

HARRISHEALTH SYSTEM

Recognition
Connection
2022
CALENDAR



January



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**What is your goal
for giving more
effective recognition
this year?**

January

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

Cervical Health Month

Glaucoma Awareness Month

Medical Travel Month

National Birth Defects
Prevention Month

National Blood Donor Month

Radon Awareness Month

Thyroid Awareness Month

RECOGNITION DAYS

12 National Pharmacist Day

25 IV Nurse Day

January Impactful Ideas

1 | January is Get Organized Month

Create a 2022 recognition plan with this calendar.

2 | Motivation and Inspiration Day

Send a motivational email to your team on Mondays to get them ready to take on the week!

12 | National Pharmacist Day

Send an eCard or stop by the pharmacy to say "you are appreciated!"

25 | National IV Nurse Day

Be sure to honor our infusion nurse specialists this year!

29 | National Puzzle Day

Puzzles stimulate the brain and serve as great team builders!

National Blood Donor Month: Contact the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center at giveblood.org to host a team blood drive. One donation can save lives!

Birthday Combo: Hold one party each month to celebrate all employees with birthdays in that month.

Schedule Gratitude: Set a recurring calendar reminder to look for opportunities to recognize someone!

In the News: Add a section to your department newsletter to highlight employees' personal and professional achievements.

Morning Person: Greet your colleagues every morning, reinforcing the message, "I'm glad you're here."



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MONTHLY GOALS.**

February



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When recognizing someone, don't forget to describe the action and the impact that person made.



February

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

American Heart Month

Kids ENT Health Month

Wise Healthcare Consumer Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

7–13 Perianesthesia Nurse Awareness Week (PANAW)

13–19 Cardiovascular Professionals Week

13–19 Sepsis Survivor Week

21–25 Phlebotomists' Recognition Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

4 National Wear Red Day (Heart Disease Awareness)

February Impactful Ideas

- 1 | Patient Recognition Week**
Use Language of Caring to let your patients know their well-being is important to you.
- 4 | National Wear Red Day**
Take a team photo to post on social media for heart disease awareness.
- 7 | 31st Annual Pride in Food Service Week**
Get blank white aprons for your FNS team. Write notes of thanks with a Sharpie.
- 11 | National Make a Friend Day**
Introduce yourself to someone new today.
- 14 | Cardiovascular Professionals Week**
Cut a sticky note into a heart shape and write why someone is the heart of the system.
- 17 | Random Acts of Kindness Day**
Oscar Wilde said, "The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."

Black History Month: Honor the countless contributions African Americans have made to American history.

Hide & Seek: Hide raffle tickets in employee-only areas. Have a drawing so "finders" can redeem prizes!

Seat at the Table: Give an employee a chance to attend a leadership meeting with you or in your place when you are unable to attend.

Surprise! Throw a surprise party to celebrate a team member's professional or personal achievement.



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Recognition should be multidirectional: peer to peer, management to staff, staff to management, and across teams.

March

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

Brain Injury Awareness Month
Breathe Better, Sleep Better Month
Colorectal Cancer Month
Hemophilia Awareness Month
Kidney Month
National Nutrition Month
Save Your Vision Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

1–6 National Aplastic Anemia and MDS Awareness Week
2–9 National Sleep Awareness Week
3–9 Endometriosis Awareness Week
6–12 Dental Assistants Recognition Week™
15–19 Health Care HR Week
20–26 National Poison Prevention Week
21–27 National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

1 Baby Sleep Day
4 Employee Appreciation Day
9 Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day
22 American Diabetes Association Alert Day
24 World Tuberculosis Day
30 National Doctor's Day



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March Impactful Ideas

- 1 | **World Compliment Day**
Genuine compliments are a powerful motivation tool. You're doing a wonderful job. Pass it on!
- 4 | **Employee Appreciation Day**
Express appreciation for each of your direct reports. Be specific.
- 4 | **National Day of Unplugging**
Unplug from your phone, tablet, or computer. Focus on face-to-face, personal interaction.
- 9 | **Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day**
Let our RDs know why they are awesome.
- 13 | **Patient Safety Week**
Stage a "hazard room" for staff to identify safety risks. Give prizes for correct identifications.
- 15 | **Healthcare HR Week**
Nothing is as flattering as being asked to share your expertise. Ask an HR professional to help edit your resume!
- 30 | **National Doctor's Day**
Present physicians with a red carnation boutonniere or corsage, the official Doctor's Day symbol.

Women's History Month: Create a poster or bulletin board spotlighting the contributions of women on your team.

International Ideas Month: Ask employees for suggestions to improve processes. Recognize all who bring new ideas to the table.

