

MUSTANG ARBOR HOUSE TIMES

*hello
december*

12 / 04 NATIONAL COOKIE DAY

12 / 06 SAINT NICHOLAS DAY

12 / 07 PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

12 / 12 POINSETTIA DAY

12 / 18 HANUKKAH BEGINS

12 / 21 1ST DAY OF WINTER

12 / 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

12 / 26 KWANZAA BEGINS & BOXING DAY

12 / 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE



December Birthdays

12/06 Margaret Forcum

12/07 Naoma Kennedy

12/07 Isabel Enriquez

12/09 Lynne Zepeda

12/11 Ana Gramajo

12/13 Betty Lowe

12/16 Allison Shepherd

12/21 Sharon Huffman

12/25 JESUS

12/27 Lauren Radford

12/29 Megan Gateley

**DECEMBER'S FLOWERS
ARE NARCISSUS & HOLLY,
WHICH IS THOUGHT TO
BRING A GIFT OF GOOD
WISHES.**



**THE DECEMBER BIRTH-
STONE IS TURQUOISE
WHICH
BRINGS PROSPERITY, SUC-
CESS & GOOD FORTUNE.**

**SO WE HOPE YOUR
DREAMS COME TRUE AND
YOUR BIRTHDAY LIGHTS
UP WITH MAGICAL
MOMENTS.**

PEARL HARBOR

Remembrance Day

Pearl Harbor Day, commemorates the Japanese attack on the U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor. The attack began at dawn December 7, 1941. It crippled the U.S.

Pacific Fleet, and caused the U.S. to enter World War II.

During the attack at Pearl Harbor, over 2,400 American servicemen and 68 civilians were killed. Five of the eight battle-ships at Pearl Harbor were sunk or sinking, and virtually all ships were damaged.

On Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, U.S. flags are to be flown at half staff.

On December 8, 1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated in a speech to Congress it was "...a day that will live in infamy". The U.S. then declared war on Japan.

The debt we owe our World War II veterans is one that we can never fully repay. So many veterans gave their lives to protect our freedom and way of life.



The origin of Christmas trees

It is widely believed during the Middle Ages, in early modern Germany the first real Christmas trees originated. The true Christmas tree is often the evergreen fir tree. Evergreen trees and plants were a part of winter festivals long before the advent of Christianity. The Romans, for example, used evergreen trees to decorate their temples during the winter solstice as they represented new life and fertility. Similarly, ancient Egyptians, Chinese, and Hebrews saw evergreens as a symbol of eternal life. Long before Jesus Christ's birth (and the subsequent celebrations), pagans in Europe would use evergreens in their homes as a way of representing fertility and new life.

In 1419, a guild in Freiburg put up a tree decorated with apples, flour-paste wafers, tinsel, and gingerbread. There were also events on Christmas Eve called "Paradise Plays" that celebrated the feast day of Adam and Eve. A tree of knowledge was represented by an evergreen fir with apples tied to its branches. These paradise trees then began being set up in family homes throughout Germany, with wafers placed among the branches.

The oldest Christmas tree market is thought to have been located just over the southwestern German border in Strasbourg in Alsace (then part of the Rhineland in Germany, now present-day France). Unadorned trees were sold as *Weihnachtsbaum*, which means Christmas tree in German. The "first decorated indoor tree" was recorded in 1605, in Strasbourg, adorned with roses, apples, wafers and other sweets. The demand for Christmas trees was so high in the 15th century that laws were passed in Strasbourg cracking down on people cutting pine branches. Ordinances throughout the region of Alsace limited each household to one tree in the 1530s. During the 19th century, the custom became popular in the European royal courts and noble houses. As the Germans began to emigrate around the world, the custom of the Christmas tree spread as well.

References to Christmas trees in private homes or establishments in North America date back to the late 18th century and early 19th century. In 1805, a school for American Indians run by Moravian missionaries sent students "to fetch a small green tree for Christmas." Similar examples pop up in the first half of the 19th century in the Midwest and further West, such as the German immigrants in Texas who decorated trees with moss, cotton, pecans, red pepper swags and popcorn. Since the early 20th century, it has become common in many cities, towns, and department stores to put up public Christmas trees outdoors, such as the Macy's Great Tree in Atlanta (since 1948), the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree in New York City, and the large Christmas tree at Victoria Square in Adelaide. The United States' National Christmas Tree has been lit each year since 1923 on the South Lawn of the White House, becoming part of what evolved into a major holiday event at the White House.



Christmas

WORD SEARCH

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

JINGLE BELLS
BOW
CANDY CANE
CAROLERS
CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATIONS
ELVES

FIREPLACE
GARLAND
GINGERBREAD
HOLIDAY
JOLLY
SANTA
MISTLETOE

NORTH POLE
ORNAMENTS
PRESENTS
REINDEER
SNOWMAN
WREATH
WRAPPING PAPER



DID YOU KNOW?

The poinsettia was brought to the United States from Mexico around 1828 by Joel Roberts Poinsett. An avid gardener & amateur botanist, Poinsett was serving as a congressman from South Carolina when he was appointed as the first US Minister to Mexico (a position that he held from 1825 to 1829). While in Mexico, Poinsett observed this species flowering & sent plants back to his greenhouse in Charleston. Until that time, this species was unknown outside of its native range of Mexico & Guatemala, where it was referred to as *flor de nochebuena* (Christmas eve flower). Once introduced to the U.S., it quickly gained the common name poinsettia, but is also known as the Christmas flower, Christmas star, lobster plant, painted leaf, & Mexican flame leaf.

THE ORIGIN OF SANTA CLAUS

Santa Claus is actually based on a Christian monk named St. Nicholas, who lived in Myra, Turkey around 280 A.D. He was a patron of many people & became associated with being a bringer of gifts & a protector of children. However after the reformation in the 1500s, saints like Nicholas fell out of favour in much of Northern Europe, but the Dutch colonies refused to erase the image of St. Nicholas as a gift-bearer. Hence when Dutch immigrants came to America, they brought *Sinterklaas* with them. It was Washington Irving's 1809 *Knickerbocker's History of New York* which first portrayed St. Nicholas as a pipe-smoking individual who flew over rooftops in a wagon and delivered gifts to good boys and girls. However, it wasn't until the late 19th century that the image of Santa became standardized as a man dressed in a red & white suit with fur trim who drove from the North pole in a reindeer-driven sleigh.



The Arbor House Philosophy is based on the belief that each resident is entitled to the highest quality of life through wellness services that work to promote each individuals:
independence, healthy lifestyles, dignity, and a sense of security.

The right of each resident to determine his/her need is respected at each level of care, and promoted by providing services in ways that recognize individuals needs and preferences. A partnership exists between residents and staff to promote individual's independence while providing the necessary support to function at his/her highest level.



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