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ISLAND IN THE SUN

• S E N T I N E L •

December • 2023

Issue 10 47th Year

Happy Howl-idays!

Thanks to Alana Korol-Tisland and Gigi of Regency Heights for submitting this great photo from last year's Christmas card!



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Island in the Sun Community Newsletter

Manager Editor: Tammy Blaisse **Proofreader:** Rusty Leslie

Media Delivery Team: Nancy Bilcheck, Ernie Grow, Roy and Jan Wisdom, Sudie Borders, Cheryl D'Andrea; Sue Morley; Mike Malliet; Colleen Marshall, Cynthia Sadusky, Phil Tursi, Sonny Dumlao and Cecile Morock

January 2024 Media Deadline December 4, 2023

Please e-mail articles and photos submissions to: iits.sentinel@gmail.com

You can also drop off articles not sent via e-mail at Lot 73.

Do **NOT** submit articles to the iits.hoa.media@gmail.com under Kenn Brody.

Representative to the Federation of Manufactured Home Owners (FMO):

Tate McIntyre, Lot #23

Please submit corrections to LindaIITSmedia@gmail.com or report to an HOA Board member.

Island in the Sun HOA Board

President.....	Jill Norwick	Lot 253	727-243-4592.....	jillnorwick@yahoo.com
Vice Pres	Jill Norwick.....	Lot 253	727-243-4592.....	jillnorwick@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Tammy Blaisse.....	Lot 297	580-301-4828.....	tammy.blaisse@yahoo.com
Secretary	Kathy Stevens	Lot 47	952-221-0878	

Directors

1 Yr	Steve Malara	Lot 202	732-977-4867.....	smbombers@aol.com
2 Yr	Nancy Bilcheck.....	Lot 184	203-913-9450.....	nbstuff@sbcglobal.net
3 Yr	Rusty Leslie.....	Lot 310	865-232-9072.....	kohanadancer@gmail.com

HOA Liaison Committee:

.....	Jill Norwick	Lot 253	727-243-4592.....	jillnorwick@yahoo.com
.....	Tammy Blaisse.....	Lot 297	580-301-4828.....	tammy.blaisse@yahoo.com

Non-Board Positions

Robo Call	Mike Malliet.....	Lot 115	920-540-1665.....	mmal1974@yahoo.com
Neighbor Helping Neighbor			OPEN	

2023 Committees

Committee.....	Name/Chair.....	Lot#.....	Phone#.....	Email.....	Co-Chair	Lot #	Phone #
Activities.....	Committee	297	580-301-4828.....	iitsactivities@yahoo.com	Committee	253	727-243-4592
Bingo.....	Linda Olone.....	73	727-214-7334				
Bingo Callers	Cindy Sadusky	14.....	717-587-2498				
Bocci Ball.....	OPEN						
Dominoes	Jan Wisdom.....	70.....	214-336-6834				
Ladies Lunch.....	Cindy Sadusky	14.....	717-587-2498				
Liaison Committee..	Robert Bears.....	243	727-871-8811.....		Jill Norwick	253	727-243-4592
Library.....	Cindy Sadusky	14.....	717-587-2498.....		Nancy Bilcheck..	184	203-913-9450
Media Delivery	Nancy Bilcheck..	184.....	203-913-9450				
Membership	Tammy Blaisse	297.....	580-301-4828.....	tammy.blaisse@yahoo.com			
.....	Rusty Leslie.....	310	865-232-9072.....	kohanadancer@gmail.com			
Phone Book.....	Tate McIntyre	23	409-692-2619				
Pickleball.....	Paul Ranck	134					
Potluck	Ciel Gordon.....	182.....	952-486-1507				
Remembrance Corner....	OPEN						
Shuffleboard	Elaine Ranck	134					
Rummikub.....	Rose Leduc.....	160.....	727-797-8026				
Sign Board	Clayton Malseed. 83.....	707-510-7981....		Pblaisse@aol.com .			
.....	Phil Blaisse	297	580-301-4826.....	pblaisse@aol.com			
Texas Hold'Em	Rick Morabito	174	303-704-9772.....		Rose Leduc	160	727-797-8026
Welcoming	Rusty Leslie	310	865-232-9072.....	kohanadancer@gmail.com			
Yoga	Kathy Bowen						

