

## Santa & Traditions

**Santa Claus** is inspired by **St. Nicholas**, a 4th-century bishop known for giving gifts to the poor.



Santa's modern red-suit image became widely popular in the 1930s, helped by Coca-Cola ads, though the imagery existed earlier.

The tradition of **hanging stockings** comes from the legend that St. Nicholas dropped gold coins down a chimney.

## Christmas Tree Facts



The first recorded **Christmas tree** dates to **16th-century Germany**, where trees were decorated with apples and candles.

The world's tallest natural Christmas trees are often over **70–90 feet** tall.

## Cultural Facts

In Japan, it's common to eat **KFC on Christmas**, thanks to a successful 1970s marketing campaign.

In Iceland, there are **13 Yule Lads**, mischievous characters who visit children on the nights before Christmas.

In Mexico, people celebrate **Las Posadas**, reenacting Mary and Joseph's search for shelter.

## Employee's Birthday AND Resident's Birthday



Tirzah 6<sup>th</sup>

Tabitha 24<sup>th</sup>

Janie E. 1<sup>st</sup>

Ann J. 10<sup>th</sup>

Pat L. 12<sup>th</sup>

Jackey P. 24<sup>th</sup>

## December Employee of the Month Tosh Vakatau



Thank you for all your hard work, Tosh!

YOU Make Magic Happen  
at Spring Ridge!

# Spring Ridge Newsletter

## December 2025

### Team Spotlight

*Hi, my name is Theresa...*

I'm so excited to introduce myself as the new Community Relations Director here at Spring Ridge. Before entering senior living, I spent many years as a hairdresser, a career that was both fun and creative. I was preparing to open a salon when my great grandma, the woman who raised me, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's dementia. She was the strongest woman I've ever known, and I knew she needed my help.

I moved her in with my family and cared for her for over five years while working and attending school. When the time came, I had to navigate the memory care placement process entirely on my own. That experience changed my life. My grandma, and the compassionate people who supported us, are the reason I found my true passion and calling in senior living. I became a CNA and began my senior living career eight years ago, working my way up from caregiver to where I am today.

One of my favorite parts of this work is earning the trust of families. There's no greater honor than being able to look someone in the eye and say, "We've got this. We'll take care of your loved one so you can go back to being family."

Outside of work, I enjoy time outdoors with my family. I have 4 pets, a feisty corgi Freya and 3 cats Pumpkin, Salem and Cheeto. I have a 2-year-old granddaughter Georgia who takes up all my extra time, I love spoiling her. I love escaping into a good fantasy book—right now, I'm making my way through the Throne of Glass series. And like many families, we're counting down the days until the final season of Stranger Things!

I'm truly grateful to be part of this community and look forward to building strong relationships and contributing to the meaningful work we do every day.



### Festival of Trees

December 2



### Walmart Day

December 3



### Elmer's Out to Lunch

December 9



### Christmas Choir

December 11



### Brunch & Ornament Exchange

December 13



### Spanaway Christmas Lights

December 16



### Birthday Celebration

December 17



### Ukulele Christmas Carols

December 20



### IHOP Out to Lunch

December 23



### Merry Christmas

December 25



### Golden Corral Out to Lunch

December 30



### New Year's Eve Celebration

December 31







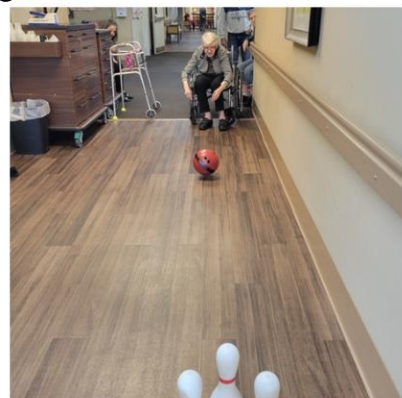
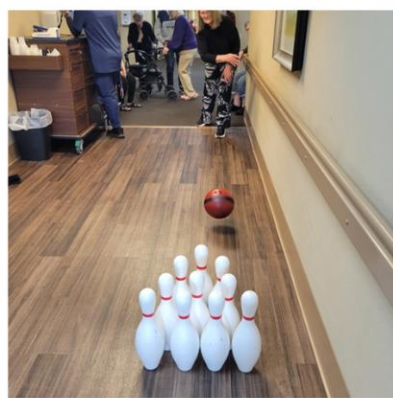
Sip and Paint



Friendsgiving



Bowling Time



November Birthday Celebration



Bazaar



## DECEMBER EVENTS

- 5<sup>th</sup> Festive Friday! Santa's Workshop (Santa, Reindeer, Etc)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Festive Friday! Ugly Sweater
- 13<sup>th</sup> Brunch and Ornament Exchange 11am-1pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> ALL Staff Christmas Party 1:30pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> Festive Friday! Christmas Pajamas
- 19<sup>th</sup> Story Time with Santa & Hot Cocoa by the fire (bring the kiddos!) 4pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> Family Christmas Dinner & Festival of Trees 4pm-6pm (2 guest limit per resident)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Merry Christmas!
- 26<sup>th</sup> Festive Friday! Country Christmas (Red/Green Fannels & Boots)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Happy New Year's Eve - 1pm



Ribbon Cutting for our new Bus

