

New Haven

Assisted Living & Memory Care

New Haven Assisted Living & Memory Care * 107 Creekside Trail, Kyle, Texas * (512) 201-2868



Celebrating January

First Foot Day

January 1

Bird Day

January 5

International Kite Day

January 14

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20

Compliment Day

January 24

Celebrating January

Birthdays!

Gary Allen

January 11th

Mary Kelly

January 20th

Betsy Droste

January 28th

The Texas Oil Boom

Texas is known around the world as a leading producer of oil, but this booming industry did not exist until January 10, 1901, when the black gold was struck at Spindletop in Beaumont. Spindletop Hill was a small hill of earth pushed upward by an underground dome of salt. Self-taught geologist Patillo Higgins suspected that oil might be hidden somewhere under Spindletop. The area was known for its sulfur springs and seeps of gas that could be lit on fire. Higgins convinced engineer Anthony Lucas to finance a drilling operation at Spindletop, but they soon ran out of money. Lucas, unwilling to give up on Spindletop, sought the support of Pennsylvania oilmen to continue his drilling. Higgins, sadly, was excluded from the deal. Too bad, too, because on that fateful January day, after drilling had reached 1,020 feet, Lucas struck oil. Texas had never seen such a geyser. Oil shot 150 feet into the air, making it the most powerful gusher ever struck. The Lucas Geyser, as the Spindletop find came to be known, was shooting off 100,000 barrels of oil a day, more than all the other oil wells in America. It took nine days before the gusher was brought under control.

Beaumont suddenly grew from a sleepy Gulf-Coast backwater into a Texas boomtown. Its population tripled in a mere three months. New oil companies formed and searched for new wells. Refineries sprang up all over the Gulf Coast. In its first year, Spindletop produced 3.5 million barrels of oil. In its second year, it produced 17.4 million. John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil, which had previously held a monopoly in the petroleum industry, was crushed by new Texas-based competitors like Texaco and Gulf Oil.

By 1904, production at Spindletop had declined significantly, dropping to 10,000 barrels per day. This prompted more drilling and more significant finds, but by World War I, oil production at Spindletop had mostly ceased. Texas, however, had changed forever, and the Texas oil boom became the engine that propelled the growth of America. Today, visitors to Beaumont can find the Boomtown Museum and its exhibits chronicling the lasting importance of the Lucas Geyser at Spindletop.

Hi-Yo, Silver!



On January 31, 1933, a Detroit radio station hit broadcasting gold when it aired the first episode of a western series called *The Lone Ranger*. It was an instant hit, and 2,956 radio

episodes were produced, followed by a series of books and television shows, a half-dozen movies, and countless games and toys.

The Lone Ranger phenomenon became a cultural touchstone for an American nation hungry to romanticize its Wild West roots.

Perhaps the greatest appeal of the Lone Ranger was in his strict moral code. He may have hidden behind his signature black mask, but he never hid his desire for truth and justice. The Lone Ranger always used perfect grammar and never swore or used slang. He never drank or smoked. Scenes never took place in rough saloons but in restaurants serving food rather than liquor. The Lone Ranger had a pistol, as any western hero should, but he never shot to kill. He instead used his gun to disarm others and bring them to jail. Criminals were never glamorized with wealth or fame, nor did they enjoy positions of power. These decisions were made deliberately by the show's creators, Fran Striker and George W. Trendle. They intended *The Lone Ranger* to be wholesome family entertainment with a hero destined to become an honorable American icon.

The Lone Ranger hit the American public during a particularly fragile time. Many Americans were suffering during the Great Depression and had lost faith in their government and social institutions. The public needed a working-class hero—an ordinary man with extraordinary abilities—who promised to protect those who couldn't help themselves and bring order to a lawless frontier. Such a hero was easily adaptable to any era or medium. As such, *The Lone Ranger* transitioned easily into books, television, and the big screen over the decades. While *The Lone Ranger* has suffered its critics, especially due to its depiction of Native Americans, the Lone Ranger himself has endured as a symbol of justice and truth.

Stay Fit at New Haven!



Music & Fitness with Savannah

AL: Tuesdays @ 10:30am

MC: Mondays @ 11:00am

Gentle Yoga with Savannah

AL: Wednesdays @ 10:30am

MC: Wednesdays @ 11:15am

Balloon Volleyball

AL: Mondays @ 10:00am

MC: Tuesdays @ 11:00am

Exercise with Damien

January 3rd @ 1:45pm

January 17th @ 1:45pm

The Sound of Silence



The first week of January brings Silent Record Week. Why on earth would someone go through the trouble of putting a silent record on the

turntable? In

1952, experimental composer John Cage wrote his piece 4'33", which "consisted" of four minutes and 33 seconds of silence. During the silence, any environmental sounds were supposed to be considered music. In 1959, a jukebox at the University of Detroit won fame for including three silent records. Anyone who wanted a bit of silence could buy it for the price of a song. Rumor has it that the silent records were so popular that they developed noisy scratches and had to be repeatedly replaced. Many would argue that silence is valuable. Cage agreed. It was after his study of Zen Buddhism and the religion's emphasis on silence and stillness of the mind that he composed his silent masterpiece

Monthly Activities...