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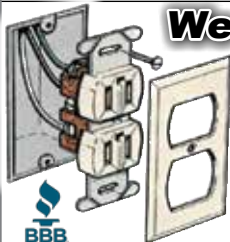
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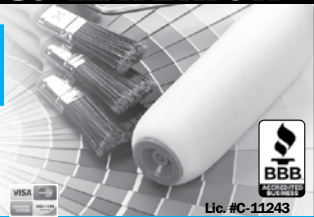
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Attention Island In The Sun Residents

Editor Needed!!!

Would you like to see Island In The Sun related articles in your newsletter?



Do you have a computer with email capabilities?

Then you could be the next editor of Island In The Sun!

If you would be interested please email
iits.sentinel@gmail.com
or Call Monthly Media at 727-484-7488

FROM THE EDITOR

I need someone to step forward to take over the monthly media by February 2024 or we may not have one.

If you have any suggestions for articles you think would interest our community, please feel free to reach out to me. We love to hear good news! In addition, if you come across an article that you think would be of interest, please share. I will need the original source as well.

Please send any articles, suggestions, or photos to me at iits.sentinel@gmail.com or stop by Lot 297 If you would like to be highlighted or have a resident event highlighted in an upcoming edition for any of our sections, please let me know. See you all soon!

Thank you,
Tammy Blaisse

This publication, *Island in the Sun Sentinel*, also referred to as the *Monthly Media*, contains names, contact information, community articles and information, an activities calendar as well as general interest articles. IITS residents can contribute ideas, articles, and photos to the publication. Contact Tammy Blaisse at iits.sentinel@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The holiday season is upon us. Enjoy your holidays with family and friends and stay safe! As many have heard, Robert Bears had to resign as President. In accordance with the By-Laws, I have stepped up to be the HOA President. While I cannot fill the big shoes left by Robert, I will do my best to serve this community as your president.

Just a reminder to all, if you have community concerns, you need to fill of the concern form, make sure your name/lot number is on it and turn it into the office. Make sure you get a signature and copy of the form. Once you have that, please get a copy of the form to either Jill Norwick or Tammy Blaisse. The HOA cannot help you if you do not do these things in order.

Please contact Jill or Tammy with your community concerns or to become a member - still only \$15 per household.

Jill Norwick

IITS HOA President

jillnorwick@yahoo.com

TREASURER MESSAGE



Happy December Everyone!

Just a short note this month to remind everyone HOA dues are still only \$15 a year and should be paid by February 1st. Remember, if you want to vote for your board next year or on any issues you need to become a member. Your membership allows you to have a voice in how the HOA is ran, provides the community as a whole to have a louder voice with Cal-Am when needed, such as community issues and negotiations. As a perk to being a member your tickets to events are cheaper. Membership cards will be delivered to the members in February.

Please reach out to your Board Members if you have any questions or concerns, we all will do our best to help you.

Tammy Blaisse

IITS Treasurer

OPEN POSITIONS:



We have a few open positions if you are interested in volunteering for anything.

NON-Board Positions

1. We need volunteers for Bingo. We are looking for a backup caller. Duties would be once a month or so. The computer does most of the work, and almost all of the calling (with the exception of one game). It is a very simple program to use, and we are a fun bunch to spend time with! If you are interested, please call Linda at 727-214-7334.
2. I need someone to review the birthday and anniversary list every 3 months for accuracy before it goes to print. If you are willing to look at that list for me **in advance**, please let me know. See **Tammy Blaisse** (Managing Editor). Update for new residents and remove

...continued on page 9

Give yourself the gift of better hearing this holiday season

The holiday season is full of festive gatherings with family and friends. It is also a reminder of the importance that hearing health plays in our lives.

