



# The Truman

Equal Opportunity \* Diversity \* Special Emphasis Program Newsletter

December 2015 Issue 9

W W W . M O G U A R D . C O M



Greetings  
from the  
SEEM

*Pearl Harbor*

Pearl Harbor  
Remembrance  
Day

Human Rights  
Day

Winter  
Holidays  
Around the  
World

MO Holiday  
Events

FOH & EAP  
Spotlight



## GREETINGS FROM THE SEEM

Greetings,

Many different people will celebrate this holiday season for many different reasons, in many different ways, at many different places.

As I reflect on the reason of what this season means to me; I'm filled with joy and peace. Celebrating our family's traditions is a reminder of the importance of family and friends.

Whatever this season means to you, I hope you are filled with joy and peace.

I wish each and every one of you a very Happy Holiday!

Tis the Season for Family, Friends, Traditions, Love, and Peace.

Respectfully,

MAJ Deborah A. Smith  
State Equal Employment Manager



## The Trueman

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# Pearl Harbor

Just before 8 a.m. on December 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor near Honolulu, Hawaii. The barrage lasted just two hours, but it was devastating: The Japanese managed to destroy nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight enormous battleships, and almost 200 airplanes. More than 2,000 Americans soldiers and sailors died in the attack, and another 1,000 were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan; Congress approved his declaration with just one dissenting vote. Three days later, Japanese allies Germany and Italy also declared war on the United States, and again Congress reciprocated. More than two years into the conflict, America had finally joined World War II

## Pearl Harbor and the Road to War

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise, but Japan and the United States had been edging toward war for decades. The United States was particularly unhappy with Japan's increasingly belligerent attitude toward China. The Japanese government believed that the only way to solve its economic and demographic problems was to expand into its neighbor's territory and take over its import market; to this end, Japan had declared war on China in 1937. American officials responded to this aggression with a battery of economic sanctions and trade embargoes. They reasoned that without access to money and goods, and especially essential supplies like oil, Japan would have to rein in its expansionism. Instead, the sanctions made the Japanese more determined to stand their ground. During months of negotiations between Tokyo and Washington, D.C., neither side would budge. It seemed that war was inevitable.



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## Did You Know?

The single vote against Congress's declaration of war against Japan came from Representative Jeannette Rankin of Montana. Rankin was a pacifist who had also voted against the American entrance into World War I. "As a woman," she said, "I can't go to war, and I refuse to send anyone else."

But no one believed that the Japanese would start that war with an attack on American territory. For one thing, it would be terribly inconvenient: Hawaii and Japan were about 4,000 miles apart. For another, American intelligence officials were confident that any Japanese attack would take place in one of the (relatively) nearby European colonies in the South Pacific: the Dutch East Indies, for instance, or Singapore or Indochina. Because American military leaders were not expecting an attack so close to home, the naval facilities at Pearl Harbor were relatively undefended. Almost the entire Pacific Fleet was moored around Ford Island in the harbor, and hundreds of airplanes were squeezed onto adjacent airfields. To the Japanese, Pearl Harbor was an irresistible target.

## “A Date Which Will Live in Infamy”

The Japanese plan was simple: Destroy the Pacific Fleet. That way, the Americans would not be able to fight back as Japan's armed forces spread across the South Pacific. On December 7, after months of planning and practice, the Japanese launched their attack.



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At about 8 a.m., Japanese planes filled the sky over Pearl Harbor. Bombs and bullets rained onto the vessels moored below. At 8:10, a 1,800-pound bomb smashed through the deck of the battleship USS Arizona and landed in her forward ammunition magazine. The ship exploded and sank with more than 1,000 men trapped inside. Next, torpedoes pierced the shell of the battleship USS Oklahoma. With 400 sailors aboard, the Oklahoma lost her balance, rolled onto her side and slipped underwater. By the time the attack was over, every battleship in Pearl Harbor—USS Arizona, USS Oklahoma, USS California, USS West Virginia, USS Utah, USS Maryland, USS Pennsylvania, USS Tennessee and USS Nevada—had sustained significant damage. (All but USS Arizona and USS Utah were eventually salvaged and repaired.)

