



# give **LOVE** on *Christmas Day*

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DECEMBER 16, 2022  
A SAIPAN TRIBUNE SPECIAL ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

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TOGETHER, LET US SHARE LOVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



# Favorites featured this Yuletide at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

By **TERI M. FLORES**  
CORRESPONDENT

**G**ood food and good company are what unforgettable memories are made of and this is exactly what the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan is looking to create for its guests this holiday season.

The recently opened Resort is continuing a legacy of being the place where local families and friends gather together for special occasions, most especially during the holiday season.

At The Terrace, which is the Resort's main dining facility, the culinary team has pre-



pared a holiday spread that features international dishes alongside local favorites for its Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Brunch and Dinner feasts.

Building on its reputation of featuring the best marinated and smoked meat and seafood, The Terrace's Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Brunch and Dinner



features local favorites that include a whole *kahlua* pig and smoked aged Certified Angus Beef tomahawk with truffle glaze. A wide variety of international dishes, includ-

ing Mediterranean-inspired Spanish fried rice—"Paella Negra"—salmon in aspic, and for the kids, Pizza in Teglia will be some of the highlights of this Yuletide feast.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day dinner buffets will be open from 5:30pm to 9:30pm. Dinner is \$65 for adults and \$25 for children between 4 to 11 years old. Christmas Day Brunch is open from 11am until 2pm and is \$75 for adults and \$25 for children between 4 to 11 years old.

For those who want to unwind while watching Saipan's famed sunsets, the Mari Bar is hosting a holiday season happy hour. Patrons get a 25% discount on all beverages, daily from 5pm to 7pm. This is available until Dec. 30.

Reservations can be made by calling (670) 234-6414 or visit the Resort's website at [saipan.crowneplaza.com](http://saipan.crowneplaza.com).



**CROWNE PLAZA**  
AN IHG® HOTEL  
RESORT SAIPAN

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

CELEBRATE THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR  
AT CROWNE PLAZA RESORT SAIPAN

THE  
**TERRACE**

Christmas Eve Dinner Buffet  
5:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
Adult \$65 / Child(ages 4-11) \$25  
**Book by December 9 for  
a 10% early bird discount**

Christmas Brunch Buffet  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Adult \$75 / Child(ages 4-11) \$25  
**Book by December 9 for  
a 20% early bird discount**

Christmas Dinner Buffet  
5:30 PM - 9:30 PM  
Adult \$65 / Child(ages 4-11) \$25  
**Book by December 9 for  
a 10% early bird discount**

**mari bar**

Holiday Season Happy Hour  
Enjoy 25% off on all beverages  
Daily from 5 - 7 PM at Mari Bar  
Available until December 30, 2022



Scan QR code  
for reservations at  
The Terrace



Scan QR code  
for reservations at  
Mari Bar





# 12 Days of Christmas

**SALES EVENT**  
DECEMBER 14 - 25, 2022

<p><b>12</b></p>  <p><b>\$1.69/LB</b> <b>US SMOKED PICNIC HAM</b></p> <p><b>\$4.19</b> <b>SOUTHERN COMFORT TRADITIONAL EGG NOG 32OZ</b> December 14, 2022</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>  <p><b>40% OFF</b> <b>US FRESH CHRISTMAS TREES</b></p> <p><b>\$4.19</b> <b>SOUTHERN COMFORT VANILLA SPICE EGG NOG 32OZ</b> December 15, 2022</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>  <p><b>\$4.95</b> <b>US XL FRESH EGGS 1 DOZEN</b></p> <p><b>HONEYDEW \$1.19/LB</b> <b>ALLEGRA ASSORTED PASTA 1LB</b> December 16, 2022 <b>\$1.29</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>  <p><b>18 FOR \$13.99</b> <b>LIBBY'S VIENNA SAUSAGE 4.6OZ</b> <b>LIBBY'S PUMPKIN SOLID 29OZ \$4.99</b></p> <p><b>JIFFY FOIL PIE PAN 3CT \$1.29</b> December 17, 2022</p>
<p><b>8</b></p>  <p><b>30% OFF</b> <b>BICYCLES</b> December 18, 2022</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>  <p><b>SUMIRE CALROSE RICE 44#</b> December 19, 2022 <b>\$20.99</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>  <p><b>BH COOKING POT 8.5QT</b> <b>\$10.00</b> December 20, 2022</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>  <p><b>BUTTERBALL, NORBEST, JENNIE-O WHOLE TURKEY</b> December 21, 2022 <b>\$1.79/LB</b></p>
<p><b>4</b></p>  <p><b>US CHOICE CHILL BEEF SKIRT STEAK</b> <b>\$10.79/LB</b> December 22, 2022</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>  <p><b>OSTER BLENDER 2 IN 1 200Z</b> December 23, 2022 <b>\$45.00</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>  <p><b>ASSORTED ARIZONA JUICES &amp; TEAS 23OZ</b> <b>\$1.29</b> December 24, 2022</p>	<p><b>1</b></p>  <p><b>ACE OF DIAMONDS TUNA 7OZ</b> December 25, 2022 <b>48 FOR \$72.00</b></p>