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- any residents that are no longer here.
- 3. Remembrance Corner - OPEN - Need this person to report obits or to **Tammy Blaise** for adding to Media and so I am able send a card from the community.
- 4. Neighbor Helping Neighbor – OPEN - need Volunteer.
- 5. Bocci Ball - OPEN - Need Volunteer
- 6. Media Guide

December Birthdays

- 1 Kathy McNay-Dudley
- 7 Marquita Armes
- 14 Horrace Mathews
- 15 Margaret Arnold
- 19 Rose Simmons
- 22 Ann Louise Reinhart
- 23 Tom Boeckley
- 24 Jeanne Langston



December Anniversaries

None


We would love to add your birthday and anniversary to our list! E-mail your name and date to iits.sentinel@gmail.com so your friends and neighbors can help you celebrate your special days!

Please help me keep this list up to date. If you notice a resident listed who no longer lives in IITS, please give me a heads up. Thanks!

FROM THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:



- 4 ways to find out all about our events:
- 1. Make sure you sign up for the robocalls as well, as event information is being sent via robocall, too. Contact Mike Malliet at mm11974@yahoo.com with your lot #, telephone number and name to join the list. These numbers are shared with no one.
 - 2. Check out the Marquee at the park entrance by the clubhouse for upcoming events. HOA Events and announcements are located on the front and Resident Sponsored Activities are located on the back, if you would like your activity listed on the back please let Jill Norwick or Tammy Blaise know.
 - 3. The calendar is kept current in the glass case at the Clubhouse.
 - 4. Please join any or all of these IITS FaceBook Groups, we post activities on these pages.
 - a. Island in the Sun Social Group
 - b. IITS uncensored, sort of
 - c. Island in the Sun Residents
 - d. The Official Island in the Sun HOA - 2022 (HOA Members only) This page is only for HOA business.



Please contact the activities committee for activities you would like to start at iitsactivities@yahoo.com. We will provide you help to get started. The activities committee will remain as a committee will no longer have a chairperson. The committee will work as a group, if you email the above address the emails will be brought to each meeting for discussion and action.

RESIDENT ACTIVITIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

Like to play Texas Hold ‘Em, join the group at 6:30 pm on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Pickle Ball is a fun activity that is enjoyed by many in the community. They play Mondays and Tuesdays at 6:30 pm and would love to see more players. The group is willing to teach new players.

Chit Chat is every Friday night at the Clubhouse from 5 to 7pm. Bring whatever you would like to drink. You may bring a snack if you would like to share, but that is not necessary to join us for some good old fashioned chatting around the table. Be aware, Politics, Religion and HOA are not discussed during this time.

Don’t forget the always popular Left, Right, Center December 28th. Please bring \$8, in singles. Starts promptly at 7 pm.

Anyone wanting a resident activity to be spotlighted in the Media Guide please contact Tammy Blaisse.

See the calendar in the Media or on the clubhouse board for upcoming daily activities, HOA activities and Cal-Am activities.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE HOA EVENTS

December 16th we are having a Golf Cart Parade and House Decorating Contest starting at 5:30pm hosted by Cindy Sadusky. Everyone had a great time last year!

Holiday Charity. We are collecting items for Feeding Tampa bay this year. Item can be dropped off in the boxes on the left carport (with the golf cart in it) for this outstanding program. Items needed and items not to donate are on the Facebook pages and hanging in the Clubhouse. Thank you all for helping to make this a better holiday for Tampa Bay!



Christmas Cookie Party and Photos with Santa (Pets included), date to be determined.

Our end of year finale, there will be the New Years Eve Party on with Grant Hemond providing the music, dinner and dancing, this is also a free event for everyone!