Bible Study

Bible study takes place every Wednesday starting at 9:30am with Kinney.

Join us every Sunday for Worship with Jim & Lori starting at 10:30am.

Outings

January 7th: Movie Theater!

January 13th: Lunch Outing

January 20th: Cabela's Outing

January 27th: Library Outing

Keeping it Social!

Every month we gather together for delicious treats and companionship and discuss topics that range from local news to reminiscing about our pasts.

January 6th: Bunco Social!

Every Tuesday: Baking Club!

January 29th: Happy Hour

Pedestrian Crossing

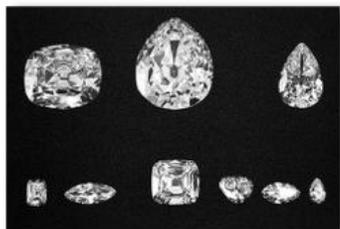
During the late 19th century, pedestrianism, or competitive walking, was all the rage. The frenzy for pedestrianism reached a fever pitch on January 13, 1879, when champion British pedestrian Ada Anderson showcased her talents in America for the first time. Anderson had already become England's preeminent pedestrian, thanks to her training by another champion racewalker, William Gale. Anderson was at her physical peak and adept at sleep deprivation by the time she arrived in America. Her manager wanted to showcase his star at Gilmore's Garden (now Madison Square Garden) in New York City but was rebuffed by the venue's owner, who believed Anderson would never be able to complete the feat of walking 2,700 quarter-miles in 2,700 quarter-hours. The event moved to Brooklyn's Mozart Garden. Anderson began her trek on December 16, 1878. Thousands watched her walk for 28 straight days, during which she took just nine-minute sleeping breaks until at last, she completed her walk on January 13th. Because of heavy wagers placed on the event, police protected her during her last laps. After crossing the finish line, she was hailed as the world's greatest pedestrian.

Mummers the Word



Each year on New Year's Day, the Mummers Parade makes its way through Philadelphia. The parade is one of the oldest folk festivals in the United States, with roots dating back to the mid-17th century, when Swedish and Finnish immigrants would go door-to-door visiting neighbors on the day after Christmas. The parade is related to the English and Irish traditions of mummers' plays, folk plays performed in streets and pubs by amateur costumed actors. Today, the parade is a New Year's spectacle full of clowns, string bands, elaborate floats, and fancy costumes. At 11 hours long, the parade may also be the longest held in America.

The Cullinan Diamond



On January 26, 1905, Frederick Wells, the surface manager of the Premier Mine in Transvaal, now South Africa, made one of the world's most

stunning discoveries. Just 29 feet below the surface, he found a massive, blue-white diamond, which he cut from the rock with his pocketknife. He immediately took it to his office to be weighed and inspected. At 3,106 carats, it was the largest diamond the world had ever seen. Newspapers called it the "Cullinan diamond," after Sir Thomas Cullinan, owner of the mine. It was such a fantastic discovery that it was put on public display at the Standard Bank in Johannesburg, where visitors could catch a glimpse of the world's largest diamond.

In April of that year, the Cullinan diamond was destined for London. A team of detectives guarded its transport on a steamboat, where it was locked securely inside the captain's safe... or so people thought. This, in fact, was a diversion. The real diamond was shipped to England in an unmarked box via regular post. Upon its safe arrival in England, it went to Buckingham Palace, where it was admired by King Edward VII. The Transvaal government had purchased the diamond and in 1907 presented it as a gift to His Majesty the King, who accepted it and declared that it would become part of the Crown Jewels.

Splitting and cutting the diamond into various workable pieces took eight months, with three people working 14 hours a day. It is said that Dutch diamond cutter Joseph Asscher had a doctor and nurse on hand while he was cleaving the massive diamond. Thank goodness, for he fainted after successfully dividing the gem. The two largest stones remain part of the Crown Jewels, set in the Sovereign's Sceptre with Cross and the Imperial State Crown, respectively. The seven remaining large stones and 95 smaller brilliant gems were set in various pieces of jewelry for the royal family.

Live Performances By...



Queenie & Turner!

January 2nd @ 3:00pm

Arland- The Riverboat

Piano Player!

January 21st @ 1:45pm

Tony on Guitar!

January 16th @ 3:30pm

Ed & Beverly!

January 8th @ 2:30pm

January 22nd @ 2:30pm

Hubby's Day



According to old Viking calendars, the Friday of the 13th week of winter is celebrated as Husband's Day in Iceland. Also known as *Bóndadagur*, it is the first day of the month of Þorri, or Thorri, in honor of

Thor, the god of thunder. There are many traditions associated with this holiday honoring both the god and the master of the house or farm, or *bóndi*. In olden times, husbands were expected to rise first and welcome Thor with a special ceremony where they would go outside dressed in a shirt, with one leg of his trousers on and the other dragging behind him. He would then hop on one leg as a welcome to Thor. Since the mid-19th century, though, this day is more like Valentine's Day, and men are given gifts and treated to dinner. Not to be forgotten, Wife's Day arrives a month later on February 24.