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All offers are valid on the date stated only and only available at specified Joeten Stores. US SMOKED PICNIC HAM, SOUTHERN COMFORT TRADITIONAL EGG NOG 32oz, US FRESH CHRISTMAS TREES, SOUTHERN COMFORT VANILLA SPICE EGG NOG 32oz, US FRESH XL EGGS 1 DOZEN, US FRESH HONEYDEW MELON, ALLEGRA ASSORTED PASTA 1 LB, LIBBY'S VIENNA SAUSAGE 4.6oz, LIBBY'S PUMPKIN SOLID 29oz, JIFFY FOIL PIE PAN 3ct, BICYCLES, SUMIRE CALROSE RICE 44#, BH COOKING POT 8.5 QT, BUTTERBALL WHOLE TURKEY, NORBEST WHOLE TURKEY, JENNIE-O WHOLE TURKEY, US CHOICE CHILL BEEF SKIRT STEAK, OSTER BLENDER 2 IN 1 200Z, ASSORTED ARIZONA JUICES & TEAS 23oz, and ACE OF DIAMONDS TUNA 7oz, applies only to all locations: Joeten Susupe, Garapan, Dan Dan and Kagman. All offers must be accepted as given and cannot be exchanged for cash, credit or other items. While supplies last.

Although Joeten strives to ensure that all pricing and information on this promo ad is accurate, occasionally an error may occur and goods may be mispriced. We reserve the right to correct all typographical and pictorial errors.

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Supersonic  
43" Dled HD  
Smart TV

**\$269<sup>95</sup>**

AT  
**PAYLESS  
SUPERFRESH  
& TRUCKLOAD  
STORE**

Brentwood  
12 Speed  
Pulse  
Blender

**\$19<sup>95</sup>**



Macgregor XS-100  
Basketball

**\$21<sup>79</sup>**

AT **JOETEN  
SUSUPE**



Black+Decker  
Coffee Maker

**\$49**



Zara Gold Flats  
**\$45** AT **SAIPAN  
SHOES**



Lego Advent  
Harry Potter

**\$49<sup>95</sup>**

AT **JOETEN  
SUPERSTORE**

Project Painting  
**\$12<sup>95</sup>**



# Christmas GIFT IDEAS

Puma Rider  
Future

**\$82<sup>99</sup>**

AT  
**ATHLETE'S  
FOOT**



Balenciaga Bag  
Hardware Tote  
With Strap

**\$784**  
AT **ARC**



Moon Lamp

**\$28**

AT **MG MALL**



Cala Tinted  
Lip Oil Trio

**\$9<sup>95</sup>** AT **I LOVE SAIPAN  
POP UP STORE**



L.A. Colors Blush/  
Highlighter Palette

**\$6<sup>95</sup>**



Handbag

**\$48**

AT **PENA  
HOUSE  
BOUTIQUE**



Roses  
Centerpiece  
Bouquet

**\$65**

AT **BLOSSOMS  
FLOWER SHOP**



Sunshine &  
Daydreams Candle

**\$29**



Planter Ornate  
White 6"