In all, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor crippled or destroyed 18 American ships and nearly 300 airplanes. Dry docks and airfields were likewise destroyed. Most important, almost 2,500 men were killed and another 1,000 were wounded.

But the Japanese had failed to cripple the Pacific Fleet. By the 1940s, battleships were no longer the most important naval vessel: Aircraft carriers were, and as it happened, all of the Pacific Fleet's carriers were away from the base on December 7. (Some had returned to the mainland and others were delivering planes to troops on Midway and Wake Islands.) Moreover, the Pearl Harbor assault had left the base's most vital onshore facilities—oil storage depots, repair shops, shipyards and submarine docks—intact. As a result, the U.S. Navy was able to rebound relatively quickly from the attack.



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## Pearl Harbor Awakens the “Sleeping Giant”

“Yesterday,” President Roosevelt said on December 8, “the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked.” He went on to say, “No matter now long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory. I believe I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make very certain that this form of treachery shall never endanger us again.” After the Pearl Harbor attack, and for the first time after years of discussion and debate, the American people were united in their determination to go to war. The Japanese had wanted to goad the United States into an agreement to lift the economic sanctions against them; instead, they had pushed their adversary into a global conflict that ultimately resulted in Japan’s first occupation by a foreign power.

On December 8, Congress approved Roosevelt’s declaration of war. Three days later, Japanese allies Germany and Italy declared war against the United States. For the second time, Congress reciprocated. More than two years after the start of the conflict, the United States had entered World War II.



Source: [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)



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# Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

## Live Webinar

Pearl Harbor Student Webinar

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2015

Time: 8 a.m. HST; noon CST

Location: Online via Adobe Connect

Join the National WWII Museum and the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument to commemorate the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor through this special, live webinar. Travel virtually to New Orleans, Louisiana, for behind the scenes access of the Museum's newest gallery, *Campaigns of Courage: Road to Tokyo*, officially opening later in the month.

Explore Pearl Harbor resources and artifacts that tell the story of the “day that will live in infamy.” Next students will venture to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, for an up close encounter of the USS *Arizona* Memorial with National Park Service educators. Learn how the park remembers the historic anniversary every year and preserves the stories of the attack for visitors from across the globe. Hear firsthand testimony from a witness of the attack and discover how this one day forever changed our country's history.

Classrooms participating live will have the opportunity to ask questions of the Museum and Park Educators. Teachers will receive curriculum materials related to Pearl Harbor after registering. Space is limited —

[http://support.nationalww2museum.org/site/Survey?ACTION\\_REQUIRE\\_D=URI\\_ACTION\\_USER\\_REQUESTS&SURVEY\\_ID=10540](http://support.nationalww2museum.org/site/Survey?ACTION_REQUIRE_D=URI_ACTION_USER_REQUESTS&SURVEY_ID=10540)



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# Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii, Nov. 17, 2015 | PRNewswire

The National Park Service and the United States Navy will host the National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony on Monday, December 7, 2015 at Kilo Pier at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, overlooking the USS *Arizona* Memorial.

**National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day** is observed annually in the United States on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Its purpose is to remember and commemorate the 2,390 American casualties who were lost during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and on the island of Oahu on 7 December 1941. On August 23, 1994, United States Congress, by Public Law 103–308, designated December 7<sup>th</sup> of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. It is a tradition to fly the Flag of the United States at half-staff until sunset to honor the dead.

The ceremony will be attended by more than 3,000 guests, including Pearl Harbor Survivors and WWII veterans. The ceremony will be broadcast live via webcast so that those who cannot travel to Hawaii can still participate and honor the sacrifices made by "The Greatest Generation." The webcast will include a special behind-the-scenes look at the ceremony and will feature oral history interviews with Pearl Harbor Survivors and WWII veterans and a live chat during the 74<sup>th</sup> commemoration.