We desperately need hosts to continue these events. People have asked for certain events and while we would like to make them happen, we cannot without people volunteering to host. People are also needed to help with the set-up, replenish food if needed and most of all clean up. We are required to completely clean up like we were never there and that takes some effort.



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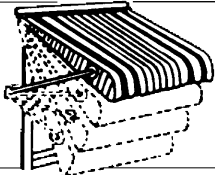
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Notice

Cal-Am has a new way of communicating information to the residents. Would you like to receive text messages? Just go into Rent Café and edit your profile and select text messaging. (no texting and driving please)



HOA will continue to use Robo call.

Sign-up for our Robocall phone messages for upcoming events. Please email Mike Malliet at mmal1974@yahoo.com and provide your name, lot number and your phone number with area code.

If you provide a cell number, please add 877-333-9336 to your contacts so the call is not blocked.

Your number will not be shared. You can also provide your info to a Board Member to pass along to Mike by filling out the sign-up form in this issue.

SIGN UP FOR IITS ROBOCALL TO STAY INFORMED

Messages about IITS activities and events can now delivered to your phone. This service is provided free to IITS residents by the HOA. Calls are made to phone numbers in the US or Canada to either a landline or cell phone. This service is limited to one number per household.

Part time residents can forward the messages to another phone or pause messages while away.

The phone messaging service is used to:

- Remind residents of HOA meetings
- Announce/Remind/Poll activities and events
- Communicate information to specific groups (Bocce, Shuffleboard, etc.)
- Announce safety concerns in the community and surrounding area
- Other uses approved by the IITS HOA Board of Directors.



Please provide your information to Mike Malliet at 920-540-1665 or mmal1974@yahoo.com. Your information will be used strictly for this messaging service and will not be shared with anyone else.

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Name(s) _____

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John 3:16

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Carol Zapiecki, Clearwater, FL



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Bring your friends, bring your neighbor! More people, more money!

Please join us for Bingo on
Thursday nights!



Halloween Party

Ciel Gordon hosted our Halloween party and it was a huge success! We had so many fun and scary costumes, the chili cookoff, and the amazing food decorations by Ciel herself. The Chili was all so good I couldn't vote for a favorite! Thank you to our contestants! Our Band Papa Joe's was excellent, making it even better yet our own Betsy Gadbois got up and sang with the band.



Did You Know?

Reindeer are the only deer species in which both the male and female can grow antlers?

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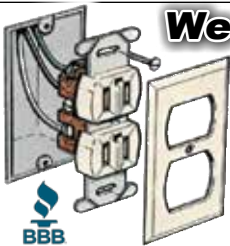
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DECEMBER • 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>JANUARY 2024</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30 31</p>		
<p>3</p> <p>6:30 pm Poker</p> <p><i>First Sunday of Advent</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p>1 pm Dominoes</p> <p>6:30 pm Pickleball</p>	<p>1 pm Ru</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>7 pm HC</p>
<p>10</p> <p>6:30 pm Poker</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1 pm Dominoes</p> <p>6:30 pm Pickleball</p>	<p>1 pm F</p> <p>6:30 pm</p>
<p>17</p> <p>6:30 pm Poker</p>	<p>18</p> <p>1 pm Dominoes</p> <p>6:30 pm Pickleball</p>	<p>1 pm F</p> <p>6:30 pm</p>
<p>24</p> <p>6:30 pm Poker</p> <p><i>Christmas Eve</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Christmas</i></p>	<p>1 pm Ru</p> <p>6:30 pm</p> <p>7 pm Let</p>
<p>31</p> <p>7 pm New Year's Eve Party</p> <p><i>New Year's Eve</i></p>		