**\$20<sup>99</sup>**

AT **ACE  
HARDWARE**

Plant Hayden Tan

**\$20<sup>99</sup>**



Marc Jacobs  
Daisy Love  
Eau So Sweet

**\$106**

AT **DFS  
GALLERIA**



Bvlgari Omnia  
Crystalline  
Eau de  
Toilette

**\$84**

\*Prices are as of December 13, 2022



*It's not how  
much we give  
but how much  
love we put  
into giving.  
Above all, be kind.*



**Tan Siu Lin  
Foundation**





**Merry Christmas!**

**Toys & clothes**  
for children ages 0 to 10

10%-20% off  
clothing & toys  
Dec 16 to Dec 24

BEACH RD., GARAPAN  
Holiday Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-8pm  
Sunday 10am to 4pm  
TEL. 234-8040

LIKE US ON  
facebook



**Happy Holidays!**

a boutique for  
Tween girls  
ages 8-12

10%-15% off  
clothing & toys  
Dec 16 to Dec 24

FISG Bldg., Micro Beach Road, next to Poki Yaki  
Holiday Hours: Mon - Sat: 11am to 6pm  
Closed on Sunday  
TEL. 233-8050

Like us on  
Facebook

## Holiday shopping deals are here!



Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

By **LEIGH GASES**  
leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
CORRESPONDENT

**T**his really is the season to be jolly as holiday deals have arrived aplenty! Give your loved ones or treat yourselves to presents or feasts to remember without wrecking your budget by going over a selection of holiday shopping season deals. Hurry up, take advantage of these deals before they run out, and don't be a last-minute shopper!

### Joeten Shopping Center

From Dec. 14 to Christmas Day, Dec. 25, enjoy Joeten Shopping Center's 12 Days of Christmas Sales Event on 12 selected items at their

specified stores. Discounts and deals are available on different items daily, including U.S. Smoked Picnic Ham, Southern Comfort Traditional Eggnog, U.S. Fresh Christmas Trees, U.S. XL Fresh Eggs 1 Dozen, Honeydew, Allegra Assorted Pasta 1lb., Libby's Vienna Sausage 4.6oz., Libby's Pumpkin Solid 29oz., Jiffy Foil Pan 3CT., bicycles, Sumire Calrose Rice #44, BH cooking pot 8.5qt., Butterball, Nobrest, Jennie-O Whole Turkey, U.S. Choice Chill Beef Skirt Steak, Oster Blender 2 in 1 20oz., Assorted Arizona Juices and Teas 23oz., and Ace of Diamonds Tuna, 7oz.

### MG Mall

Stuck on what to buy this Christmas? Make your way to MG Mall in Chalan Piao beside the

See **HOLIDAY** on Page 22



**LET US GIVE LOVE**

**ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

*Shirley's* COFFEE SHOP  
Home of the Best Fried Rice

Garapan: Tel: (670) 233-4519/20 Sun - Wed 6am - 10pm, Thurs - 6am - 2am, Fri - Sat - 24 hrs  
Susupe: Tel: (670) 235-5379/80 6am - 10pm daily

facebook shirleyscoffeeshopfanpage instagram shirleyscoffeeshop





**CK SMOKEHOUSE**  
BARBECUE • SALAD  
STEAKS • CNMI BBQ

# Happy Hour

**Business Hours:**  
MON - THU & SUN 5PM-7PM  
FRI & SAT: 5PM-9PM  
Live Music  
FRI & SAT: 5PM-9PM



We Accept Reservations for Private Parties & Orders of Party Trays 670.234-3331



**INTERNATIONAL ROLLER SKATE**  
In Saipan

## Let the good times roll!

**Business Schedule:**  
Tues-Fri 5PM-8PM (1 Session)  
Sat-Sun 1 Session 2PM-4PM  
2 Session 4:30PM-6:30PM  
3 Session 7PM-9PM

**HEALTHY BENEFITS OF ROLLER SKATING:**

1. It burns calories
2. It build muscles
3. It's good for your heart & defeats diabetes
4. It's low impact (means minimal stress on your joints)
5. It's good for your mental health

