

# **December Birthdays**

Murray P.....Dec. 4th
Peggy E.....Dec. 25th
Ruth P.....Dec. 28th

#### This Month in History - December

- 1 In Montgomery, Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat in the front section of a bus. (1955)
- 2 Barney B. Clark receives the world's first artificial heart transplant. (1982)
- 5 The 21st Amendment repeals Prohibition. (1933)
- 7 Pearl Harbor was bombed in a surprise Japanese attack. It marked the U.S. entry into WWII.(1941)
- 8 John Lennon was assassinated in New York City. (1980)
- 15 Gone With the Wind premiered in Atlanta. (1939)
- 17 The Wright Brothers made their first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C. (1903)
- 28 William F. Semple patented chewing gum. (1869)
- 30 Edwin Hubble announces the existence of other galactic systems. (1924) Yes, the Hubble telescope was later named after him.









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# **Management Team**

**Michael Siciliano** 

**Executive Director** 

**Tony De Pineres** 

Director of Maintenance

**Kevin Carroll** 

Director of Sales

**Kolette Koch** 

Director of Life Enrichment

**Lauren Ragonese** 

**Director of Nursing** 

Pam Sloan

**Director of Memory Care** 

**Curtis Bradley** 

**Business Office Manager** 

**Chris Blum** 

Director of Hospitality

Samantha Escobedo

Salon Director

# **Fun Holiday Facts**

- Candy canes began as straight white sticks of sugar candy used to decorate the
  Christmas trees. A choirmaster at Cologne Cathedral decide to have the ends
  bent to depict a shepherd's crook and he would pass them out to the children
  to keep them quiet during the services. It wasn't until about the 20th century
  that candy canes acquired their red stripes.
- The modern Christmas custom of displaying a "wreath" on the front door of
  one's house, is borrowed from ancient Rome's New Year's celebrations. Romans
  wished each other "good health" by exchanging branches of evergreens. They
  called these gifts Strenae after Strenia, the goddess of health. It became the
  custom to bend these branches into a ring and display them on doorways.
- Christmas caroling began as an old English custom called Wassailing toasting neighbors to a long and healthy life. The earliest collection of carols was published in 1521.

# **The Comedy Corner**

#### **Visiting Santa**

A grandmother took her grandson to the shopping mall in December to see Santa Claus. The young boy was very excited to sit on Santa's lap. "Now, little boy," Santa said, "tell Santa what you want for Christmas."

In a very loud voice, the boy said, "I want a NINTENDO, and a NEW BIKE, and some BOOKS, and—"

"You don't have to shout," Santa chuckled. "Santa isn't hard of hearing."

The boy leaned forward and whispered, "No, but my grandma is."

#### **Gift Exchange**

My friend reviewed her young son's fill-in-the-blank homework. One line: "At Christmas, we exchange gifts with \_\_\_\_\_." His response: "Receipts."



# December KINIOSMISTLETOEO TEROLOHRRFERKAC A A S T O H T E O A D S I L L R F U Z G N N M R N D O G E H O S WNUIEREILASAHE Y A L W M M T K E E K C Z ILNSLWSTFIGIDKIS RESKKFAOSTIUNL H K M C U K G N O W E N T A F A M I C S R I R A N T OHFHRGNDHIS KFWPASROIITEAA INOGTULKLHSI SORIYIOLILUDFK SEMWETSGDCIAE FRUITCAKEGIALH TRADITINGTEEKT AEEFIGNOGTTTRI SMISTLESIPILD ETINGCARESAAI REETINGCARDS RATIONSEOTD ESNEWYEARSEVE ILLOHCINTNIAS UDFGETCRSANTHAKA **CHRISTMAS FEAST HANUKKAH POINSETTIAS DECORATIONS FRUITCAKE KWANZAA SAINT NICHOLAS DREIDEL GIFTS MENORAH SNOWFLAKES**

**GREETING CARDS** 

HOLLY

**TRADITIONS** 

WINTER

**MISTLETOE** 

**NEW YEARS EVE** 

**EGG NOG** 

**FAMILY** 

# Celebrating Senior Living!





















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Chemistry. Peace. Medicine. Physics. Literature. These five areas of study became a bit more prominent on Dec. 10, 1901. On the fifth anniversary of esteemed Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel's death, the first Nobel Prizes were awarded. Nobel set up the awards prior to his death, leaving \$9 million in his will for their creation. The prizes would be awarded to those who "...shall have conferred the greatest benefit to mankind."

The original ceremonies were a little different than they are today, however: The Laureates' names were kept hidden from the masses! So when the scholars arrived in their award destination of Stockholm, Sweden, talk immediately began to emerge about the special visitors in the country who would be receiving their awards at the old Royal Swedish Academy of Music. Hosting international guests was a rare occurrence in those days. The first Nobel Prize recipients included Sully Prudhomme, Frédéric Passy, Jean Henry Dunant, Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen, Jacobus Henricus van't Hoff and Emil Adolf von Behring. To date, 579 Nobel Prizes have been awarded.



The stage was set, both literally and figuratively, for the evolutionary culture of Broadway on Dec. 3, 1947. "A Streetcar Named Desire," which ran until Dec. 17, 1949, opened at the Ethel Barrymore Theatre and concluded its run on the road with 855 total performances. Written by Tennessee Williams, this two-act play won Williams the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1948, inspiring a number of revivals and adaptation.

The likes of such a play had never before been seen on Broadway, with the enigmatic

brutality and sexuality shown through the lead characters played by Marlon Brando and Jessica Tandy. Tandy's role led to a Tony Award for best Leading Actress in a Play and a lifetime career in acting. Brando's role and his epic enunciation of "Stella!" led him to star in the film adaptation of "A Streetcar Named Desire." This ultimately catapulted Brando's career and life of stardom. The original "Streetcar Named Desire" managed to impact the entertainment industry in new and unforeseen ways for years to come.



# Rudolph: The Story Behind the Story

To most of us, the character of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, immortalized in song and a popular holiday television special, has always been an essential part of our Christmas folklore, but it's actually a mid-twentieth century invention whose creation can be traced to a specific time and person. The Rudolph story and character were developed for commercial purposes by a copywriter at the request of his employer.

Rudolph came to life in 1939 when the Chicago-based Montgomery Ward company asked one of their copywriters, Robert L. May, to come up with a Christmas story they could give away in booklet form to shoppers as a promotional item – the stores had been buying and distributing coloring books to customers at Christmas time every year, and the company decided that creating a giveaway booklet of their own would

save money. Robert May, who had a penchant for writing children's stories and poems, was asked to create the booklet.

Montgomery Ward distributed 2.4 million copies of the Rudolph booklet in 1939, and although wartime paper shortages curtailed printing for the next several years, a total of 6 million copies had been distributed by the end of 1946. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was reprinted commercially beginning in 1947 and shown in theaters as a nine-minute cartoon the following year.

As Ronald Lankford noted in his cultural history of American Christmas songs, Rudolph's story was a classic reflection of American values during the 1940s and beyond, "Rudolph's story is a children's story about overcoming adversity and earning, by personal effort, respect in the adult world."