Island in the Sun

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1 pm Shuffleboard 5 pm Chit Chat 6:30 pm Poker	2 10 am Activities Mtg
5 Rummikub Pickleball OA Board Mtg	6 10 am Yoga 6:30 pm Poker	7 7 pm Bingo Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 1 pm Shuffleboard 5 pm Chit Chat 6:30 pm Poker	9
12 Rummikub Pickleball	13 10 am Yoga 6:30 pm Poker	14 7 pm Bingo	15 1 pm Shuffleboard 5 pm Chit Chat 6:30 pm Poker	16 10 am Feeding Tampa Bay Drop off 5:30 pm Cart Parade and House Decoration Contest
19 Rummikub Pickleball	20 10 am Yoga 6:30 pm Poker	21 7 pm Bingo	22 1 pm Shuffleboard 5 pm Chit Chat 6:30 pm Poker First Day of Winter	23
26 Rummikub Pickleball ft, Right, Center	27 10 am Yoga 6:30 pm Poker	28 7 pm Bingo	29 1 pm Shuffleboard 5 pm Chit Chat 6:30 pm Poker	30 10 am Activities Mtg Prep for NYE

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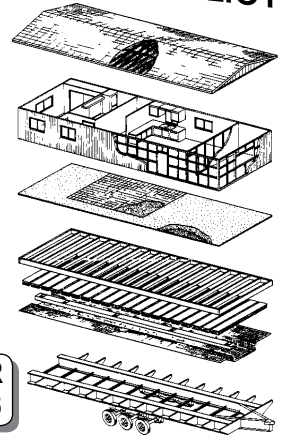
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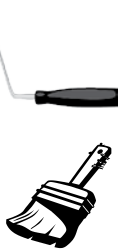
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IITS Rules and Regulations

For this month I am highlighting 2 areas of the Rules and Regulations.

XVII. CONDUCT

1. Disorderly conduct, abusive language, noisy disturbances, annoying parties OR harassment of residents or their guests shall not be permitted. Everyone within the Community shall conduct themselves so as not to interfere with the peaceful enjoyment of the Community by their fellow Residents.
2. Public drunkenness and immoral behavior shall not be tolerated. Possession of, or dealing in, a controlled substance as defined in Chapter 893, Florida Statutes, is prohibited.
3. Noise or conduct which Community Management finds objectionable, which disturbs the peaceful enjoyment of the Community by neighbors, or which constitutes a nuisance to other residents or which constitutes a breach of the peace, is prohibited. Loud noises, annoying parties, or abusive or profane language shall not be permitted at any time in the Community. Yelling, screaming, other noise-making, or the use of profanity outside the manufactured home or inside the manufactured home if audible outside the home, are not permitted in the Community. All Residents and their invitees and guests must conduct themselves in an orderly fashion and must ensure that their pets behave in such a manner as not to annoy, disturb or interfere with other Community Residents. Residents are requested to keep noise levels from whatever source to a minimum, especially between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Noise which can be heard outside of your lot will be considered too loud. Complaints filed with Community Management by other residents concerning noise or disturbances caused by another resident or such resident's guests shall be considered as evidence of a violation of these Rules and Regulations.
4. No "alcoholic beverages" as defined in section 561.01(4)(a), Florida Statutes, may be used or consumed on or in any common area or recreational facility of the Community except that such consumption or use may be allowed for resident-sponsored functions or activities upon prior written consent of Community Management. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, but shall require proof of a current and valid host liquor liability insurance policy providing liability coverage for such function or activity. Proof of the existence of the host liquor liability insurance policy shall be provided annually to the Community Owner no later than 30 days prior to the expiration of the previous policy. Smoking, vaping, and e-cigarettes are not allowed in any of the Community's recreational or common facilities.
5. Residents will be held responsible for their guests' conduct. The head of each family shall be continually responsible for the actions of his or her own children, guests and their guests' children, making full restitution for any damages occurring to another Resident's property or that of the Community Owner's property. Guests may not sleep in vehicles.

XVIII. MISCELLANEOUS RULES

1. Residents should promptly report vandalism of private or Community property to Community Management.
2. All complaints concerning infractions of these Rules and Regulations must be given to Community Management in writing, the Community Management requests it. All complainants' identities will be kept strictly confidential, unless their identities are required in legal proceedings.