**WE ACCEPT RESERVATIONS FOR PRIVATE PARTY**

Email Address: saipanwinners15@gmail.com  
Facebook: International Roller Skates- Saipan  
Instagram: rollersk8\_saipan  
Reservations must be made a week in advance.  
For inquiries, please call (670)235-3313 & (670)235-2560



## HOLIDAY

From Page 20

Hopwood Middle School for great deals, with 10% off on all items and up to 70% off on select items. Free gift wrapping is available. Warehouse clearance sale lasts from 5pm until 8pm on Dec. 16, 17, 22, 23, and 24. Call (670) 235-0072 for more information or visit the store at Chalan Piao next to Gold Ribbon.

### Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan

Have you tried out the newly opened Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan yet? Now is your

chance to try it out with family on Christmas Eve with a scrumptious lunch buffet at The Terrace Restaurant from 11am to 2pm for \$40 and 50% off children ages 4 to 11. For the Christmas Eve dinner, stop by from 5:30pm to 9:30pm for \$64 and \$25 per child. On Christmas Day, swing by The Terrace Restaurant again for a brunch buffet from 11am to 2pm for \$75 and \$25 per child. For Christmas dinner, it's \$65 and \$25 per child starting at 5:30pm to 9:30pm. Christmas Day lunch and dinner are inclusive of selected beers, white/red wine, spar-

ling wine, soft drinks, tea and coffee. Call (670)234-6414 for reservations.

### Aqua Resort Club Saipan

Feast at Aqua Resort Club Saipan's Christmas Eve Dinner Buffet from 6pm to 9pm for \$60 and \$30 per child. Want dinner and a show? Come on down to their Sunset BBQ Dinner Show from 6pm to 8pm, featuring live Polynesian Fire Dance Show by Tasi & the Ali's. On Christmas Day, make your way to their Christmas Day Brunch from 11am to 2pm for \$60 (\$49 locals) and \$30 (\$24.50 locals) per child. For Christ-



mas dinner from 6pm to 9pm, try it out for \$60 (\$49 locals) and \$30 (\$24.50 locals) per child as well. Book either of these by Dec. 19 for extra savings! Try out Christmas at Kevin's on either Christmas Eve dinner or Christmas Day dinner from 6pm to 10pm, for a tasty Chef's special Holiday Set Menu & Wine Flight, \$100 per person. Call (670) 322-1232 for reservations.

### Hyatt Regency Saipan

Ride a canoe into 2023 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Beach on Dec. 31 with free canoe rides by 500 Sails from 11am to 2pm. For New Year's Eve dinner, head into Giovanni's from 6pm to 9pm for \$65 per person, or \$59 for Club at the Hyatt members. It's inclusive of free-flowing beverage package of red/white/sparkling wine/beer. Count the new year down with event host Brad Ruszala at the Hyatt for the New Year's Eve Countdown. Alcohol is available for \$5 each, which you can chug down as you wait for the fireworks display over Hyatt beach and the hotel. For every \$25 purchase, bearer gets one raffle ticket. VIP tables are available for only \$180 for six persons, inclusive of one bottle of sparkling wine, one bottle of vodka and mixer (cranberry juice, soda; water and Coke), six cans of beer, nuts, and seven raffle tickets. Win fantastic prizes in the raffle draws and dance to the live music performance by the High Tide Band and exhilarating countdown music by DJ Big Ken!

### Island Skin Solutions

Treat yourself or your loved one's skin with Saipan's Premier Medical Spa at Island Skin Solutions. Services available are Picosecond Laser Treatment, Medical-Grade Chemical Peels, Microneedling, Hydrafacial, Laser Hair Removal, Botox & Dermal Fillers, and professional skincare products. Gift certificates are available! Text (670) 285-0783 or visit their Facebook page, Island Skin Solutions, for more information. For appointments call 670-323-9000, located at the Marina Heights II building, first floor.

### Namaste Beautiful Salon & Spa

Self-care is always in and now more affordable with a 15% off all regular services at Namaste Beautiful Salon & Spa located in Unit 1 USL Bldg., on Middle Road, Gualo Rai. Savings are valid until Jan. 15, 2023. Call (670) 233-9642 for appointments.

