

DECEMBER SERVICE AWARDS

Celebrating Pacific Employee Anniversaries

26 YEARS

Greg Tudor

Hanukkah: Commemorating Light and Tradition

Hanukkah, a cherished Jewish festival, holds significance in commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. Spanning eight days, it symbolizes the miracle of oil that burned for eight nights, despite having fuel only for one. This year, Hanukkah commences at sundown on December 7th and concludes on December 15th.

During this festive period, families gather each night to light the menorah, adding one candle daily, accompanied by reciting blessings, songs, and prayers. Traditional delicacies like crispy latkes and sweet sufganiyot grace the tables, adding flavor and symbolism to the celebration. Dreidel games captivate both young and old.

Additionally, Hanukkah embraces the spirit of giving. Families exchange gifts, often sharing gelt, symbolic chocolate coins. Acts of charity are prevalent, reflecting the holiday's essence of generosity and compassion.

This commemoration extends beyond rituals; it fosters unity, resilience, and hope within Jewish communities worldwide. Hanukkah serves as a reminder of the enduring spirit and the triumph of light over darkness.

What's Inside This Month?

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December Offers!

Thoughts from Richard Steed

As snowflakes gently adorn the landscape and the air fills with the scent of evergreen, December arrives, ushering in the spirit of joy and reflection. In the magical glow of Christmas lights, let's embrace the season's warmth and celebrate the moments that bring us together.

Amidst the hustle and bustle, let's nurture the essence of giving. Whether it's sharing smiles, acts of kindness, or contributing to charitable causes, let's create a ripple of goodwill that resonates throughout our communities. Let's spread joy and warmth like the glow of a crackling fireplace on a wintry night.

Let's cherish the connections that make this season truly special. Whether it's reminiscing over shared laughter with colleagues or creating new memories with loved ones, let's embrace the beauty of togetherness. In the twinkling lights and hearty laughter, let's find the true treasures of this festive season.

As the year draws to a close, let's reflect on our achievements, challenges overcome, and the gratitude we hold for each other. Let's raise a toast to resilience, growth, and the support that has adorned our journey. In this season of reflection, let's express our heartfelt gratitude for the bonds that enrich our lives.

As we prepare to welcome a new year, let's nurture hope and aspirations for the future. Let's embrace the promise of new beginnings, setting our sights on dreams yet to unfold. In the quiet moments of December's embrace, let's foster a sense of optimism that illuminates the path ahead.

To all our cherished clients and friends, we extend our warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments. We are grateful for the trust you've placed in us, and we look forward to continued journeys and successes together.

In the symphony of December's melodies, let's embrace the joy, spread kindness, and cherish the spirit of Christmas. Here's to a December filled with warmth, merriment, and the joyous echoes of shared goodwill.

Merry Christmas!



Richard

SHRED 6 DRIVES FOR THE PRICE OF 5

One (1) Hard Drive shredded FREE for every five (5) you bring in during the month of December!

Trivia Quiz: All About December!

It's December! Test your knowledge of this winter month with 10 fun questions. Enjoy!

1. December is the twelfth and final month of the year in the Gregorian calendar. What does the name "December" mean in Latin?
2. In many Western countries, what festive occasion is celebrated on December 25th?
3. The birthstone for December is turquoise. What is the alternative birthstone for December, often considered a modern choice?
4. What special day occurs on December 26th, primarily observed in countries that are part of the British Commonwealth?
5. Each year, many people participate in a holiday tradition involving hanging up colorful socks or stockings. What is this tradition called?
6. Which famous playwright and novelist, known for works like "A Christmas Carol," was born on February 7th, 1812?
7. In the Northern Hemisphere, December marks the beginning of what season?
8. New Year's Eve falls on December 31st. What is the famous tradition involving a large ball that occurs at midnight in New York City's Times Square to mark the beginning of the new year?
9. In some cultures, the tradition of the "Advent Calendar" is observed during December. What is its primary purpose?
10. What is the zodiac sign for those born for most of December?

