



Angel's Touch Assisted Living \* 1350 Angels Path, 394/400 Angels Touch Court  
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## **Celebrating January**

*Get Organized Month*

*Polka Music Month*

**Entertainer Rodger**

**2:00pm, 1350 Building**

*January 6*

**Entertainer Jack**

**2:00pm, 400 Building**

*January 13*

*1/15 - National Hat Day*

*1/17 - President's Day*

**Entertainer Eddie**

**1:30pm, 394 Building**

*January 20*

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

*January 20*

*1/21 - National Hug Day*

*1/23 - National Pie Day*

**Compliment Day**

*January 24*

**Empowerment Dance**

**1:30pm, 394 Building**

*January 27*

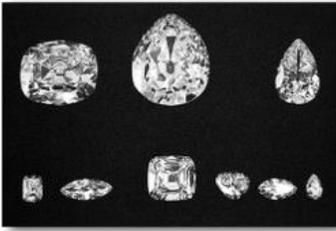
## **The Texas Oil Boom**

Texas is known around the world as a leading producer of oil, but this booming industry did not exist until January 10, 1901, when the black gold was struck at Spindletop in Beaumont. Spindletop Hill was a small hill of earth pushed upward by an underground dome of salt. Self-taught geologist Patillo Higgins suspected that oil might be hidden somewhere under Spindletop. The area was known for its sulfur springs and seeps of gas that could be lit on fire. Higgins convinced engineer Anthony Lucas to finance a drilling operation at Spindletop, but they soon ran out of money. Lucas, unwilling to give up on Spindletop, sought the support of Pennsylvania oilmen to continue his drilling. Higgins, sadly, was excluded from the deal. Too bad, too, because on that fateful January day, after drilling had reached 1,020 feet, Lucas struck oil. Texas had never seen such a geyser. Oil shot 150 feet into the air, making it the most powerful gusher ever struck. The Lucas Geyser, as the Spindletop find came to be known, was shooting off 100,000 barrels of oil a day, more than all the other oil wells in America. It took nine days before the gusher was brought under control.

Beaumont suddenly grew from a sleepy Gulf-Coast backwater into a Texas boomtown. Its population tripled in a mere three months. New oil companies formed and searched for new wells. Refineries sprang up all over the Gulf Coast. In its first year, Spindletop produced 3.5 million barrels of oil. In its second year, it produced 17.4 million. John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil, which had previously held a monopoly in the petroleum industry, was crushed by new Texas-based competitors like Texaco and Gulf Oil.

By 1904, production at Spindletop had declined significantly, dropping to 10,000 barrels per day. This prompted more drilling and more significant finds, but by World War I, oil production at Spindletop had mostly ceased. Texas, however, had changed forever, and the Texas oil boom became the engine that propelled the growth of America. Today, visitors to Beaumont can find the Boomtown Museum and its exhibits chronicling the lasting importance of the Lucas Geyser at Spindletop.

## The Cullinan Diamond



On January 26, 1905, Frederick Wells, the surface manager of the Premier Mine in Transvaal, now South Africa, made

one of the world's most stunning discoveries. Just 29 feet below the surface, he found a massive, blue-white diamond, which he cut from the rock with his pocketknife. He immediately took it to his office to be weighed and inspected. At 3,106 carats, it was the largest diamond the world had ever seen. Newspapers called it the "Cullinan diamond," after Sir Thomas Cullinan, owner of the mine. It was such a fantastic discovery that it was put on public display at the Standard Bank in Johannesburg, where visitors could catch a glimpse of the world's largest diamond. In April of that year, the Cullinan diamond was destined for London. A team of detectives guarded its transport on a steamboat, where it was locked securely inside the captain's safe... or so people thought. This, in fact, was a diversion. The real diamond was shipped to England in an unmarked box via regular post. Upon its safe arrival in England, it went to Buckingham Palace, where it was admired by King Edward VII. The Transvaal government had purchased the diamond and in 1907 presented it as a gift to His Majesty the King, who accepted it and declared that it would become part of the Crown Jewels. Splitting and cutting the diamond into various workable pieces took eight months, with three people working 14 hours a day. It is said that Dutch diamond cutter Joseph Asscher had a doctor and nurse on hand while he was cleaving the massive diamond. Thank goodness, for he fainted after successfully dividing the gem. The two largest stones remain part of the Crown Jewels, set in the Sovereign's Sceptre with Cross and the Imperial State Crown, respectively. The seven remaining large stones and 95 smaller brilliant gems were set in various pieces of jewelry for the royal family.

## January Birthdays

In astrology, those born between January 1–19 are the horned goats of Capricorn. As goats climb to great heights, Capricorns strive to get to the top, using discipline and common sense to find fame, prestige, and wealth. Those born between January 20–31 are the Water Bearers of Aquarius. As the water of life heals the land, so Aquarians are the humanitarians of the zodiac. Free-spirited, nonconformist, compassionate, and visionary, they support giving "power to the people."

## Resident's Birthdays

Joyce J. – January 9

Ellen – January 14

Rosemarie – January 20

Bud – January 23

Lumpy – January 26

Pat – January 30

## From the Activity Director's Desk

It's hard to believe that 2020 has arrived already. Now would be the perfect time to make a New Year's resolution. If you are looking for an easy resolution, please consider volunteering with us. We are always looking for someone to come in and play games or paint our resident's nails.

Empowerment Dance will be here on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in our 394 building. This is a great program that teaches our residents some dance moves from a seated position. We tested it out on our 1350 a couple months ago and it was a big hit!

Any questions or suggestions feel free to contact Kassie at (920) 412-6224 or email at [kassie@angelstouchcbrf.com](mailto:kassie@angelstouchcbrf.com).