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3. General notices and notices of articles for sale may be posted on the Bulletin Board for four weeks.
4. Laundry facilities are available for your use at the southeast corner of the clubhouse. Always leave these facilities neat and clean. Please inform Community Management immediately if any of these, or other Community equipment, are not in working order.
5. All residents must wear a covering when walking or riding golf carts, tricycles, electric mobility scooters or bikes in the Community. Consumption of alcohol is prohibited while operating any vehicle, including golf carts, in the Community.
6. Community Management office hours are as posted in clubhouse. In case of emergency, a number is provided for your use.
7. Signs, except as previously noted in Rule XI-2 and as follows, are not permitted in the Community. With the exception of security system signs, free standing signs such as "for sale" signs of any kind, employment signs, etc. are not permitted, except as follows: Political signs, no larger than 24" by 24", may be placed on a lot no sooner than forty-five (45) days before an election and must be removed no later than the day after the election. Temporary signs, such as "no lawn cutting", "no blowing", contractor signs, association activity signs, etc. are permitted only from the beginning through the completion of that specific work or activity.
8. Residents without phones please note: In the event of an emergency call, (interpreted as serious illness, accident or death) every effort will be made to promptly notify you. Community Management will not assume responsibility for delivery of non-emergency messages.
9. When there is a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Warning for our area you need to do the following:
 - a. Secure your home.
 - b. Remove all loose objects from anywhere on your Unit, including your carport, lanai and yard areas.
 - c. Secure all objects too large to move.
 - d. Notify family, neighbors and Community Management where you plan to be during the storm.
10. Community Management of Island In The Sun assumes no liability or responsibility pertaining to loss by fire, theft, property damage, accidental or any other cause.
11. If any provision of these rules and regulations be contrary to any law of any jurisdiction in which the Community is located, it shall not apply or be enforced. However, the other provisions of these rules and regulations shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.
12. The rules and regulations as presented herein supersede and replace all rules and regulations previously in effect.

Today's Inspiration

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December Holidays and Observances



December

December 1

- National Christmas Lights Day
- World AIDS Day
- Romania Independence Day
- Rosa Parks Day
- Peppermint Bark Day

December 2

- International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
- National Bartender Day
- World Pollution Prevention Day
- World Computer Literacy Day

December 3

- National Green Bean Casserole Day
- Ghana Farmer's Day

December 4

- International Cheetah Day
- International Day of Banks
- National Cookie Day
- Santa's List Day
- World Wildlife Conservation Day

December 5

- International Ninja Day
- International Volunteer Day
- National Blue Jeans Day
- Thailand Father's Day

December 6

- National Gazpacho Day
- National Miners Day
- Walt Disney Day

December 7

- National Cotton Candy Day
- National Illinois Day
- National Joy Day
- Pearl Harbor Day of Remembrance
- National Letter Writing Day

December 8

- Immaculate Conception Day
- National Blue Collar Day
- National Brownie Day
- Panama Mother's Day
- Pretend To Be A Time Traveler Day

December 9

- Christmas Card Day
- Lost and Found Day
- Genocide Prevention Day
- National Llama Day
- National Pastry Day
- Techno Day
- Tanzania Independence Day

December 10

- Dewey Decimal System Day
- International Animal Rights Day

- National Lager Day
- Human Rights Day
- Nobel Prize Day

December 11

- National App Day
- Burkina Faso Republic Day
- UNICEF Day for Change

December 12

- Gingerbread Decorating Day
- National Ambrosia Day
- National Poinsettia Day
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Day
- Thailand Constitution Day
- Worldwide Candle Lighting Day
- Universal Health Coverage Day

December 13

- National Cocoa Day
- National Day of Saint Lucia
- National Violin Day
- National Cream Cheese Frosting Day
- National Horse Day
- National Ice Cream Day