National Nutrition Month: Bring healthy snacks to the office this month to treat your coworkers.

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For maximum effect, don't wait to acknowledge an employee for doing something great.



April

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- Donate Life Month
- Healthcare Thought Leadership & Innovation Month
- Minority Health Month
- National Facial Protection Month
- National Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month
- Occupational Therapy Month
- Parkinson's Awareness Month
- Rosacea Awareness Month
- Stress Awareness Month
- World Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

- 11–17 Black Maternal Health Week
- 17–23 Health Information Professionals Week
- 17–23 Medical Laboratory Professionals Week
- 17–23 Pediatric Sepsis Week
- 25–29 Patient Experience Week
- 4/25–5/2 Transplant Nurses Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 2 World Autism Awareness
- 10 National Youth HIV & AIDS Day
- 16 National Stress Awareness Day
- 28 World Day for Safety and Health at Work



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April Impactful Ideas

- 2 | World Autism Awareness Day**
Autism affects 1 in 68 children. Spread kindness to foster understanding and acceptance of those on the autism spectrum.
- 3 | Patient Access Week**
Patient Access is the first point of contact for our patients. Make recognition front and center for this important team.
- 17 | Lab Week**
Not all heroes wear capes ... some wear lab coats!
- 19 | Volunteer Week**
Organize an outing for your team at the Houston Food Bank or the Ronald McDonald House.
- 21 | International High Five Day**
Using Recognition Connection, leaders can send up to ten "High Fives" per quarter to reward employees for outstanding work!
- 25 | Patient Experience (PX) Week**
Celebrate the employees on our PX team, and recognize the part you play in patient satisfaction.
- 27 | Administrative Professionals Day**
Recharge the employees who keep our organization running by bringing them coffee this week.
- 28 | World Day for Safety and Health at Work**
Do you know your pavilion's fire response plan? Quiz your staff and reward correct answers.

Stress Awareness Month: It's also Humor Month. Laughter is a powerful stress reliever, and that's no joke!

Celebrate Diversity Month: At a team meeting, ask individuals to write what makes them unique on a sticky note to see what everyone "brings to the table."

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**Give recognition
along the way, not
just when the job or
project is done.**



May

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- American Stroke Month
- Arthritis Month
- Asthma Awareness Month
- Global Employee Health and Fitness Month
- Lyme Disease Month
- Mental Health Month
- National Critical Care Awareness & Recognition Month
- National Osteoporosis Month
- Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month
- Nurses Month
- Women's Health Month
- Workers' Compensation Advocacy Awareness Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

- 8–14 Maternal Sepsis Week
- 8–14 National Hospital Week
- 8–14 National Skilled Nursing Care Week
- 8–14 Women's Health Week
- 8–14 Women's Lung Health Week
- 9–15 National Stuttering Awareness Week
- 15–21 Healthcare Documentation Integrity Week
- 15–21 Neuroscience Nurses Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 2 Melanoma Monday
- 3 World Asthma Day



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May Impactful Ideas

- 8 | Hospital Week**
LBJ Hospital once hosted a dunk tank for hospital week — executive leaders got dunked!
- 8 | Nurses Week**
Plan a small activity every day, ending with something big on the last day of the week!
- 8 | National Women's Health Week**
Kick off the week with a Mother's Day celebration!
- 11 | Third Shift Workers Day**
Leave a token of appreciation behind for your colleagues on the third shift.
- 18 | Employee Health & Fitness Day**
Host your own Fitbit challenge to help improve your team's health and earn Premium Rewards.
- 24 | National Scavenger Hunt Day**
Use a QR Code generator (qr-code-generator.com) to push the boundaries of a typical scavenger hunt!

Mental Health Awareness Month: It's also Health & Fitness Month. Relax your mind and body with some yoga.

Seeds of Success: Give a packet of flower seeds as a gift to someone who has helped you grow and reach your potential.

Open House: Invite employees' families onsite to celebrate award ceremonies or major accomplishments.

Two Truths & a Lie: For an easy team builder, employees write two facts and one lie about themselves. Colleagues then guess which is the lie.

