

# The Tide Mill Bulletin

DECEMBER 2016



#### **This Month:**

- Quick Tips
- Happy Holidays!
- DecorationContest
- Pet Photos
- Safety Tips



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# **Quick Tips**



Tired of starting the new year with a pile of debt? Shop smart, and you can enjoy the holidays without putting yourself in the poorhouse.

Here are the top 10 tips to help you make the most of your time and money:

### 1. Decide How Much You Can Spend.

Include everything from postage for Christmas cards to the cost of boarding a pet if you're traveling.

#### 2. Make A List & Check It Twice.

Armed with your budget, make a list of all the people you want to buy for. Then go over the list and decide how much you can spend on each person.

### 3. Pay Cash.

Set a limit, take that amount out of your account, and when the money is gone, it's over.

### 4. Think Of Credit Cards As Short Term Loans.

If you use your credit card, use the one that offers the lowest interest rate and always track your credit spending. Live within your means and pay it off ASAP!

### 6. Allow Enough Time For Preparations.

Whether you're shopping, baking, or wrapping presents, budgeting your time can end up saving you tons of money.

### 7. Do Not Overlook The Value Of Intangibles.

If you're already baking cookies for your family, making an extra batch as a present for a neighbor is fairly economical.

### 8. Send E-Cards.

They're free, or only cost a couple of dollars, and don't require postage.

### 9. Just Say "No" To Toy Lust.

If your kids still believe in Santa, help them draft real-world wish lists. In the post-Santa years, set some financial boundaries and give them some choices.

### 10. Look For Meaning Over Glitz.

Especially when you get into your adult years, words and gestures mean more as a personalized gift.

Remember the reason for the season and collect more tips at:

Bankrate.com

# **Happy Holidays!!**

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The best gift of all is to have you as our resident.

We hope that you are able to enjoy this holiday season with friends, family, and those you love the most.

If you will be traveling this holiday season, keep in mind these helpful tips:

- \* Lock your doors & windows.
- \* Leave a light on to make it look as if someone is home.
- \* Have a friend or neighbor stop by just to check on things.



If you would like for a Jessica or Nan to check on your home while you are away, just give us a call and we will be happy to stop by. Happy Holidays!

In addition, our Leasing Office will have shortened hours on Christmas Eve, and will be closed on Christmas Day. The same will apply for New Years Eve and New Years Day!

### **Holiday Balcony Contest!**

December is the most festive month of the year. People across the country will be celebrating together and showing their holiday spirit. We would love to see your holiday décor!

This December we will be hosting a Holiday balcony and patio decorating contest from December 1st to the 31st.

The winner of his contest will be announced in the New Year Newsletter and receive a \$100 award! So get out those lights and wreaths and get to decorating!





### PET PHOTO NIGHTS WITH SANTA

MONDAYS
NOVEMBER 28
DECEMBER 5
DECEMBER 12

5:15PM - 8PM





# **Christmas Tree Safety Tips**

If you are buying an artificial tree, make sure to look for a statement specifying a fire resistant protection. Though if you are going a more traditional route with a real tree, know that a fresh tree will stay green longer and be less of a fire hazard than a dry tree.

To check for freshness, remember:

- \* A fresh tree is green and fresh needles are hard to pull from branches.
- \* When bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break.
- \* The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin.

When the trunk of a tree is bounced on the ground, a shower of falling needles shows that tree is too dry.

When setting up a live Christmas Tree, make sure to follow these tips. Place tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Heated rooms dry trees out very quickly, creating fire hazards. For better absorption, cut off about two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood. Be sure to trim away branches as needed in order to set the tree trunk in the base of a sturdy, water-holding stand with wide spread feet.

Keep the stand filled with water while the tree is indoors and place the tree out of the way of high traffic areas. Thin guy-wires are a perfect way to secure a large tree to walls or ceiling and are almost invisible.

Here's to a safe and fire free Christmas!