This year's ceremony will feature Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David Kennedy, the Donald L. McLachlan Professor of History Emeritus at Stanford University, as the keynote speaker. Highlights of the ceremony will also include music by the Navy's U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, morning colors, a Hawaiian chant, a rifle salute by the U.S. Marine Corps, wreath presentations, and echo taps in recognition of the men and women who survived the attack and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country on December 7, 1941.

A moment of silence will be observed at 7:55 a.m., the exact moment the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor began. The guided missile destroyer USS *Preble* (DDG 88) will render pass-in-review honors to the USS *Arizona* and all Pearl Harbor Survivors. A missing man flyover will be conducted.

Live Stream: [www.pearlharborevents.com](http://www.pearlharborevents.com) Monday December 7, 2015 Time: 7am – 5pm (Hawaii standard time)



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Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December. It commemorates the day on which, in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In 1950, the Assembly passed resolution 423 (V), inviting all States and interested organizations to observe 10 December of each year as Human Rights Day.

This year's Human Rights Day is devoted to the launch of a year-long campaign for the **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the two International Covenants on Human Rights**: the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1966.

The two Covenants, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, form the International Bill of Human Rights, setting out the civil, political, cultural, economic, and social rights that are the birth right of all human beings.

"Our Rights. Our Freedoms. Always." aims to promote and raise awareness of the two Covenants on their 50th anniversary. The year-long campaign revolves around the theme of rights and freedoms -- freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear -- which underpin the International Bill of Human Rights are as relevant today as they were when the Covenants were adopted 50 years ago. For more this year's theme and the year-long campaign, see the website of the UN Human Rights office.



## Winter Holidays Around the World

Rita Putatunda | [www.buzzle.com](http://www.buzzle.com)

The winter holidays are linked to religious festivals that are celebrated in a unique way all over the world. However, there are some holidays, which are a part of celebrations only. Here are some of the interesting ones.

With human history going back five thousand years, perhaps even more, it has resulted in the winter holiday season being garbed with rich traditions, with many layers of folklore, customs and celebration. The month of December, or rather the winter season, is observed by people in many parts of the world as a time for observing many seasonal days.

Most of them are linked to the winter solstice in some way, especially in the northern hemisphere. This is because on that day, because of the tilt of the earth's axis, the daytime hours are at their shortest in the northern hemisphere, and the nighttime hours are at their longest. (In the southern hemisphere, it is the other way.) And this is the reason that most wintertime seasonal holiday traditions have their roots in the northern hemisphere.

But these holidays are also associated with religiously linked holy days. In fact, the very word 'holiday' has been derived from 'holy' and 'day', because originally holidays demarcated special religious days. Here are some of the winter holidays that are celebrated around the world.



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## Japanese New Year



New Year celebration is one of the most major events in Japan. New Year's Eve is known as Omisoka in Japan. The Japanese spend a lot of time shopping and cleaning their houses in preparation for the new year. This symbolizes getting rid of the past and starting afresh. The celebration on the New Year's day itself is known as Shogatsu. The Japanese decorate their houses and give their children gifts of toys and money and greeting cards to friends and family. There are certain delicacies, which are a part of the festive spread, like fish cakes, boiled seaweed, mashed sweet potato with chestnut, soybean preparation, etc. At the stroke of midnight on the 31st December, there are bells ringing in the Buddhist temples for a total of 108 times. After the ringing of the bells, there is a feast of soba noodles, which everyone partakes.

## Diwali



Diwali is also known as the *festival of light* is celebrated at the start of winter in India, Nepal, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Mauritius, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Fiji. It is one of the most important festival of the Hindus, which is celebrated over a period of five days, which are named as *Dhanteras*, *Narak Chaturdashi*, *Lakshmi Puja*, *Padava* and *Bhai Dooj*. Each of these days has its own significance. Before the start of the festival 'spring' cleaning is undertaken, which is done to welcome Goddess Lakshmi (the Goddess of Wealth). Rows of clay lamps filled with oil are lit, which stands for good winning over evil. Crackers form an important part of the Diwali celebrations. It is said that bursting of crackers helps in driving the evil spirit away.



