYAL ARCANUM

Mail to: ROYAL ARCANUM
John Crisanti, CFO
61 Batterymarch Street
Boston, MA 02110

Phone: 1-888-272-2686 Email: info@royalarcanum.com

RESERVATIONS WITH DEPOSITS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 20th.
Changes made after this date are subject to hotel penalties/charges.

A WORD FROM THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Mental health issues are a significant concern for people during the winter months. The cold, dark, and gloomy weather can have a profound impact on one's mental well-being, leading to a range of issues such as seasonal affective disorder (SAD), depression, anxiety, and stress.

One of the most common mental health issues that people experience during the winter months is seasonal affective disorder (SAD). SAD is a type of depression that is related to changes in the seasons, typically beginning in the fall and continuing through the spring. Symptoms of SAD can include feelings of sadness, fatigue, lack of motivation, and difficulty concentrating.

The lack of sunlight during the winter months is thought to be a major contributing factor to the development of SAD, as it can disrupt the body's internal clock and affect the production of certain neurotransmitters that regulate mood.

In addition to SAD, the winter months can exacerbate other existing mental health conditions. The chilly and dreary weather, including snow and ice, can make it challenging for individuals to engage in outdoor activities and socialize with others, which are important factors in maintaining good mental health. Furthermore, the holiday season can bring about added stress and anxiety due to financial pressures, family conflicts, and social obligations.

To help combat these mental health issues during the winter months, there are several strategies that individuals can utilize. One of the most effective ways to manage SAD and other types of depression is through light therapy, which involves exposure to bright artificial light that mimics natural sunlight.

Regular exercise, proper nutrition, and adequate sleep are also important factors in maintaining good mental health during the winter months. Additionally, engaging in activities that bring joy and relaxation, such as practicing



mindfulness or spending time with loved ones, can help alleviate symptoms of depression, anxiety, and stress.

It is also important for individuals to seek professional help if they are struggling with their mental health during the winter months. Therapy, medication, and support groups can be effective treatments for managing and coping with mental health issues. If you or someone you know is experiencing severe symptoms of depression or

anxiety, it is important to reach out to a mental health professional for assistance.

In conclusion, mental health issues are a significant concern for individuals during the winter months. By implementing coping mechanisms and seeking professional help when needed, individuals can effectively manage their mental health and navigate through the challenges of the winter months.

During the winter months, it's good to

call or stop by your neighbors, friends and family members to ensure that they are well and safe. I know that the cold and winter have made me feel sad and lack motivation; just think of the effect on our older population, who may have greater challenges getting out of the home and socializing. So, remember to reach out and make someone's day by saying "HI".

Remember: Spring is around the corner.

Yours in V.M.C.,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antal Basa, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Antal Basa, Jr.
Supreme Secretary



ANNUITIES

*4% Current Credited rate for Annuities!! Guaranteed 3% rate of return for the life of the contract.**

**Tax-Deferred Until Withdrawal - \$500 Minimum Deposit
No Service Charges - 6-Year Declining Surrender Charge
10% Penalty-Free Annual Withdrawal Available**



For complete information on annuities, please contact the Home Office at 1-888-ARCANUM (272-2686).

Discover the value of a member-based fraternal benefit society.

**The contract will provide a minimum 3% credited rate for the life of the annuity.*

Please contact a tax professional prior to taking any withdrawals for potential tax liabilities.