

# December Community Newsletter

## Tips for Living, Laughing and Loving Your Apartment Life

### Snow Fun! Cool Ideas for Throwing a Winter Wonderland Party

Interested in celebrating the “coolest” season with a little party? Then, check out these simple tips for throwing a fun winter wonderland gathering in your apartment!

~ Keep the look fresh as the driven snow by decorating with frosty whites and icy blues. Think glittery snowflakes and pretty, but inexpensive holiday ornaments.

~ Spice up your gathering with a winter-themed white elephant gift exchange. Ask each guest to bring a gift that is funny and winter-related, such as a silly knit hat or an ugly scarf. They can either re-gift a new item they’ve received or purchase something inexpensive (set a price limit of \$15 to \$20).

~ Use winter-themed disposable cups and plates to cut down on your after-party cleaning chores.

~ Set up a hot chocolate bar. Provide a variety of toppings, such as mini marshmallows and whip creams. For extra spirit, you’ll want to also provide a few bottles of alcohol that pair well with chocolate, such as Orange Curaçao or Peppermint Schnapps. Use a crock pot to keep the hot chocolate warm.

This gathering can be a fun and casual way to break up the winter doldrums!

### 2 Easy Games for a Successful Game Night

Are you looking for a good excuse to invite your friends over for a few laughs? Then consider hosting a game night. All you’ll need are some snacks, libations, and, of course, entertaining, and easy games, such as these two!

#### Heads Up! App

This modern take on charades is played on your phone. One player holds their phone up against their forehead and tries to guess the word that is displayed on the screen, while the other players shout out clues. Each player gets 60 seconds to guess their word.

#### Cards Against Humanity

A classic game for those who enjoy a little spicy humor. To play, you’ll need at least four people. Each person takes a turn drawing a Black Card that has a fill-in-the-blank spot. The other players must answer with their best White Card. The person with the Black Card then chooses the player who offered the funniest answer as the round winner.

Hosting a game night with friends is a fantastic way to have a good time with entertaining games like Heads Up! App and Cards Against Humanity.

### Sleepytime Hot Chocolate

This hot cocoa recipe outshines store-bought mixes in flavor but also doubles as a comforting bedtime treat when infused with melatonin. Simply whisk cocoa powder and dark chocolate with your preferred milk and liquid melatonin, then top it with whipped cream or coconut cream for a dreamy night’s sleep.

1-¼ cups milk of choice

1-1/2 tbsp. unsweetened cocoa powder

1 tbsp. maple syrup or sweetener of choice

Salt

1 tbsp. semi-sweet or dark chocolate chips

¼ tsp. vanilla extract or peppermint extract

1/2 tsp. liquid melatonin

Whipped cream

In a saucepan, warm milk until it simmers. Whisk in cocoa, sweetener, and salt. Melt chocolate chips, then remove from heat. Add vanilla/peppermint extract and liquid melatonin. Adjust flavor and sweetness, then pour into a mug. Top with your preferred whipped cream.

### Important Information

#### Management

Park Properties Management Co, LLC

#### Community Manager

Lisa Bryant

#### December

HIV/AIDS Awareness Month

#### Birthstone - Flower

Blue Topaz - Narcissus

#### December

Wrap-Up 2023 - Toy Drive

**FUN FACT: A man dressed as Santa Claus went skydiving over the North Pole.**



# Live for the buzz!

## 3 Easy Ways to Save Time and Money While Chilling in your Apartment

To quote good old Ben Franklin, "A penny saved is a penny earned." With that in mind, here are a few things you can do to save money while just chilling in your apartment!

- ~ Review your Bills and Bank Statements on Paper  
Printing out your bills is important for two reasons. One, you're more likely to catch strange charges or fees. Two, you can see where you're wasting money without realizing it, such as over-using pricey food delivery services or paying for subscription services you no longer use.
  - ~ Look for Coupons.  
Before you go shopping or order food, check your local paper or mailers for coupons.
  - ~ Remove your Credit Card Number from Shopping Sites.  
Online shopping has made it too easy to overspend. To keep your shopaholic tendencies in check, experts recommend that you don't save credit card information to shopping sites. This forces you to look for your credit card and type in the information, which just might make you reconsider the purchase.
- Stop letting your hard-earned money slip out of your grasp. Instead, use these 3 tips to keep those dollars where they belong -- in your bank account.

## What Are Some DIY Maintenance Tips and Tricks for Apartment Living in Cold Weather?

Winter's cold and wet weather conditions can wreak havoc on an apartment. So, here are 3 easy things you can do to help keep your place in tip-top condition!

- ~ Invest in an entryway shoe/boot tray. Snow and rain-sodden footwear, as well as de-icing agents, can wreak havoc on your apartment flooring during the winter. So, keep a tray by the front door where you can leave your wet shoes and boots to dry.
  - ~ Prevent pipes from freezing. If temperatures are predicted to dip below freezing and your apartment has exterior walls, raise your thermostat setting a notch higher. It's also a good idea to open up the cabinet doors under your sinks and turn the faucets on to a slow drip.
  - ~ Keep food stored in airtight containers. When it gets cold, rodents and bugs head inside looking for a cozy place to stay and food to munch on. That's why it's important to keep your counters clean and free of crumbs. You should also store open food in airtight glass or plastic containers.
- These are 3 effortless ways to prevent what could be major problems from occurring in the future.

## Big Sky Calendar - December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 600-700 Bldg Exterminations Rent Due	<b>2</b> Nat'l Mutt Day
<b>3</b> Nat'l Roof Over Your Head Day	<b>4</b> Nat'l Dice Day	<b>5</b> 600 Bldg Inspections	<b>6</b> Wrap-Up 2023 Begins	<b>7</b> 700 Bldg Inspections	<b>8</b> Big Sky's Bagel Friday starts @ 9:30 am	<b>9</b> Nat'l Pastry Day
<b>10</b> Human Right's Day	<b>11</b> Nat'l App Day	<b>12</b> 1200 Bldg Inspections	<b>13</b> Nat'l Violin Day	<b>14</b> 1200-1300 Bldg Exterminations	<b>15</b> Office Closed - Corporate Event	<b>16</b> Nat'l Chocolate-Covered Anything Day
<b>17</b> Wright Brothers Day	<b>18</b> Answer the Telephone Like Buddy the Elf Day	<b>19</b> 1300 Bldg Inspections	<b>20</b> Nat'l Go Caroling Day	<b>21</b> Winter Begins	<b>22</b> Office Closed	<b>23</b> Nat'l Roots Day
<b>24</b> Nat'l Eggnog Day	<b>25</b> Christmas Day - Office Closed	<b>26</b> Nat'l Candy Cane Day	<b>27</b> Nat'l Fruitcake Day	<b>28</b> Nat'l Short Film Day	<b>29</b> Nat'l Tick Tock Day	<b>30</b> Nat'l Bacon Day
<b>31</b> New Year's Eve						