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### Hanukkah



Also known as *Channukkah* is a 'Festival of Lights'. This is one of the most important Jewish holidays, particularly due to the significant connotations of its proximity to Christmas. The history of this festival chronicles the Jewish people celebrating the revolution against the suppression and assimilation of the Jewish religion. It is an eight night and day long holiday that begins on 25th day of Kislev, according to the Hebrew calendar, with the menorah, or eight candles, being lighted up. On the first day only one candle is lit on the first day and the number increases with each passing day. Other than the eight lights, there is one light known as *shamash*, which is placed above the eight lights. This light is available for use, as the other lights cannot be used.

### Christmas



Christians all over the world celebrate this winter holiday on December 25, on which day Jesus Christ was born. Preparations for Christmas begin way before the actual day by cleaning the house and decorating it. They go to church, decorate a Christmas tree, give each other gifts, have a traditional dinner, with families spending the day together. In certain parts of Europe, star singers also sing Christmas carols walking behind a large star strung on a pole. There is a belief, in almost all parts of the world of Santa coming on a sledge to deliver gifts. There are certain customs, which are special for a certain part of the world itself. For example, in Brazil Santa Claus has an assistant named Magi, who assists Santa in distributing candy.



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## Boxing Day



Also known as St. Stephen's Day, is celebrated the day after Christmas. On this day it is common to give gifts to the poor and needy. In some places, there is also the tradition of gifting people in service positions. The traditions followed in different parts of the world are different. In countries like New Zealand, Canada, Australia, Britain, etc., it is jokingly often referred to as 'Shopping Day', for there are great items for grab at discounted prices. There are various sporting events, which especially take place on this day. Hunting has been a tradition, which has been a part of celebration on this day. Although this practice is now discontinued owing to the ban on hunting in most parts of the world.

## Las Posadas



This is a traditional winter holiday celebrated in Mexico, Guatemala and Southern parts of United States of America, between December 16 and December 24. The nine day celebration symbolically represents the months of pregnancy. In English, the term Las Posadas translates to 'the Inn', therefore is a re-enactment of Joseph searching for a room at the inn. Hence, every Christmas, there is a procession carrying a doll, which represents Christ as a child and the images of Mary and Joseph riding a small donkey, which goes through the streets. Many houses have a nativity scenes, where the hosts enact the roles of innkeepers.



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## Hogmanay



This is a Scottish word which means the last day of the year and is basically celebrating the New Year, according to the Gregorian calendar, in the Scottish way. It begins on the night of December 31, lasting all through the night and carrying on until the 'Ne'erday' or January 1, and sometimes even carrying on to January 2, which is a bank holiday in Scotland. The customs associated with Hogmanay are different for different parts of Scotland. There is the fireball swinging custom in Stonehaven, in north-eastern part of Scotland, burning of the clavie common to Burghead in Moray, etc.

## St. Nicholas Day



This day is especially celebrated in Northern Europe on December 6. St. Nicholas was a protector of the weak against the rich and the strong. He was known for his kindness and for helping people in distress. He is often said to be the patron saint of unmarried girls, children and sailors. St. Nicholas is treated like Santa Claus, and in fact is thought to be Santa Claus' original name. Children place boots on their windowsills or at the fireplace so that St. Nicholas can fill them with candy. However, the boots of naughty children were filled with coal, so that they can learn from their mistakes.



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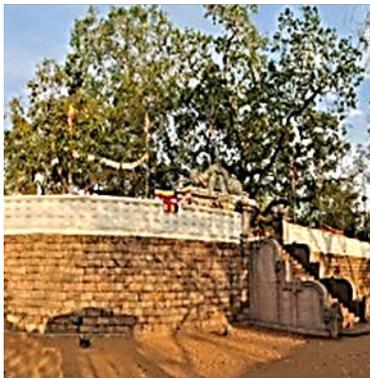
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## St. Lucias Day



This is a winter holiday celebrated on December 13 in Sweden in honor of St. Lucia, who lived in the third century and is regarded as the patron of light. In Sweden, the St. Lucia's day is seen as the start of the Christmas celebrations, although it is not a part of Advent. On this day, young girls bedeck themselves in white colored long dresses with red sashes, and wear a wreath made of lit candles on their heads. They sing songs in order to wake their families up and bring them twisted saffron buns, known as 'Lucia cats' and coffee.

