



VILLAGE CROSSING

2480 Waterside Drive • Frederick, MD 21701

December Is Culture Carousel

As the winter chill sets in and the days grow shorter, many people around the world turn to time-honored traditions to bring warmth and joy to the season. Whether celebrated with family, friends, or community, winter holidays are a time of togetherness, reflection, and merrymaking. From Christmas to Hanukkah to New Year's, and everything in between, these traditions not only reflect the diversity of cultures but also highlight universal themes of love, hope, and the desire for renewal.

Winter holiday traditions across the globe reflect a blend of cultural values, spiritual beliefs, and social practices. While the specific rituals may differ, these holidays often share common themes of light, renewal, family, and generosity. Whether it's the lighting of candles, the sharing of meals, or the giving of gifts, winter holidays provide an opportunity to pause, reflect, and celebrate what brings us together—our shared humanity, our hopes for the future, and our connections to those we love.



December 2024



Best of the Best

We are incredibly proud to share that we have been honored with the **Frederick's Best of the Best** award in the Assisted Living category! This recognition means so much to us because it reflects the deep connection and trust we've built with our community—a community that sees us in the same light we see ourselves: committed, compassionate, and dedicated to excellence.

As we approach our two-year anniversary, this achievement is a testament to the unwavering support of our exceptional staff, the warmth and spirit of our residents, and the strength of our leadership team. Each day, we work together to create a place that feels like home, and this award is a reflection of the hard work, dedication, and love we put into everything we do.

We should all take a moment to celebrate this milestone and be incredibly proud to be part of this remarkable Village. This is a win for all of us—congratulations to everyone who makes this community so special!



Activities



We had a great Sunday with the Catoctones!!



Remember When: Wooden Sleds

For generations of children, the combination of a winter snowfall and a nearby hill made for a day of sledding fun. One of the most popular means of riding the snowy slopes was aboard a Flexible Flyer. The iconic wooden sled with its eagle logo, red metal runners and hardwood seat slats was famous for a revolutionary feature—a flexible front-end steering bar that allowed the rider to control their course. Created in 1899 by a New Jersey manufacturer, millions of the sleds were sold up until the 1980s.

'Sing' In the New Year

Pull out your party hat and warm up your vocal cords—it's almost time to ring in the new year with some celebratory singing! Add these treasured favorites to your NYE playlist:

"Let's Start the New Year Right." Crooned by Bing Crosby in the 1942 classic film "Holiday Inn," this sweet jazzy tune promises high hopes in the year to come.

"Bringing In a Brand New Year." Pianist and blues singer Charles Brown penned this catchy bop, perfect for tapping your toes while you wait for midnight.

"It's Just Another New Year's Eve." Barry Manilow often

Memorable Melody: 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy'

The delicate notes of this melody are among the most recognizable pieces of music from Peter Tchaikovsky's celebrated ballet "The Nutcracker," which premiered in 1892. The Russian composer created the tune's magical bell-like tone using a new instrument called the celesta, which looks like an upright piano, but its keys strike metal bars similar to those of a glockenspiel. Still today, the timeless dance piece can be heard in various arrangements throughout the holiday season.

performed this 1977 ballad on "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve" TV special, reminding audiences that the upcoming year is full of second chances.

"Auld Lang Syne." The ultimate New Year's Eve anthem, "Auld Lang Syne" is mostly attributed to a 1788 poem by Robert Burns and set to traditional Scottish music. With an emphasis on friendship and fond memories, singing the song in a circle is a wonderful way to cap off the night's festivities.



Laugh Lines: Eat, Drink and Be Merry

The gingerbread man went to the medical clinic because he had a sore knee. After examining it, the doctor said, "Have you tried icing it?"

Q: Why did the gingerbread man go to the dentist?

A: He had gingivitis.

Q: What does gingerbread do when it's done baking?

A: It just loaf's around.

Q: What is a gingerbread man's favorite drink?

A: Ginger ale.

Q: How would you rate the eggnog?

A: It's egg-cellent.

Q: Who tells the best eggnog jokes?

A: Comedi-hens!

Q: What's a fun party activity to do while drinking eggnog?

A: Singing kara-yolkie!

Q: What happens when no one comes to your holiday party?

A: You can have your fruitcake and eat it too.

Q: Why is history like a fruitcake?

A: Because it's full of dates.

Q: When is a fruitcake like a golf ball?

