

JANUARY 2018

LORIEN ELKRIDGE



Celebrating January

**Thank Your
Mentor Day**
January 18

**National Violin
Month**

**Inspire Yourself
with Art Month**

**National Pie
Month**

**National Tea
Month**

**National Bird
Month**

Lorien Elkridge **Christmas & Holiday Cookie Swap**



Our staff and residents enjoyed the festive fun and were surprised by Santa visiting!





Our resident gave a tug at his beard to see if it was the real Santa!



Someone is on Santa's "Nice List"!

[Lorien Elkridge News](#)

Please see our new additional Church Service.

*First Baptist Church @ 10:30am
the first 3rd Saturdays of each month.*



The Church members brought generous gifts for our residents. 😊



The Twelfth Day of Christmas



The last day of the Twelve Days of Christmas falls on January 6, and in Ireland it doesn't end with twelve drummers drumming, but with *Nollaig na mBan*, or Women's Christmas, or Little Christmas,

as it's also known. This is the day the Christmas decorations come down and (finally) the women of the house get a much-deserved rest after catering to guests during the busy holiday season. In 1998, an article published in the *Irish Times* newspaper noted that while even God rested on the seventh day, Irish women didn't get to rest until the twelfth!

The holiday is especially common in southern Ireland's counties of Cork and Kerry, where families celebrate a yearly reminder of the strength and importance of Irish women, especially mothers, who have long been considered the backbone of the Irish family. In Ireland's olden times, the women would save the turf, cut the hay, and paint the barn, all while raising the children and feeding the family—no small task considering how large traditional Irish families were. While a woman's role in Irish society has evolved over the years—they have moved far beyond the boundaries of the home and into the community, business, and politics—women are no less revered.

On January 6, it is common for children to give their mothers and grandmothers presents or cook them breakfast. The men take over the household duties for the day while women gather socially in the pubs and restaurants for a little well-deserved girl time. In fact, it is the one time of year when restaurants and bars are filled entirely with women.

Luckily, the notion of Women's Christmas is becoming popular for Irish women beyond Cork and Kerry. And the celebration is becoming more than just a night out at the pubs. Modern Women's Christmas celebrations are including discussions about women's health, political involvement, and most any other women's issues: less food, and more food for thought.

Flying High

Save the eagles! You'll get your chance on January 10, Save the Eagles Day. There are more than 70 species of eagles around the world, some of which are listed as endangered species, but fortunately most of these majestic birds are large and powerful enough to survive in most any condition. Eagles may not be the fastest or most agile of raptors, but compared to hawks and falcons, they stand out as the largest. Stellar's sea eagle from the northeastern coast of Asia is the heaviest at 20 pounds, but the Philippine eagle, at 3.35 feet tall and with a more than seven-foot wingspan, is considered the largest. This eagle, the national bird of the Philippines, is the world's rarest and most powerful eagle. At the other end of the spectrum is the South Nicobar serpent eagle, considered the world's smallest. Found only on India's Great Nicobar Island, this eagle is barely 1.5 feet tall and, as the name suggests, eats mainly snakes and lizards. Eagles tend to be loners and fly at high altitudes, sometimes up to 10,000 feet. They can hunt from such high altitudes because they can see clearly up to 50 miles away with their "eagle eyes."



Totally Tubular

On January 3rd in 1888, Marvin Stone was issued the patent for his paper drinking straw. Prior to Stone's invention, people used straws

made from blades of rye grass, but the rye imparted a grassy taste to the drink. His invention was a welcome improvement, but hardly original. Drinking straws were in use 5,000 years ago by the Sumerians, who employed straws that doubled as sieves. These drinking tubes were used to drink beer and would filter out solid particulates that were the by-product of fermentation. A gold straw inlaid with blue jewels was even discovered in a Sumerian tomb. Of course, most straws today are made of plastic, but the careless tossing of these single-use straws into the garbage has created an environmental mess. It seems that Stone's patent of a recyclable paper straw is more important than ever.

Electric Ahead of Its Time



In this era of electric vehicles, it seems that technology knows no boundaries. But on January 10, 1985, when inventor Sir Clive Sinclair

unveiled his newest invention, the Sinclair C5 electric vehicle, it was immediately dismissed as a failure. However, without the C5, who knows where electric vehicles and all their high-tech trappings would be today?

Clive Sinclair made his fortune inventing pocket calculators in the 1970s and home computers in the 1980s. He was such an important personality in England that he was knighted in 1983, the very same year he founded Sinclair Vehicles. Inventing an electric-powered vehicle had been Sinclair's passion since the 1950s. Interestingly, in America in 1912, electric cars outnumbered vehicles run by an internal combustion engine. But as the internal combustion engine became more efficient, electric model cars were rendered obsolete. Clive hoped to flip this trend with his C5, which was less a car and more of an electrically assisted pedal vehicle—kind of a souped-up recumbent tricycle with a battery-powered engine that went 15 mph and had a polypropylene shell. It was marketed as an alternative to both cars and bicycles, but it never took off. Out of the 14,000 manufactured, only 5,000 sold. Sinclair's invention became a notorious flop.

Fast-forward 32 years, and it seems the world may finally be ready for the C5. Sir Clive Sinclair's nephew Grant Sinclair has brought his revamped C5, called the Iris E-Trike, to a world full of bicycle lanes and environmental-awareness campaigns. Better yet, its top speed is 30 mph and it has a more powerful motor. Once again, it seems as if the target consumer is someone who wants the earth-friendliness of a bicycle wrapped in the comfort of an enclosed car. So is the world finally ready for the C5? Only time will tell. The first models of the C5 were made available at the end of 2017.

January Birthdays

In astrology, those born between January 1–19 are Capricorn's Goats. Goats are practical, determined, and focused on ambitious goals. They follow a straightforward, well-planned path and persevere with grit and honesty. Those born between January 20–31 are Water Bearers of Aquarius. Water Bearers are creative and intellectual philosophers at heart, getting to the root of problems and using their energy and passion for the benefit of others.

Paul Revere (revolutionary) – January 1, 1735
J.R.R. Tolkien (author) – January 3, 1892
Diane Keaton (actress) – January 5, 1946
Elvis Presley (musician) – January 8, 1935
Richard Nixon (president) – January 9, 1913
Julia Louis-Dreyfus (actress) – January 13, 1961
Vidal Sassoon (stylist) – January 17, 1928
Dolly Parton (musician) – January 19, 1946
Neil Diamond (singer) – January 24, 1941
Wolfgang Mozart (composer) – January 27, 1756
Jackie Robinson (ballplayer) – January 31, 1919

Gone for Good



Every year, Lake Superior State University reveals its list of overused words or phrases that it feels *must* be banished from use forever. Which words made the cut? As you can imagine, a few choice words from

the American political sphere, namely: *bigly*, meaning “a swelling or blustering manner,” and *post-truth*, meaning “a society where facts matter less than impressions.” There are also plenty of words related to social media and the Internet: *ghost*, which is “to abruptly end communication on social media,” and *listicle*, which is “a numbered or bulleted list created to attract views over the Internet.” Judges are ready to choose the worst of the lot come New Year's Day, and a likely winner (or loser?) is the word *disruption*, a term used to describe the radical change experienced as the result of a social movement or innovation.