## Bodhi Day



This is celebrated by the Buddhists on December 8 in commemoration of the enlightenment of the Buddha. Before the enlightenment, Siddhartha Gautama (earlier name of Buddha) is said to have undergone extreme ascetic practices and yet continued his meditation under the Pipal tree. He continued with his meditation till He was able to find the cause of suffering and how to liberate a person from it. This is considered the most important holiday for the Buddhists.



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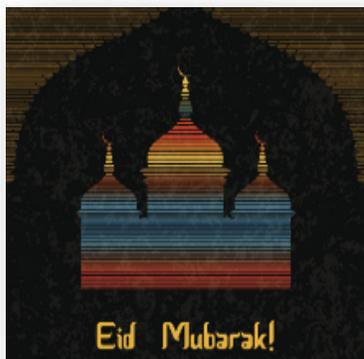
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## Eid-al-Adha



This is a feast that is celebrated by Muslims, to commemorate Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son, Ishmael, at the behest of God. Therefore, it said to be a 'Festival of Sacrifice' or 'Greater Eid'. This festival 10th day of the 12th month according to the Islamic calendar. The celebrations start after the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. Muslims consider Ishmael to be the Arabs' forefather.

## Lunar New Year



This is two-week winter holiday celebrated in the latter part of January or early part of February, or during the first lunar moon, by the Vietnamese, Koreans, and Chinese. In China this celebration is called Spring Festival, where it is marks the end of the winter season. It starts on the first day of the Chinese New Year and ends after fifteenth day, when the Lantern Festival is celebrated. The Korean New Year falls on the second new moon following the winter solstice. This celebration lasts for three days and is primarily a family oriented celebration. In Vietnam, like in China it heralds the arrival of spring. It is based on the Chinese calendar. Practices that are common to this celebrations are visiting friends and family, worshiping the ancestors, exchanging gifts, etc. People wear their best clothes and exchange gifts and food during this period.



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## Kwanzaa

Literally meaning 'First Fruits', this has its basis on an ancient harvest festival of Africa which celebrates ideals like collective responsibility and work; self-determination; cooperation; purpose; creativity; faith; and unity. The celebration starts from December 26 and culminates on January 1, during which time African-Americans bedeck their homes with vegetables and fruits, don special clothes, and light the 'kinara' which is a special candle-holder. There are also other symbols, which are a part of the celebration namely corn and other crops, gifts, a poster of the seven principles (mentioned above), a black, red and green flag and a communal cup for pouring wine (or alcoholic beverage). Families wear traditional African clothes and pay their respects to ancestors along with the children of the family.



## Mardi Gras

Which is actually 'Fat Tuesday' in French and 'Fasching' in German, occurs one day prior to Ash Wednesday, and is also known as 'Pancake Day' or 'Shrove Tuesday'. Mardi Gras is the last day of Carnival, which begins twelve days after Christmas, hence is also referred to as Twelfth Night, which falls on January 6 and ends on Mardi Gras day, exactly forty-six days before Easter. It is said to be the last day of eating some fatty foods, with the fasting season of 'Lent' beginning the next day. Some of the cities that are most famous for celebrating Mardi Gras are: Rio de Janeiro in Brazil; Marseille in France; New Orleans in Louisiana; Italy; and Venice. However, in Milan, Mardi Gras is celebrated on the Saturday following Ash Wednesday.





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# Holiday Events Around MO

## *St. Louis Polar Express Train Ride*

Experience something new and exciting this holiday season. Your family will truly believe in the spirit of Christmas on board THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride at St. Louis Union Station. Real trains head to the North Pole while Chefs serve delicious hot chocolate and Elves lead sing-along carols. Every child will receive a special gift from Santa and listen to the classic story of The Polar Express. Share the magic of Christmas with your family. Reserve your tickets on THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride today.