Answers at Bottom of Page!

Green Christmas!

This Christmas, foster eco-friendly traditions by opting for sustainable practices. Choose energy-efficient LED lights, recyclable wrapping paper, and reusable decorations. Support local artisans for gifts, encouraging handmade and sustainable products. Consider a live Christmas tree, which can be planted later, reducing waste. Embrace the season's spirit by making small, mindful choices that benefit the environment.

Trivia Quiz Answers:

1. (.) Tenth (2.) Christmas (3.) Blue Topaz (4.) Boxing Day (5.) Hanging Stockings (6.) Charles Dickens (7.) Winter (8.) The Times Square Ball Drop (9.) To count down or celebrate the days leading up to Christmas (10.) Sagittarius

December Holidays and Events

Daily Observances:

- 1 - World AIDS Day
- 2 - National Fritters Day
- 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 4 - National Cookie Day
- 5 - International Volunteer Day
- 6 - National Pawnbrokers Day**
- 7 - National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 8 - National Brownie Day
- 9 - National Pastry Day
- 10 - Human Rights Day
- 11 - International Mountain Day
- 12 - National Gingerbread House Day
- 13 - National Hot Cocoa Day
- 14 - Monkey Day
- 15 - Bill of Rights Day
- 16 - National Chocolate Covered Anything Day
- 17 - Wright Brothers Day
- 18 - International Migrants Day
- 19 - National Oatmeal Muffin Day
- 20 - International Human Solidarity Day
- 21 - Winter Solstice (Northern Hemisphere)
- 22 - National Date Nut Bread Day
- 23 - Festivus
- 24 - Christmas Eve
- 25 - Christmas Day
- 26 - Boxing Day
- 27 - National Fruitcake Day
- 28 - Holy Innocents' Day
- 29 - National Pepper Pot Day
- 30 - Bacon Day
- 31 - New Year's Eve
- 31 - No Interruptions Day
- 31 - New Years Eve

Monthly Observances:

Identity Theft Awareness and Prevention Month

- Quince and Watermelon Month
- National Write a Business Plan Month
- Safe Toys and Gifts Month
- Spiritual Literacy Month
- National Cat Lovers Month
- National Eggnog Month
- National Fruit Cake Month
- National Impaired Driving Prevention Month
- National Stress-Free Family Holiday Month
- National Write a Business Plan Month
- Read a New Book Month
- Root Vegetables and Exotic Fruits Month
- Worldwide Food Service Safety Month

PacBlog

Ensuring Records Management Compliance for Healthcare Organizations

PacBlog is the monthly web log of Pacific Records Storage. To read this month's installment, please click the title below.

<https://pacific-records.com/ensuring-records-management-compliance-for-healthcare-organizations>

You may also access the PacBlog at the URL below. There you will find this month's installment along with archives of previous installments.

<http://pacific-records.com/category/pacnews>

Have A Question For Us?

We love to hear from all our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question related to off-site document storage, shredding, media vaulting, or document imaging, please feel free to give us a call or send us an email.

(888) 893-6054 or info@pacific-records.com

**Do You Want
To Win A \$25
Amazon
Gift Card?**



Each month we'll give you a new challenge of some type. All those who reply with a correct answer are eligible to win. At the end of the month we'll draw the name of one lucky winner.

Here is this month's challenge:

Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?

Last Month's Answer to:

What do spiders eat at barbecues?

Corn on the cobweb!

Last month's Winner:

**CHERYL WALTER CPHT
BUYER**

Email your answer to info@pacific-records.com

Embracing Physical Activity for Enhanced Overall Health

Numerous recent studies continue to highlight the immense health benefits of regular physical activity. Engaging in various forms of exercise, including simple activities like walking, has been consistently linked to promoting overall well-being.

Research indicates that regular physical activity contributes to improving hormonal balance, immune function, cardiovascular health, mental well-being, and overall longevity. While exercise alone cannot guarantee immunity against specific diseases, its role in enhancing various biological mechanisms significantly impacts an individual's health.