### Fuji Aire

Looking to cool your house down this holiday season

and for the coming summer? Visit Fuji Aire's grand opening this Sunday, Dec. 17, on Middle Road, Chalan Laulau. Fuji Aire air conditioners, with the best quality, two-year full machine warranty, and five-year warranty for compressors, are available. Call (670) 235-3288 for more information.

### Dial Rent-to-Own

With a wide range of electronics, from cell phones, televisions, speakers, tablets, to video game consoles, you are sure to find a gift for your tech-savvy friend or family member! For more information, call (670) 234 RENT on Middle Road or (670) 234-DIAL in Chalan Kanoa.

### CK Smokehouse

Steaks? Barbecue? Salad? Happy hour? Check out CK Smokehouse for your smoked meat needs. They accept private parties and orders of party trays. Business hours are from Monday through Thursday and Sunday from 5pm to 7pm; and on Friday and Saturday from 5pm to 9pm, enjoy the food with live music. Call (670) 234-3331.

### International Roller Skates

Let the good times roll at the International Roller Skate rink in San Antonio. Roll your way into the holiday season and next year with their operation hours from Tuesday to Friday, 5pm to 8pm; one session on Saturday and Sunday from 2pm to 4pm; two sessions from 4:30pm to 6:30pm; and three sessions from 7pm to 9pm. Want the whole place to yourself? They accept private parties, with reservations required a week in advance. Call (670) 235-3313 or (670) 235-2560 or email saipanwinner15@gmail.com. Check out their Facebook page at International Roller Skates-Saipan, or Instagram @rollersk8\_saipan.

### Lollipops

Get the gift your children have on their wish list—or for those who are kids at heart, as you enjoy 10% to 20% off clothing and toys from Dec. 16 to 24. Holiday hours are from Monday to Saturday, 9am to 8pm. Call (670) 234-8040 for more information.

### Girl Talk

Have a tween girl in your life? Take a look at Girl Talk boutique for gift ideas and with their 10% to 15% off clothing and toys from Dec. 16 to 24, you're sure to find some! Check them out at the FISG Bldg., Micro Beach Road, next to Poki Yaki. Holiday hours are Monday to Saturday, 11am to 6pm and closed on Sunday. Call (670) 233-8050 for more information.



## Make their holiday a little brighter

Gifts for grandma and grandpa—check. CHenChu'le for the children—check. Tinsel for the tree—check. Lights for the lawn—check.

Make checking off your list that much merrier with a personal loan\* of up to \$50,000.

Apply today at [bankofguam.com](http://bankofguam.com)

Bank of  
Guam 50  
Member FDIC

\*Subject to Bank of Guam lending criteria. Terms and conditions apply.



# Christmas SALE

## SHOP NOW!

<p><b>\$13.95</b> /week</p>  <p><b>Keyboard Included!</b></p> <p>Galaxy Tab S7 FE w/ Keyboard, 64GB</p>	<p><b>\$21.95</b> /week</p>  <p>27" 5K Retina iMac</p>		
<p><b>\$22.95</b> /week</p>  <p>Samsung S21</p>	<p><b>\$19.95</b> /week</p>  <p>iPhone 11, 64GB</p>	<p><b>\$26.95</b> /week</p>  <p>iPhone 13, 128GB</p>	<p><b>\$15.95</b> /week</p>  <p>iPad Mini, 5th Gen</p>
<p><b>\$28.95</b> /week</p>  <p>PS5 Horizon Bundle Disc Edition</p>	<p><b>\$19.95</b> /week</p>  <p>New Built-In Stand!</p> <p>Nintendo Switch OLED</p>	<p><b>\$14.95</b> /week</p>  <p>We light up the party!</p> <p>JBL Party Box Encore</p>	
<p><b>\$16.95</b> /week</p>  <p>gemini Stands over 3 1/2 ft tall! Top View:</p> <p>We light up the party!</p> <p>Home Karaoke Party Speaker</p>	<p><b>\$24.95</b> /week</p>  <p>Hisense HISENSE 75" 4K TV</p>	<p><b>\$12.95</b> /week</p>  <p>MARLEY Bag Of Riddim 2 Speaker</p>	
<p><b>\$13.95</b> /week</p>  <p>Hisense HISENSE 43" 4K TV</p> <p>Built-In Google Assist!</p>	<p><b>\$20.95</b> /week</p>  <p>Hisense HISENSE 65" 4K ROKU TV</p>	<p><b>\$17.95</b> /week</p>  <p>Hisense HISENSE 55" 4K TV</p>	