**When:** Nov 20 – Dec 30 (No runs on Thanksgiving and Christmas)

**Times:** 4:30 pm, 6:30 pm, and 8:30 pm

**Where:** Union Station, St. Louis

**REGISTRATION:** Yes

**COST:** see website for prices

**Website:** [www.stlpolarexpressride.com](http://www.stlpolarexpressride.com)

## *Holiday Magic Dinner and Light Show*

The Holiday Magic Dinner and Light Show returns in 2015! A great addition to your Polar Express Train adventure or a majestic treat on its own, the show includes a holiday festive dinner buffet and to top off this adventure a special panoramic light show. Dinners are available for \$25 per adult and \$20 for children 12 and under, plus tax and fees, children under 2 years of age are free with paid adult.

<http://www.stlpolarexpressride.com/holiday-dinner.html>



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# Holiday Events Around MO

## Shelter Insurance Tree Lighting

Join us for our 50th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, featuring festive holiday music, small gifts from Santa and free photos with Santa!

**When:** December 3, 2015

**Time:** 6 pm

**Where:** 1817 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/124835997881145/>

## Magic Tree Lighting

Holiday Festival with lighting of the Magic Tree at 5:30pm. Food trucks, carriage rides, Madrigal Choir and of course Santa!

**When:** Thursday, December 3rd

**Time:** 5 pm

**Where:** Village of Cherry Hill, Columbia, MO

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/405190806341302/>



## Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

Join the Mayor in kicking off the holiday season with the 10th annual Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. There will be entertainment, refreshments and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Shows begin at 5:30pm with the tree lighting at 6:30pm. Don't miss this Jefferson City Holiday Tradition.

**When:** December 3, 2015

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Location:** Rotary Park on Bolivar St. Jefferson City, MO

**Website:** [www.downtownjeffersoncity.com](http://www.downtownjeffersoncity.com)



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# Holiday Events Around MO

## *Living Windows – The District*

As the weather turns colder, shopkeepers throughout The District begin planning for the annual Living Windows Festival. On the first Friday in December, from 6 to 8 p.m., shopkeepers move all the merchandise out of their front windows and stage live holiday performances for onlookers. As the rest of us begin our holiday shopping, they're concentrating on sewing costumes, building sets, writing scripts and baking cookies for customers. Merchants go to great lengths to outdo one another—making each year's displays even more impressive than before. The night itself is a celebration of the holidays. The District features open houses, strolling carolers, holiday treats, and visits with Santa.

**When:** December 4, 2015

**Time:** 6-8 pm

**Where:** Downtown Columbia

**Website:** [www.discoverthedistrict.com](http://www.discoverthedistrict.com)

## *Living Windows – Downtown Jefferson City*

A Jefferson City tradition for over 20 years, Living Windows takes place downtown where storefronts and windows come alive with dancers, singers, religious and holiday themes. Hayrides wind their way through the streets and Santa Claus makes his yearly visit to Hawthorn Bank. More than 50 groups participate and fill High Street from Jefferson to Adams for more than three blocks of entertainment. Enjoy refreshments, listen to carolers and watch performances sharing the holiday spirit.

**When:** December 4, 2015

**Time:** 6-9 pm

**Where:** Downtown Jefferson City

**Website:** [www.downtownjeffersoncity.com](http://www.downtownjeffersoncity.com)



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# Holiday Events Around MO

## *City Kwanzaa Celebration*

Come celebrate this African-American holiday which is based around developing positive families and communities. There will be community awards given, entertainment and a holiday feast. Please call 874-6379 for more information.

Free..

**When:** December 5, 2015

**Time:** 2 -5 pm

**Where:** Douglass High School Gym

**Website:** [www.gocolumbiamo.com](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com)

## *Jefferson City Jaycees Christmas Parade*

Join us in beautiful Downtown Jefferson City for the annual Christmas Parade.

**When:** December 4, 2015

**Time:** 6-8 pm

**Where:** Downtown Jefferson City

## *Breakfast with Santa: Rock Bridge High School*

The Rock Bridge Bruin Girls are hosting Breakfast with Santa! This event will be on Saturday, December 5th from 9am - 12pm. Families are welcome to come as they would like. Breakfast, crafts, Santa, & Mrs. Claus will be available the entire event. The Rock Bridge Bruin Girls will have a live performance in the main gym at 9:30 am.