December 14

- More Good Today Day
- National Energy Conservation Day
- Roast Chestnuts Day
- National Free Shipping Day

December 15

- National Cat Herders Day
- National Re-Gifting Day
- International Tea Day
- Bill of Rights Day
- National Cupcake Day

December 16

- Day of Reconciliation
- National Chocolate Covered Anything Day
- Stupid Toy Day
- Underdog Day

December 17

- Canadian Maple Syrup Day
- National Ugly Sweater Day
- Wright Brother's Day
- National Wreaths Across America Day

December 18

- Bake Cookies Day
- Hanukkah (lasts through December 26)
- Flake Appreciation Day
- National Twin Day
- Qatar National Day
- International Migrants Day
- Answer The Telephone Like Buddy The Elf Day

...continued on page 32

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December 19

- National Hard Candy Day
- National Heroes and Heroines Day
- Look for an Evergreen Day
- National Emo Day

December 20

- Go Caroling Day
- National Sangria Day
- Sacagawea Day
- Games Day

December 21

- December Solstice
- Blue Christmas
- Humbug Day
- National Coquito Day
- Look On The Bright Side Day
- National Crossword Puzzle Day
- National Homeless Persons' Remembrance Day
- National Maine Day
- World Snowboard Day
- National Short Girl Appreciation Day

December 22

- Mathematics Day
- National Cookie Exchange Day
- Zimbabwe Unity Day
- Forefathers' Day

December 23

- Festivus
- National Christmas Movie Marathon Day
- National Pfeffernusse Day
- National Roots Day

December 24

- Christmas Eve
- National Egnog Day
- Libya Independence Day
- Last-Minute Shopper's Day

December 25

- Christmas Day
- National Pumpkin Pie Day

December 26

- Kwanzaa (lasts through January 1)
- National Boxing Day
- National Homeowners Day
- Day of Goodwill
- National Candy Cane Day
- National Whiners Day
- Slovenia Independence and Unity Day

December 27

- National Fruitcake Day
- Visit the Zoo Day
- Make Cut-Out Snowflakes Day
- International Day of Epidemic Preparedness

December 28

- Holy Innocents Day
- National Download Day
- National Call A Friend Day
- Card Playing Day

December 29

- Mongolia Independence Day
- National Pepper Pot Day
- Tick Tock Day
- International Cello Day

December 30

- National Bacon Day
- National Resolution Planning Day
- Festival of Enormous Changes at the Last Minute

December 31

- National Champagne Day
- New Year's Eve
- World Peace Meditation Day

Positive thinking

“Try to be a rainbow in someone else's cloud.” — Maya Angelou



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Fun December Facts



1. December starts on the same day of the week as September starts every year and ends on the same day of the week as April ends every year.
2. The name December comes from the Latin decem for “ten”, as it was the 10th month in the Roman calendar.
3. December’s flower is the narcissus or holly. December’s birthstones are turquoise, lapis lazuli, zircon, topaz (blue), or tanzanite.
4. Common decorations on a Christmas tree each have their specific meanings. Candles – the light of the world, the Star at the top is a reminder of the first Christmas night and candy canes are to represent the shepherd’s cane.
5. “Jingle bells” was composed in 1857, and not for Christmas – it was meant to be a Thanksgiving song!
6. Christmas was banned in England for 13 years! In 1647 Oliver Cromwell, an English Puritan leader, banned the festivities of Christmas for being seen as immoral on such a holy day. The ban was lifted in 1660.
7. An ancient legend states that forest animals can speak in human language on Christmas Eve!
8. An almanac prediction states that if snow falls on Christmas Day, Easter will be warm, green, and sunny.
9. According to a 2011 survey, more dentists have birthdays in December than in any other month.
10. We withdraw more money in December than any other month.
11. The stock market tends to do better in December than any other month. This has been put down to something called the “Santa rally”.
12. National Cookie Day is December 4th. Other snacks celebrated this month include pie, cotton candy, chocolate brownies (mmm!), cocoa, and cupcakes.
13. Walt Disney was born in December. The world became a little more magical on December 5th, 1901, when Walter Elias “Walt” Disney was born in Hermosa, Illinois.
14. It was the month when a king abdicated. On December 11th 1936, King Edward VIII abdicated the throne of England to marry a twice-divorced American named Wallis Warfield Simpson.
15. Drake set sail in December. Sir Francis Drake set sail from England on December 13th, 1577 leading a voyage around the world.
16. On December 17th, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright, two brothers from Dayton, Ohio, ushered in the era of flight and soared into history.
17. The longest night looms into the calendar. The first day of winter is either December 21st or 22nd. This is the shortest day of the year and the longest night. It is called the winter or Southern solstice in the Northern Hemisphere.
18. What is Boxing Day?