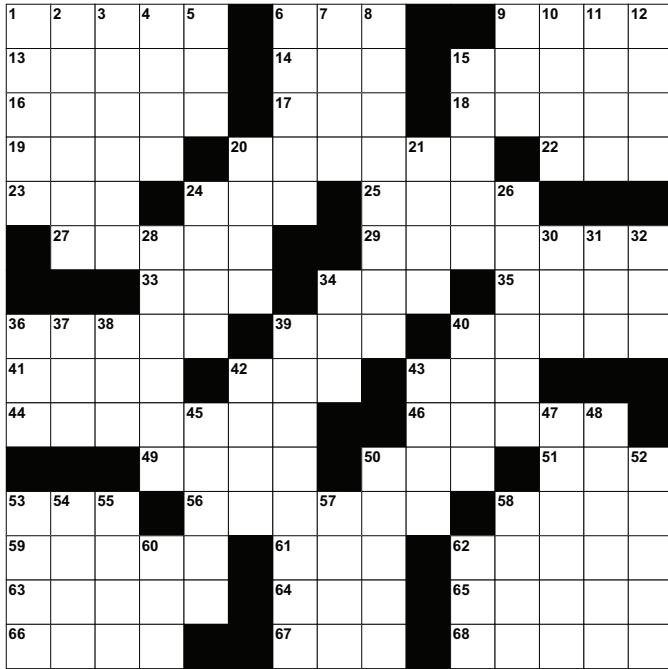
A: When it's been sliced.

Q: Why was the German tourist searching for fruitcake?

A: It was stollen.



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Speak in public
6. NFL conference (abbr.)
9. Recess
13. Happy cat sounds
14. Brazil destination
15. Grown-up
16. Master of ceremonies
17. Genetic code
18. Type of Greek column
19. Write down quickly
20. Stalls
22. Kilometers per hour
23. ___ Lanka
24. Neither's partner
25. North _____
27. Threaded nail
29. Distilling flask
33. In possession of
34. Whoop
35. Chow
36. Active
39. Touch an animal
40. Secret meeting
41. Destroy
42. San Diego attraction
43. Back-to-school mo.
44. End-of-performance cheers
46. _____ Bear constellation
49. Definite
50. Official
51. The Big Apple
53. Short-term memory

56. Poached
58. Champion
59. Pine Tree State
61. Newsmen Rather
62. Type of Catholic
63. Large body of water
64. Only
65. Tight at the top, flaring at the bottom
66. Chinese chime
67. Recent
68. Beefy

DOWN

1. Tournaments
2. Hearsay
3. Region centered on the North Pole
4. Tannenbaum
5. Compass point
6. Elan
7. Pale sherry
8. Sleeve
9. Hoopla
10. Music genre
11. Slide
12. Engrave
15. Store passageway
20. Present toppers
21. Consecrated
24. Not far
26. Surface
28. Large horned beasts
30. Body of water
31. Possessive pronoun

32. Central Time
34. Chief executive officer
36. To be
37. Midnight _____ (Arctic phenomenon)
38. Twitch
39. God of the sea
40. Land
42. Sub _____
43. Elderly
45. "American Idol" winner _____ Studdard
47. Lack of iron
48. Despot
50. Gain an extension
52. Rabbit
53. Haze
54. Mexican favorite
55. Bearing
57. Dirt road
58. Cavern
60. Pester
62. Male sheep



"This Month In History"

DECEMBER

1901: With a goal of setting rules and safety standards, representatives from over 60 universities meet to form the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States. In 1910, the organization was renamed the NCAA.

1924: At age 2, Judy Garland makes her stage debut at her father's movie theater in Grand Rapids, Minn.

1948: The United Nations General Assembly adopts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Defining

fundamental freedoms of all human beings, the document has been translated into more than 500 languages.

1973: Astronauts on NASA's Skylab 4 mission take a 7-hour spacewalk, the longest at the time.

1987: Ron Hextall of the Philadelphia Flyers becomes the first NHL goalie to score a goal by intentionally firing the puck into the other team's net.

2001: "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" premieres. It was the first film in the trilogy based on author J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy series.

2007: At 81, Queen Elizabeth II becomes the oldest ever monarch of the U.K., surpassing her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria.

2016: Global retailer Amazon makes its first delivery by drone. The package arrived at its destination 13 minutes after it was ordered.