**When:** December 5, 2015

**Time:** 9 am-12 pm

**Where:** Rockbridge High School, Columbia, MO

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/BruinGirls>



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# Holiday Events Around MO

### *67<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulton Jaycees Christmas Parade*

This year's Christmas parade's theme is "Pretty Lights on the Tree". It's a Christmas Tree Parade!! We want each float to decorate a Christmas Tree in whatever way they see fit for the season. We want to see lights, tinsel, ornaments, (even homemade too!!), and the spirit of Christmas of course. We don't care about the theme you choose either! We can't wait to see what you come up with.

**When:** December 5, 2015

**Time:** 1 pm

**Where:** Downtown Fulton, MO

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/507205906123285/>

### *Santa's Hotline: Columbia Parks and Recreation*

Call the North Pole from 9 am to 3 pm and will have the opportunity to speak with Santa or Mrs. Claus or one of the many elves.

**\*\*CALL 874-7473 or 874-6335 only on this day\*\***

**When:** December 5, 2015

**Time:** 9 am-3 pm

### *Chanukah: Festival of Lights*

A traditional Jewish holiday celebration that includes festive Israeli music and dance, a menorah-lighting ceremony and Chanukah merchandise provided by local vendors and the Garden Gate Shop.

**When:** December 6, 2015

**Time:** 12 -4 pm

**Cost:** See website for admission prices

**Where:** Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis, MO

**Website:** [www.missouribotanicalgardens.org](http://www.missouribotanicalgardens.org)



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# Holiday Events Around MO

### *Holiday Express*

The Holiday Express arrives in Mexico. Visitors can board the train, visit with Santa and his elves and tour the inside of 3 cars of the festive six-car train. The Chamber will be collecting hats, gloves and scarves to be given to children in need as they wait in line for the Holiday Express. Donations may be dropped off at The Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce or KXEO/KWWR Radio Station. Donations will be collected through December 8, 2015.

**When:** December 11, 2015

**Time:** 4 pm

**Where:** 326 South Jefferson St., Mexico, MO

**Website:** [www.mexicomissouri.net](http://www.mexicomissouri.net)



### *Winter Ice Recital 2015*

Images of graceful skaters gliding across frozen ponds is a familiar picture of the winter months. The Washington Park Ice Arena brings this picture to life as skaters of all ages and ability levels perform routines to the sounds of the season.

**When:** December 11, 2015

**Time:** 6 pm

**Where:** Washington Park Ice Arena, 711 Kansas St, Jefferson City, MO

**Cost:** Free Admission. A \$1 donation is requested for facility improvements.

**Website:** [http://www.jeffersoncitymo.gov/parkfull/washington\\_park\\_ice\\_arena/ia\\_special\\_events.php](http://www.jeffersoncitymo.gov/parkfull/washington_park_ice_arena/ia_special_events.php)



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# Holiday Events Around MO

### *Auxvasse Christmas Parade*

The Christmas Parade is right around the corner. There will be other events as well that day before the parade so be sure to show up early!

**When:** December 13, 2015

**Time:** Parade starts at 3 pm

**Where:** City of Auxvasse

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/907037279374264/>

### *9<sup>th</sup> Annual Centralia Christmas Tractor Parade*

The Holiday Express arrives in Mexico, Missouri. Visitors can board the train, visit with Santa and his elves and tour the inside of 3 cars of the festive six-car train. The Chamber will be collecting hats, gloves and scarves to be given to children in need as they wait in line for the Holiday Express. Donations may be dropped off at The Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce or KXEO/KWWR Radio Station. Donations will be collected through December 8, 2015.

**When:** December 18, 2015

**Time:** 7 pm

**Where:** Centralia, MO

**Website:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/102308823468462/>





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## Lunar New Year Chicken Wontons



### About this Recipe

Yield: 12  
Servings

Prep: 15 min  
Cook: 5 min

At New Year, a special emphasis is placed on the symbols represented by different foods.