In Britain, Boxing Day is usually celebrated on the following day after Christmas Day, which is December 26th. However, strictly speaking, Boxing Day is the first weekday after Christmas.

Why is December 26th called Boxing Day? Traditionally, December 26th was the day to open the Christmas box to share the contents with the poor.

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OTHER	HELLO CANADIANS! Canadian Club Canadien Gulf Coast Florida, having survived COVID, is now regrowing to promote fellowship among Canadians in Pinellas County, and foster goodwill with American people. Join us; for our monthly lunch with informative speakers, weekly golf, MLB game, dinner/theater, museums, deep sea fishing. Your first lunch is FREE! For information, email: cccgcf@galt.biz.	Sunset Palms MHP Annual Community Yard Sales, Open Houses, Auction, Raffle. January 27th, Kitchen is open 8-2. Starts in the Clubhouse.
GOLF club re-gripping and repair in Largo. Call/text 301-466-7090	Craft Sale 12/9/23 9AM -1PM at Ranch Mobile Park Clubhouse. Refreshments and food sale too	WANTED
Baby Boomer's Learning Guitar? Call or text Joe - 727-641-6966	The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County, having survived COVID, is regrowing to continue supporting local Veterans, and providing social activities for new and existing Canadian Legion Members. Join us for our monthly Membership Meetings, Remembrance Ceremonies, VSO visits, raids, invasions, MLB game, dinner/theater, museums, etc. For information, email: info@relpost144.org.	PART- TIME FOR NOW, SEMI OR RETIRED FULL GOSPEL PASTOR FOR PARADISE ISLAND CHURCH IN THE PARK. PLEASE EMAIL SHORT RESUME TO: Serena Johnson at smjpray@aol.com
EVENTS & PROGRAMS	CRAFT SHOW/ Lunch, Saturday 12-02-2023, 9am- 1pm, AMBER GLADES Clubhouse, 3113 State Road 580, Safety Harbor	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>ATTENTION RESIDENTS! Did you know this Emporium/ Classified listing reaches over 21,500 homes in Pinellas County? It goes into 60 community newsletters (just like this one) from Dunedin to St. Petersburg. This is a great market to sell items, advertise your next event, try and get help for a function, and many other things. Remember to think about this the next time you're planning something.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">-Monthly Media Staff</p> </div>
Ranch Mobile Park, Park-wide Yard Sale, Saturday, December 2nd, 8:00am - 2:00pm at 6800 - 150th Ave. N., Clearwater (Largo)	CRAFT FAIR 12/2/23 10 a.m. to Noon. AMERICANA COVE Clubhouse 7201 1st Street NE Saint Petersburg	
CRAFT SHOW, BAKE SALE and RAFFLE. Saturday December 2, 9-1. Southwind MHC, 795 Country Road 1. Palm Harbor. 440.227.5906	CRAFT SHOW/ Lunch, Saturday 12-02-2023, 9am- 1pm, AMBER GLADES Clubhouse, 3113 State Road 580, Safety Harbor	



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