



Martha	Huff	12/2
Charles	Boschert	12/4
Helen	Hansen	12/6
Marion	Epstein	12/17
Abraham	Orenstein	12/17
Marie	Huff	12/18
Shirley	Halperin	12/19
Pauline	Pearl	12/19
Sondra	Conneely	12/22
Nathan	Kirschner	12/30
Nancy	Hartwell	12/31

Director Diane Gagliano..... HR/Business Office
 Debbie Ford..... Marketing Director



The Renaissance

A New Era in Assisted Living

Assisted Living Facility



DECEMBER 2010

December Birthstone : Blue Topaz

As cool and inviting as a blue lake on a blistering summer day, December's birthstone is derived from the Sanskrit word "tapas," meaning fire. This is because Blue Topaz was considered by ancient civilizations to have cooling properties. Not only was it believed to cool boiling water when thrown into the pot, but to calm hot tempers as well! Topaz is found primarily in Brazil, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Pakistan, China, and the United States. A gift of Blue Topaz is symbolic of love and fidelity. Luckily, this cool blue gemstone has no legendary power to put out the burning flame of love!



DECEMBER FLOWER

The meaning of the December Birth Flower, the Narcissus, is respect, modesty and faithfulness



The Jewish holiday Hanukkah celebrates the re-dedication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem in the 2nd century B.C. Hanukkah, which means "dedication" in Hebrew, begins on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar and usually falls in November or December. The celebration lasts for eight nights to commemorate a miracle that Jews believe occurred in the temple: When the Jews first returned to the Holy Temple after defeating Hellenist Syrians who had made it illegal for Jews to worship, they found only enough oil to light the temple's menorah for one day. Miraculously, flame remained lit for eight days and nights, giving them enough time to find more oil to sustain the fire. Often called the "Festival of Lights," Hanukkah festivities include games, gifts, eating traditional foods and lighting a new candle on the menorah each night.



History of Christmas

The history of Christmas dates back to thousand years. In fact many of the Christmas traditions celebrated these days were also in existence centuries before the birth of Jesus Christ. In the Western world, the Christmas Day has been celebrated as the birthday of Jesus since AD 354. However, later in the eighteenth century, another alternative explanation came out, according to which, the date of Christmas was chosen to match up with the winter solstice, which was again marked in the ancient times on the same day (December 25).

If we are to find the roots of the Christmas traditions, we may need to go back to the age of Mesopotamian culture which had the tradition of celebrating New Year. The same kind of tradition was also the part of the Persian and Babylonian culture. They had the festival called the 'Sacaee'. On the other hand, there was also a festival in Scandinavia known as 'Yule', which was celebrated during the winter months. All these festivals have had great impact on the present day Christmas.

The customs of the modern age Christmas started in the Middle Ages. The carol became associated with the birth of Jesus Christ since the 14th century. The Saints Day has also contributed in a great way in Christmas History. With the course of time, a number of other customs also got associated with the occasion.



The Renaissance Assisted Living Staff

<i>Marlene Lieberman</i>	<i>Administrator</i>
<i>Elsie Paul</i>	<i>Director of Nursing</i>
<i>Marilyn Feller</i>	<i>Admissions Director</i>
<i>Michael Witlin</i>	<i>Food Service</i>
<i>Karl Spencer</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>
<i>Joy Kanter</i>	<i>Activities Director</i>
<i>Ileen Hughes</i>	<i>Activities Director of</i>

Director
 Director
 New Vistas

