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How the World Celebrates the New Year

In the U.S., the New Year is often ushered in with parties, fireworks and a midnight kiss. The rest of the world revels in a variety of traditions.

Spain. At the stroke of midnight, people in Spain eat 12 grapes, one for each month of the year ahead, for good luck.

Russia. In the country's region of Siberia, divers plunge into icy lakes to place a New Year tree, or *yolka*, beneath the water's surface, symbolizing a new beginning.

Germany. Germans give a sweet greeting to Jan. 1 by eating the jelly doughnut known as a Berliner, Pfannkuchen or Krapfen.

Japan. All across this Asian nation, the sound of cities ringing in the New Year can be heard at midnight, when bells chime 108 times as a cleansing ritual.

Colombia. Those hoping for travel adventures in the coming year will carry an empty suitcase with them, a custom in Colombia and other Latin American countries. *Greece.* Symbolizing renewal, onions are hung on doorways as a good luck token.

Brazil. To bring prosperity and good luck, Brazilians wear white on New Year's Eve and toss white flowers and candles into the ocean.

Turkey. At midnight, people here sprinkle salt on their doorsteps, which is believed to bring peace and good fortune.

Finland. A crafty custom in Finland is to melt down some tin and then pour it into cold water. When the metal hardens, the shape it forms gives a prediction for the year to come. *Romania.* For protection in the new year, many dress up as bears and perform a dance to scare away bad luck.



JANUARY 2024

Resident of the Month



Melvin is the funniest, most outspoken and compassionate individual this community has ever encountered! He finds light and humor in every situation! This wonderful man served for our country and was blessed with three wonderful children! Melvin and his beautiful wife Sue have been

married for over 60 years! We thank you for being a light for this community! Congratulations Melvin!



Sip Ginger Tea

Drinking ginger tea can warm you up on a chilly day, and nutrients in the spice have been shown to boost the immune system, helping to ward off cold and flu viruses.





MEMORY CARE

JANUARY 2024

Change a Pet's Life Day Is Jan. 24

When you change a pet's life, they often end up changing yours—by leaving paw prints on your heart. Remember that the smallest act of kindness can have an overwhelmingly positive effect on an animal in need. Change a pet's life with one or more of these ideas: Pamper your pets. Show your fluffy family members how much they mean to you by exercising them often, giving them treats and toys, and keeping them healthy with regular vet visits. Volunteer and donate. Give your time by visiting a shelter to walk the dogs or cuddle the cats. You can also donate funds or items such as food, treats and toys, and old towels or blankets. Foster or adopt. Help a pet find a fur-ever home by either fostering—which clears a space in shelters for the next

animal—or adopting a new addition into your family.

"And now let us believe in a long year that is given to us, new, untouched, full of things that have never been." —Rainer Maria Rilke

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Image: Strong of the strong	New Year's Day19:30 Morning Yoga↓10:00 Pecan Ridge Music Club11:00 New Year's BBQ11:30 Bingo2:30 Lifelong Learning3:00 Movie And Popcorn3:30 Manicure Monday (All Day)	 Energize Your Morning Day 2 9:30 Morning Yoga → 9:30 Therapy Pet Pals 10:30 Pastor Bob Sermon 11:00 Daily Chronicle → 1:30 Afternoon Trivia A 2:30 Ice Cream Social ♥ 3:30 Sing Along/ Finish That lyric ♪ 	Wiser Now Wednesday39:30 Chair Dance Exercise!10:00 Liz And Children11:00 Daily Chronicle1:30 Lifelong Learning2:30 Gentlemen's Club III2:30 Tea Party 3:30 Acting Club III4:00 Pool Noodle BalloonToss ♥	Free Flower Basket Day49:30 Morning Stretch ↓110:00 Devotions ▲11:00 Daily Chronicle ▶1:30 Arts And Crafts �2:30 Wheel Of Fortune! ♥3:30 Bowling ↓4:00 Poem Club! ♥	Futuristic Friday 5 9:30 Zumba I→I 10:15 Chronicles 11:00 Nail And Spa Day 1:30 Dance Club I→I 2:30 Chef's Cooking Show II 3:30 Karaoke Happy Hour ♪	Epiphany 6 9:30 Walking Club! I→ 10:00 Coffee Social ≦ 10:30 Indoor Gardening ♥ 11:00 Daily Chronicle III 1:30 Aroma Therapy III 2:30 Pecan Ridge Music Club ♪ 3:30 Bingo ♥
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Margie loves her Sock Snowman!

Sock Snowman

This soft snowman will look cute sitting on a shelf or table. **Materials:**

- Measuring cup
- Two socks, one white and one any color (ankle or crew-type socks)
- Dry rice or beans
- Rubber bands
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun and glue
- Buttons and/or pompoms, various colors
- Black marker
- Ribbon

Directions:

Use the measuring cup to fill the white sock with dry rice or beans to create your desired size of snowman. Wind a rubber band around the top of the sock to close the opening, then trim any excess fabric. Take another rubber band and place it around the sock, about a third of the way down, to form the snowman's head and body.

Glue several buttons or pompoms down the front of the snowman's body, and dot on eyes and a mouth with the black marker. For the nose, glue on a small orange pompom or button. Wrap a length of ribbon around the snowman's neck to resemble a scarf, and secure with glue.

To make a hat, cut the colored sock just below the heel. With the toe section as the top of the hat, place the sock on the snowman's head and roll up the cut end to form the hat's brim.



Meet our Awesome Staff! Domingo Medina Executive Director LVN Nariyah Israel Director of Assisted Living Annel Quesada Sales Director Bennie Dewberry Jr., CEC Dining Director Faridhai Villanueva Human Resources Assistant Kevin Farr Maintenance Director Aneva McDaniel Activity Director

Sunny or Snowy

Although vastly different from each other, two popular places to visit in January are the Maldives and Switzerland. The Maldives is your destination for fun in the sun! Located in the Indian Ocean, this island chain experiences their dry season in January, resulting in picture-perfect conditions of low humidity and calm, clear water that's ideal for diving and snorkeling. To experience a winter wonderland, make Switzerland your pick. In January, the days are short and the temperatures low, but the snow is thick, making it peak season for skiing or hiking in the beautiful Alps. Fondue fans can also visit the capital of the cheesy concoction, Gruyères.