Incorporating physical activity into daily routines remains an accessible and cost-effective way to bolster overall health. Walking, in particular, stands out as an easily accessible form of exercise for many people, offering a gateway to better health without requiring specialized equipment or significant financial investment.

Rather than solely focusing on preventing one specific illness, the emphasis on regular physical activity underscores its wide-ranging benefits for individuals of all ages and backgrounds. Whether it's a leisurely stroll, active sports participation, or structured workouts, the consistent message from recent studies reaffirms that moving the body positively impacts overall health and well-being.

So, get up and get out today!



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Identity Theft Awareness and Prevention

December is Identity Theft Awareness and Prevention Month, a government-designated initiative aimed at enhancing consumer vigilance and awareness. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reports that in the first half of 2023, Americans had already reported nearly 560,000 cases of identity theft. Projections suggest that by year-end, these numbers will surpass pre-pandemic annual records dating back to 2001.

While California doesn't rank among the top five states for identity theft, it's also not among the lowest five. Relocating to a lower-risk state is not the most economical or foolproof solution for protecting against identity theft. Instead, there are effective ways to enhance identity protection, so we're providing our tips here to help you avoid becoming a victim.

Freeze

Take proactive steps by freezing your credit through the major credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. This action, which incurs no charges, prevents new credit accounts from being opened in your name. When necessary, you can temporarily lift the freeze to apply for a new line of credit.

Store

Keep sensitive documents away from your business or home office by using a professional records storage company with secure and monitored facilities. This measure safeguards personally identifiable information (PII) from theft, and ensures that such documents are not associated with your location. Items like Social Security Cards and birth certificates, which don't need to be kept on site or on your person, should be protected in this manner. Internal threats, such as identity theft by an employee or family member, are more common than you might think.

Protect

Use caution when handling unfamiliar emails or phone calls. Avoid answering calls from sender IDs you don't recognize; legitimate callers will leave a message or call back. Similarly, don't reply to emails sent from unknown senders. Never disclose personal information over the phone or via email unless you initiated the contact.

Destroy

Safeguard your information by properly shredding documents. Use the services of a professional NAID AAA Certified shredding company to destroy all documents, making it impossible for information to be read or reconstructed. Adopt a "shred everything" policy for documents to ensure that no PII is overlooked, reducing the risk of identity theft by dumpster divers.

Respond

If you suspect your identity has been compromised or stolen, promptly check your credit reports and review financial statements for unfamiliar charges or unauthorized accounts. Obtain a free annual credit report from each of the major credit bureaus listed above.

Audit

Conduct a personal audit this month, reviewing all the areas where your personal information could be exposed, lost, or stolen. Take proactive steps to avoid falling victim to identity theft.

St. Nicholas: Patron Saint of Pawnbrokers

St. Nicholas is the patron saint of pawnbrokers and December 6 is National Pawnbrokers Day.

The word pawn comes from the Latin word "platinum" meaning cloth or clothing. It used to be that many people's only assets were their clothing, which they could sell or pawn to raise money.

Christopher Columbus' voyage to America was funded by Queen Isabella of Spain pawning the crown jewels.

In 1464, two Italian Franciscan monks founded the first modern version of a pawnshop. They gave out interest-free loans so long as you could provide collateral and you tithed regularly to the church.

The universal symbol for pawn brokering is three gold



balls suspended from a curved bar. This is often found on pawn brokers signs or hanging above the entrance to a pawn shop.

In Asia, for security, most pawn shops have counters that are higher than the average person. A customer holds up his goods to give them to the pawn broker.

Florida has more pawn shops than any other state in the United States, with over 1,300 stores open for business.

In 1932, the famed Hope Diamond was pawned by heiress Evalyn Walsh McLean to help finance the search for the kidnapped child of famous aviator Charles Lindbergh.

The History Channel's television show Pawn Stars has aired almost 250 episodes and is one of the channel's highest rated reality shows.

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