**Chicken:**  
Represents  
happiness and  
marriage

Source:  
[www.rasamalaysia.com](http://www.rasamalaysia.com)  
[m](http://m) | [www.guy-sports.com](http://www.guy-sports.com)

### Ingredients

- 1/2 lb ground chicken
- 1/4 lb shrimp, chopped into small pieces
- 1 stalk scallion, cut into rings
- 1/2 teaspoon cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 dash fish sauce, optional
- 1/2 teaspoon sesame oil
- 3 dashes ground white pepper
- 12 pieces wonton wrappers
- Water, for sealing
- Oil, for deep frying

### Dipping Sauce

- 3 tablespoons Thai sweet chili sauce
- 2 teaspoons lime juice
- 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro leaves
- Pinch of white sesame seeds

### Directions

- In a bowl, mix the ground chicken, shrimp, scallion and cornstarch until well combined. Add the salt, fish sauce, sesame oil and white pepper. Stir to mix well. Set aside.
- To make wontons: Place a piece of the wonton wrapper on your palm. Add 1/2 tablespoon of the filling in the middle of the wrapper. Using your index finger and some water, trace the outer edges of the wonton wrapper. Fold and pinch the edges of the wonton wrapper and seal the wonton tight so there is no opening at the top of the wonton
- Heat some cooking oil in a wok or frying pan and deep fry the wontons until golden brown.
- Serve hot with sweet chili sauce or eat plain.



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## About this Recipe

Yield: 8  
Servings

Celebrated from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, Kwanzaa is a worldwide African-American nonreligious holiday week based on the Nguzo Saba, or seven guiding principles. Here is a tasty Kwanzaa recipe to deliciously celebrate this year's Kwanzaa commemoration.

Source: Michele Borboa, MS,  
12/17/12  
[www.sheknows.com](http://www.sheknows.com)

# Kwanzaa

## Sweet Potato Peanut Soup

### Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons peanut oil
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 1 large onion, halved, thinly sliced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 3 cups chopped tomatoes, seeded
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 cups natural smooth peanut butter
- 2 sweet potatoes, baked until tender, peeled, cut into large chunks
- 8 cups vegetable broth
- 1 cup coconut milk
- Finely chopped peanuts (optional)

### Directions:

1. Heat oil in a stockpot over medium heat. Add curry and cook, stirring, until fragrant. Add onions and cook, stirring, until tender, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and tomatoes and cook, stirring often, for 3 minutes. Season with salt and peppers.
2. Stir in peanut butter until incorporated. Add sweet potatoes, broth and coconut milk. Bring to a vigorous simmer. Reduce heat to medium low and continue to simmer for 10 to 15 minutes.
3. Remove stockpot from heat and, using an immersion blender, puree soup (alternatively, puree soup in a blender or food processor, in batches). Transfer to bowls and serve garnished with finely chopped peanuts, if desired.



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## TOPIC OF THE MONTH

### Holiday Health



**Why can't I skip the holidays?**

For More Information:

[www.foh.hhs.gov/calendar](http://www.foh.hhs.gov/calendar)

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT - WEBINAR



Image Source: [www.globalgenes.org](http://www.globalgenes.org)

TOPIC OF THE MONTH:

Caregiving

VISIT: [www.foh4you.com](http://www.foh4you.com)

## Live Webinar: Avoiding Caregiver Burnout

### Topic Highlights:

- \*Caregiving within a family
- \*Challenges caregivers face
- \*Becoming a better caregiver



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# Coming Next Month



**Remember! Celebrate! Act!**

**A Day On, Not a Day Off**

# JANUARY 2016



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Contact SGT  
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help contribute  
to this  
newsletter

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## WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Help us make *The Truman* even more interesting!

We want

- To hear **your** ideas
- See **your** articles
- Know about **your** community events
- Learn how Diversity plays a role in **your** life in and outside of the Guard



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\*Note: The MOARNG and the EO/EEO Office does not officially endorse any particular business or event. The articles provided are for informative purposes only.