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Harvest Landscape Enterprises, Inc.

Newsletter

December 2011

Holidays and a New Year Give Us Cause to be Thankful

Season's Greetings, Orange County Style



This is a time for reflection...

We are at the end of another year already, and as we start to look into 2012, it's important to stop and think about what it is we are grateful for in 2011.

Our nation this month announced the withdrawal of troops from Iraq. The 10-year conflict has impacted the lives of many families, including my own.

We were blessed this year with the safe return of my cousins Garrett and Emily, both of whom spent time this year fighting in overseas conflicts.

No matter what your political view, there is no doubt that the men and women risking their lives overseas are facing the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of



Lights aren't the only thing sparkling this season. Many of our clients ask for beds of color to announce the holidays. At Seaciff Greens in Huntington Beach, we chose red-and-white striped rows of vibrant cyclamen to say "Happy Holidays," with the sunset and palm trees giving it a distinctive Southern California flair.

our nation, and us. So are their families.

So, while I find myself this year being thankful for so many of the "ordinary" things: a wonderful family, good health, good friends and a closely knit family of employees, this year -- because of how the war has impacted Garrett and Emily and my family -- I am perhaps more conscious of how world events are impacting the lives of individuals, everywhere.

Thinking of others is not just a cliché. When you direct your thoughts outwardly, it gives you a different perspective on the world and your place in it.

Try, this year, not to count the presents under the tree, but to observe and acknowledge the many gifts that life has brought us on a daily basis.

I think about my beautiful wife, Holly, and our children. What is it about life's distractions that makes us sometimes lose sight of how important we are to one another?

We work hard to get beyond that with daily reminders of our gratitude to have each other in our lives.

Unfortunately, for some military families this holiday season, their gratitude will be tucked away in memories rather than a warm embrace.

Best wishes to you all.

*Steven Schinhofen is
 President and CEO of
 Harvest Landscape
 Enterprises, Inc.*

AB 1881: How Will it Impact Your Landscape in 2012?

There's a lot of confusion out there about requirements enacted under AB 1881, California's [Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance](#). Some components of the bill take effect in January, 2012. Here are some of the key changes taking place next year for new or retrofitted projects::

- **Smart Timers:** Automatic irrigation controllers using evapotranspiration or soil moisture sensors will be required.
- **Sprinkler Heads:** Irrigation heads in new projects must be located 18 inches from curbs and sidewalks to prevent runoff.
- **Water Meters:** A dedicated water meter must be assigned for irrigation purposes only.

The purpose of this bill is to reduce water use and conserve our most precious natural resource. Remember, these changes are for new or retrofitted landscape projects only, but it's still smart to save water with your existing landscape. Talk to us for details.



Contact Us to Set Up a Caramel Apple Social

We appreciate our clients, and the hard work their employees put in to managing the properties under their charge. When there's no time to go out and celebrate their efforts, Harvest can bring the party to you.

Contact Leslie Hogbin at leslie@hlel.us to schedule your own Caramel Apple Social at your workplace.

It's our way of saying "thank you" for the relationships we've built over the years. It's also a lot of fun, and delicious, too.



Harvest Employees: Among the Best in the Industry

Harvest employees are like family. We are selective about the people we hire, and it shows in the quality of their work, their safety records and long-term employment. Fewer mistakes and low employee turnover mean we spend less on training and overtime and can pass those savings on to our clients. We also reward them with a monthly party and raffle for prizes. They are the backbone of our company and we are proud of the work they do.



Harvest Display Wins CAI Award

The Community Associations Institute spread some holiday cheer at its December luncheon and mini trade show at the Irvine Marriott hotel, where Harvest won a third-place ribbon for its display on the theme, "Winter Wonderland."

"There were a lot of very clever, creative and imaginative business partners that put their best designs forward," said Marketing Director Leslie Hogbin. "It was quite an honor to be recognized."



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