

### Notable Quotable

Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind.

To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.

~ Calvin Coolidge, American President

## December Horoscopes and Birthdays

In astrology, those born from December 1–21 are Archers of Sagittarius. The Archers are the travelers of the zodiac, curious and energetic, with open minds craving new experiences and challenges. Those born from December 22–31 are Capricorn's Goats. Like goats that perch on mountain crags, Capricorns are masters of self-control and responsibility. Focus and fortitude help them to reach their goals.

Bette Midler – Dec. 1, 1945  
 Lucy Liu – Dec. 2, 1968  
 Eli Wallach – Dec. 7, 1915  
 Sammy Davis Jr. – Dec. 8, 1925  
 Niki Minaj – Dec. 8, 1984  
 Frank Sinatra – Dec. 12, 1915  
 Lee R. – Dec 14<sup>th</sup>  
 Beethoven – c. Dec. 16, 1770  
 Cicely Tyson – Dec. 18, 1924  
 Samuel L. Jackson – Dec. 21, 1948  
 Clara Barton – Dec. 25, 1821  
 Rosetta S. – Dec 30<sup>th</sup>  
 LeBron James – Dec. 30, 1984

## December Is a Circus *cont. from pg. 1*

*United Monster Shows, Great Double Circus, Royal European Menagerie, Museum, Caravan, and Congress of Trained Animals.*

The Ringling Bros. eventually caught the attention of the famous Barnum & Bailey Circus. The two companies agreed to avoid direct competition by splitting the U.S. into territories, but after the death of James Bailey in 1906, Ringling Bros. purchased the Barnum &

Bailey Circus to become the largest circus in the world and the self-proclaimed "Greatest Show on Earth."

The "Greatest Show" would not be great forever. The public would lose their taste for the traveling circus and its exotic animals. After a 146-year run, in May of 2017, the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus performed its final show.

## Holiday Happenings at Trinity Hills

December looks to be a fun-filled month at our community! We'll be visited by Chris Templar's Chinese students on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the children of Chilhowee church will be here at 6:30pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> for an evening concert. We'll have many entertainers on the week of the 13<sup>th</sup> starting with a Holiday concert by Dennis, Kathy on the 16<sup>th</sup> and Regina on the 17<sup>th</sup>. We will also host our annual **Trail of Trees** open house social on the 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm to 6:30pm which will include live music, light refreshments, and a chance for

guests to view our beautifully decorated trees! We ask that all visitors wear a mask at all times when in common areas during this event!

Though we have a general no-gratuity policy, each Christmas season I establish a Holiday Fund that is equitably distributed to our team members that worked so hard throughout the year. If you would like to make a donation toward this fund, see Marshall or Rachel before Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

# Trinity Hills Times

December 2021

Trinity Hills of Knoxville  
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 Executive Director: Marshall McCauley



### Celebrating December

### Bingo's Birthday Month

### Universal Human Rights Month

### Hanukkah Continues

*December 1–6*

### Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

*December 7*

### Poinsettia Day

*December 12*

### Yaldā

*December 21*

### Christmas

*December 25*

### Kwanzaa

*December 26–January 1*

### Boxing Day

*December 26*

### New Year's Eve

*December 31*

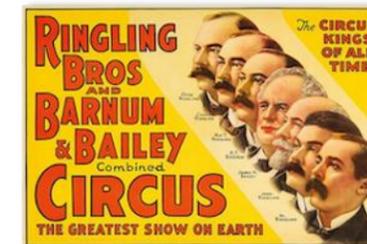
## December Is a Circus

Charles Ringling, born on December 2, 1863, was one of seven brothers to operate the Ringling Bros. Circus, a traveling act that became the largest and most famous circus in the world by 1930.

Four of the seven Ringling brothers were born in Iowa. It was there that they saw a circus unloaded off the back of a steamboat, a scene that inspired them to develop their own traveling act. In 1872, the family moved to Wisconsin, a state renowned as an overwintering destination for the nation's circuses. Perhaps the move was destiny. The Ringlings showcased their variety show

across the state, performing musical numbers, skits, and juggling routines. They used their earnings to purchase suits and top hats, and later added a donkey, Shetland pony, and a bear to their act. By 1887, Charles oversaw the production of a massive show starring all seven Ringling brothers and various exotic animals such as tigers, elephants, and camels. He called the act *Ringling Bros.*

*cont. on pg. 4*



## Marshall's Minutes

I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of the Trinity Hills team throughout this year serving our residents. Our ownership (Cornerstone Health Group) recognized our community with the company's Community of the Year award back in July of 2021, an honor that each employee had part in earning! Kind words of support of encouragement from our residents

and families have been incredibly meaningful and appreciated, helping keep our morale high despite long hours worked under challenging circumstances as we continue to keep our community safe and healthy. I am very thankful to lead a team of compassionate, hard-workers as we make a positive difference in the lives of our residents. From my family to yours, have a very Merry Christmas!



## From Saint to Santa



Nast often depicted Santa as an ally of the U.S. military. Here he wears both an Army backpack and dress sword.

Illustrator Thomas Nast has been called the “Father of the American Cartoon” for the illustrations he featured in *Harper’s Weekly* magazine in the 19th century. It was Nast who first used a donkey and elephant to symbolize America’s political parties. He fought corruption with scathing political cartoons. But Nast’s most enduring contribution to popular culture might be his depictions of Santa Claus as a jolly, fat man from the North Pole dressed in red and white.

Long before he was Santa Claus, he was Saint Nicholas, the Bishop of Myra. The Dutch venerated him as Sinterklaas, and when the Dutch set sail for the New World in the 17th century, they brought Sinterklaas with them.

Sinterklaas, or Santa Claus, and Christmas, were well-established in America by the

1800s. But in December of 1823, Clement Clark Moore published his poem *’Twas the Night Before Christmas*, and first described Santa Claus not as an austere bishop, but “chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf.” By January of 1863, with the United States plunged into Civil War, Thomas Nast had plenty of inspiration to draw on for his first cartoon depicting Santa Claus.

Nast’s first depictions of Santa portray him not just as a jolly old elf but as an ally of the Union Army, and he used his own long beard as inspiration for Santa’s flowing white one. Over the next 23 years, Nast would make 33 illustrations of Santa, none more influential than his 1881 image of “Merry Old Santa Claus,” complete with a white beard, rosy cheeks, red suit, and pack full of toys. This image has made Santa Claus who he is today.



## A Christmas Tree

A poem by Trinity Hills resident Clayton L. Brewer

I once stood in a field so green,  
Mankind to me was scarcely seen;  
For many years I had stood just so,  
Being allowed to grow and grow.

Then one day in a December’s snow,  
I saw a man that I did not know;  
With his saw he easily cut me down,  
Taking my life without even a frown.

He took me to his house and stood me by the fire,  
Brightly colored bulbs were hung with a wire;  
Electric lights were also hung on my limbs,  
How did they glow when the daylight dims.

The children were so happy to see,  
Brightly colored packages placed under me;  
My life I gave happiness for to bring,  
Just like the Christ child to whom we sing.



# JOY

