

Letter: Festival of Trees and Lights a success

To the community,

This year's Festival of Trees and Lights was once again a huge success. The six-day event is a collaborative effort between Barton Health staff, community and Auxiliary volunteers, and sponsors.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, decorated a tree or a wreath, donated an auction item, or sponsored one of our many events.

A special thanks to Barton Foundation's volunteer steering committee who worked all year long to ensure the event was a magical experience. Kudos to Santa for his long hours and constant cheer, to Dreu Murin who has taken our event to "new heights," and to the designers and schools for creating such gorgeous trees.

Many people braved the Friday and Saturday snowstorm to celebrate the holidays with us. A total of 2,832 people attended at least one of the festival's activities and an additional 200 patrons enjoyed the Tallac Association's play "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever."

At the evening gala we celebrated Barton's 50th birthday with a gold and red theme – a tribute to the Barton Auxiliary, Barton Health's dedicated volunteers and hospital greeters. The live auction featured the auxiliary's famous cheeseballs, a standup paddleboard, an African safari, and an adorable puppy.

All funds raised will support Barton's cardiology programs. We appreciate all of you who participated and helped invest in the health of our community.

Happy Holidays!

Kindle Craig, executive director Barton Foundation