\*This is a rent to own transaction. You don't own the product until all rental payments are completed. Example: \$9.95 x 12 months = \$517.40. Items may differ. Some restrictions apply, see store for details.



**NO CREDIT CHECKS**

Middle Road 234-RENT | Chalan Kanoa 234-DIAL



Rent-to-Own



# Christmas at the Aqua Resort Club

By **TERI M FLORES**  
CORRESPONDENT

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at the Aqua Resort Club and this year, the Resort's food and beverage team is pulling out all the stops to make sure that their Christmas Eve and Christmas Day feasts are the events meant to be shared and remembered.

ARC Marketing and Public Relations Assistant Manager Victoria S. Barnes shares the team's excitement to be offering festive holiday buffets at Costa and Christmas pastries and sweets at the Aqua Café.

"Consistent with previous years, we again expect a great turnout from our local community and in-house guests for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day buffets. To prepare for this, we crafted a menu that features well-loved dishes including Roast Turkey, Housemade Holiday Ham, Grilled Striploin, Seafood on Ice, Free-flowing beer and wines, and luscious desserts," said Barnes.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day brunch and dinner buffets are priced at \$60 for adults and \$30 for children. Local residents get a dis-



Prime Rib & Seafood, offers an exquisite five-course "Chef's Set," concocted by its new executive chef, Inok Lee. Guests can expect specialty dishes featuring Salmon, Oysters, Rib-eye or Lobster, complimented by Aniti Wines and a delicious dessert cart with Siphon Coffee. The Chef's Table at Kevin's is available every Thursday and Sunday from 6pm to 10pm throughout December.

Barnes said the ARC team is looking forward to making their patrons' holiday celebrations festive and fun by providing them the excellent customer service the Resort is known for,

For reservations, call the Aqua Resort Club at 322-1234 and book your table now.

counted rate of \$49 for adults and \$24.50 for children. Those who place a reservation by Dec. 19 get an early bird discount, which means more savings. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day dinner is open from 6pm to 9pm, while Christmas Day brunch

is between 11am and 2pm. Barnes said there is enough seating to comfortably accommodate 150 guests at Costa.

For those looking for a more intimate and personal dining experience, ARC's fine-dining restaurant, Kevin's The



## EAT, DRINK & be merry

### CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER BUFFET

Saturday, December 24 | 6PM—9PM  
\$60 AD | \$30 CH (Local Residents: \$49 AD | \$24.50 CH)  
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! Book by 12/19/22 for extra savings!

### SUNSET BBQ DINNER SHOW

Saturday, December 24 | 6-8PM  
Featuring Live Polynesian Fire Dance Show by Tasi & the Ali's

### CHRISTMAS DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, December 25 | 11AM—2PM  
\$60 AD | \$30 CH (Local Residents: \$49 AD | \$24.50 CH)  
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! Book by 12/19/22 for extra savings!

### CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

Sunday, December 25 | 6PM—9PM  
\$60 AD | \$30 CH (Local Residents: \$49 AD | \$24.50 CH)  
EARLY BIRD SPECIAL! Book by 12/19/22 for extra savings!

### CHRISTMAS AT KEVIN'S

Sat, December 24 | 6-10PM -and- Sun, December 25 | 6-10PM  
Chef's special Holiday Set Menu & Wine Flight \$100 per person

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL - BOOK BY 12/19/22 AND SAVE!  
RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED. CALL (670) 322-1234





# Give *love* on *Christmas Day*

By **TERI FLORES**  
CORRESPONDENT

**A**fter two years of muted celebrations, Christmas this year is getting its mojo back as the “most wonderful time of the year,” as one carol describes this special time. With the pandemic behind us, a lot of us have gone back to full celebratory mode to drink a toast to going back to “normal,” we know it and are used to.

Yet our perspective of Christmas and the so-called “spirit” of the season has definitely changed. COVID-19 was like the Grinch who took away the life we thought we knew and replaced it with uncertainties. Before COVID-19 happened, Christmas was predominantly spent anticipating the numerous parties, get-togethers and the gift-giving and, most of all, the gift receiving. Now that we are almost out of the grip of this pandemic, the question that need to be answered is: “Is there more to the tinsel and glitter of Christmas?”

So, just for the thrill of find-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Saipan Cares for Animals partners Yumi Brundage, left, and Beth Pliscou.

ing out if Google really holds the answer to life's questions, I searched what the meaning of Christmas is and, to my surprise, one of the results describe the lesson of the season as a “great time to be thankful for the bigger things in life. The holidays are a great opportunity to give to those less fortunate and to talk to your kids about all the things they have that they are grateful for.”

This definition reminds me of *The Gift of Magi*, the O. Henry Christmas story that narrates how a young couple gave up their most valuable

possessions to buy their first Christmas gift for each other. As the story shows, we don't need to go to the extreme of spending and getting elaborate gifts to spread the joy of the season. Why not go back to the basics of investing more time on things that really matter—the people we hold dear, the friend in need, or the community that is always on the lookout for a volunteer or two to help them in their advocacies.

After COVID-19 challenged all aspects of our lives, this Yuletide season might just be the right time to recalibrate and rethink what we value and deem important. Why wait for the New Year to make resolutions that make us feel good about ourselves? We can start now.

■■■

For this season, we have prepared this Christmas guide to offer ideas for gift giving, places to visit, and where you can bring the family and loved ones to celebrate your annual Christmas get-together. Most importantly, we are beginning what we hope will become a yearly tradition for *Saipan Tribune*.



Boonie Babies Rescue founders, sisters Aria Keilbach, center, and Grace Keilbach, right, are joined by volunteers and some of their Boonie Babies rescues.  
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As what one of the most popular Christmas song encourages us to do (*Give Love on Christmas Day*), we have chosen eight non-profit organizations who will receive a portion of our ad sales from this special insert. Benefitting from this program are the following organizations:

## **AUTISM SOCIETY OF THE CNMI**

The Autism Society of the CNMI exists to help increase awareness about this developmental disorder, which affects how a person perceives

and socializes with others, and serves as a resource for parents who may be in the dark as to what autism spectrum disorder is.

Originally, the organization started as a support group for parents with loved ones who've been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. While the group now focuses more on raising awareness about autism, they still continue to provide resources and guidance, which are extremely important help for families dealing with the disorder.

The group relies on donations and hosts yearly fundraising events, with its keynote event being the AS-CNMI Quiz Nite. This 501(c)(3) non-profit group welcomes volunteers who can provide new ideas and direction for the team. Contact: Romeo Cuellar at autismsocietymni@gmail.com

## **SAIPAN CARES FOR ANIMAL**

Following the destruction of Saipan's animal shelter from Typhoon Soudelor in October, the group is rebuilding. See *LOVE* on Page 27

**MG MALL**  
MAKE GOOD

# Christmas SUPER SALE

10% OFF ALL ITEMS

up to

# 70% OFF

EVENT.1      EVENT.2

Free Gift Wrapping

Warehouse Clearance Sale  
5PM-8PM  
: (December 16, 17, 22, 23, 24)

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**LOVE**

From Page 25

ber 2015 and the need to assist and shelter displaced ani-

mals, a group of volunteers, many of whom were already doing work at the mayor's shelter, decided to band together to form this group. With help from Humane So-

ciety International, it visited Saipan to train some of the volunteers to become veterinary technicians, including Beth Pliscou, who later became SCA's director.

SCA opened its Animal Care Clinic and Shelter in As Gonno in August 2016, and then relocated to its Gualo Rai home since April 2022. The shelter operates as a clinic and, with its "Virtual Shelter" program, allows community members to volunteer to shelter animals.

Since they are a non-profit organization, the biggest challenge the group faces on a daily basis is how to keep the clinic open to the community. The clinic operates on a shoestring budget, with revenue generated from fees going to animal care, supplies and services, with barely nothing left for operations. The fee schedule is intended to be affordable. No animal is denied care and services for inability to pay. However, pet parents can opt to "pay when able." The SCA depends highly on community support, donations, and grants to supplement its services.

The SCA's two-pronged mission is to reduce the stray animal overpopulation in the CNMI through spaying and neutering dogs and cats. SCA accomplishes this by adopting out animals that have been sterilized. In addition, SCA offers low-cost spay and neuter services to the community, which are provided by visiting volunteer veterinarians that SCA recruits.

Empowering people in the CMI to care for their pets is the group's second goal and to meet this, they provide education about pet care and when they need to be taken to SCA.

Clinic doors are open to the



more information about the agency and available volunteer work, visit them at 1365 and 1366 on Navy Hill or call 322-4303/4304 or send an email to ssatur@clcnmi.org to schedule an interview. A valid photo ID and a police clearance is required.

■■■  
**BOONIE BABIES RESCUE**

Providing access to quality veterinary services and animal-related resources and relocating animals out of the CNMI with the end goal of reducing the stray dog and cat population on the islands are the reasons behind this non-profit organization. More importantly, the group aims to foster respect for animal life by increasing awareness through education.

The group's founders, sisters Aria and Grace Keilbach, wanted to address and ease what they saw was the suffering stray dogs and cats in the CNMI, so they began driving around the island feeding stray dogs and cats. Eventually, worldwide help came and volunteers from Canada, the U.S. mainland and Austria fly out regularly to Saipan to help meet the organization's goals. To date, 300 animals have already been rescued and rehabilitated by the group.

Just recently, Boonie Babies Rescue was awarded a BOOST grant. However, most of their funding comes from private donations and by hosting fundraising events such as group walks, puppy yoga, beach cleanups, among others. These events also allow the group to share information about animal care and their mission to save boonies dogs.

The group is always on the lookout for volunteers. Volunteers help socialize the dogs in many fun ways as well as assist in the animal's day-to-day care. To keep updated and involved in their work, follow the Boonie Babies Rescue on their social media pages on Instagram @booniebabies, on Facebook at Boonie Babies Rescue and on TikTok at stay\_wavy\_baby. Simply liking, sharing, and commenting on the posts goes a long way in helping the group increase awareness and educate the community about their advocacy.

■■■  
**FRIENDS OF THE JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY**

This non-profit was organized to promote the continuous existence and effectiveness of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library to the community. The group holds several fundraising events yearly, including book sales with proceeds used to fund different library activities.

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SAIPAN

**31 DEC** Bask in the last few hours of 2022 and check out the  
**Canoe Rides by 500 Sails**  
FREE | 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Hyatt Beach

**31 DEC** **New Year's Eve Dinner | Giovanni's**  
\$65 per person | \$59 Club at the Hyatt | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Inclusive of free-flowing beverage package (red/white/sparkling/beer)

**31 DEC** **New Year's Eve Countdown**  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | 10:00 PM - 2:00 AM  
Bring your picnic mats, chairs and shout your lungs out as we countdown to 2023 while watching the amazing fireworks. Bar is open and all drinks for \$5 (red/white/sparkling/beer) For every \$25 purchase, bearer gets one (1) raffle ticket.

**01 JAN** Get the best spot at the beach to view the spectacular fireworks! VIP Tables are available for only \$180 for 6pax. Inclusive of 1 bottle of sparkling wine, 1 bottle of vodka and mixer (cranberry juice, soda, water, and coke), 6 cans of beer, nuts and 7 raffle tickets.

It's a party! Win fantastic prizes in the raffle draws and dance to the live music performance by the High Tide Band and exhilarating countdown music by DJ Big Ken! The event is hosted by Brad Ruzala.

**Welcome 2023 with a bang!**

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