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June



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**The more you know
about people, the
better recognition
you can give.**



June

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- Cataract Awareness Month
- LGBTQ Pride Month
- Liver Health Matters Month
- Men's Health Month
- National Headache and Migraine Awareness Month
- PTSD Awareness Month
- Scleroderma Awareness Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

- 5–11 Community Health Improvement Week
- 13–19 Men's Health Week
- 16–22 Nursing Assistants Week
- 20–24 Health Care Risk Management Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 1 National Running Day
- 3 #HAVhope Day of Awareness
- 5 National Cancer Survivors Day®
- 19 Juneteenth



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June Impactful Ideas

- 1 | Say Something Nice Day**
Make sure you are sincere when giving a compliment!
- 5 | National Cancer Survivors Day®**
There are 17 million cancer survivors in the U.S. Let a survivor know you're thinking of them today.
- 16 | Nursing Assistants Week**
Give your CNAs a few minutes of rest. Set up a dark relaxation room with music and herbal tea.
- 19 | Juneteenth**
Today is about celebrating Black culture, history, and life. Hold a team celebration to acknowledge this day.
- 19 | Father's Day**
Take a moment to wish the dads on your team a Happy Father's Day.
- 30 | Social Media Day**
Let your staff shine on social media. Tag us @harrishealth or hashtag: #harrishealthsystem #harrishealth.

National Safety Month: Paint a padlock gold to create a traveling trophy for those who make safety and security a priority.

LGBTQ Pride Month: Invite your coworkers to represent your team at Houston Pride, June 25–29.

Summer Fridays: If possible, create a rotating schedule so employees can arrive to work early and leave early on Fridays during the summer months.

Host a Hackathon: Set aside a day for your employees to "hack" an outdated process or an old piece of content.

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Praising your team member for good work can have a tremendous impact on employee morale and retention.



July

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- Cord Blood Awareness Month
- Minority Mental Health Awareness Month
- UV Safety Month

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 5 National Workaholics Day

July Impactful Ideas

- 5 | National Workaholics Day**
Encourage your favorite workaholic to schedule a day of PTO — no checking work emails!
- 7 | World Chocolate Day**
Bring chocolate to the office for your team members who always come through in a “Crunch.”
- 17 | World Emoji Day**
Text your appreciation today. Use emojis generously. 😊
- 17 | National Ice Cream Day**
Host an ice cream sundae bar where executive leaders serve employees first!
- 24 | National Parents’ Day**
Show appreciation for the balancing act working parents pull off every day.

Picnic Month: Take your team to a park or outdoor location for lunch and enjoy some quality time together.

UV Safety Month: Give your team fun sunglasses to protect themselves this summer!

Fun Run: Sponsor a team in a 5K race that contributes to a good cause! Visit rungguides.com/houston to explore local races.

Break the Ice: Create a list of facts such as “I have a tattoo” or “I was born abroad.” Ask staff to find a colleague who fits each description!

Environmentally Aware: Look for opportunities to improve your surroundings at work — whether picking up litter or greeting a visitor.



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August



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**Motivation can
be contagious.**



August

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

National Immunization
Awareness Month

Neurosurgical Awareness Month

Psoriasis Action Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

7–13 National Health Center Week

21–27 Spastic Paraplegia
Awareness Week

23–29 Health Unit Coordinator
Recognition Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

15 National Relaxation Day

27 Physician Family Day

August Impactful Ideas

7 | National Friendship Day

Research suggests those who have a “work best friend” are seven times more engaged than the average employee.

8 | National Health Center Week

Highlight the innovative ways Harris Health’s Community Health Centers are improving health outcomes.

15 | National Relaxation Day

Create de-stress kits that include a stress ball, candle, and an adult coloring book.

23 | Health Unit Coordinators Day

Have your team chip in to get a thoughtful gift for your HUC. Have everyone sign a “thank you” card.

26 | National Popsicle Day

Every job has challenges. Reward employees who keep their cool and composure with a popsicle.

Virtual Chat: Plan a WebEx happy hour to reconnect. Be sure to turn on your cameras!

Token of Appreciation: Buy gifts from the dollar store to use for on-the-spot recognition. Connect the item to a specific act or behavior.

Huddle Shoutouts: Use team huddles to call out recognitions that team members receive from patients or clients.

Snapshot of Recognition: At your next party, set up a photo booth with a fun background and accessories for employees to wear!

Skill Share: Host a weekly “lunch and learn.” It gives your employees a chance to practice presentation skills and share expertise.



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**Talent wins games,
but teamwork wins
a championship.**



September

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- Drug-Free Pain Management Awareness Month
- Food Safety Education Month
- Gene Therapy and Specialty Pharmacy Month
- Global Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month
- Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month
- Healthy Aging Month
- Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
- Rx Awareness Month
- Sepsis Awareness Month
- Suicide Prevention Month
- Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

- 4–10 Suicide Prevention Week
- 4–10 Vascular Nurses Week
- 11–17 National Assisted Living Week
- 11–17 National Health Care Environmental Services Week
- 12–18 Neonatal Nurses Week
- 18–24 Clean Hands Week
- 18–24 Nursing Professional Development Week
- 18–24 Telehealth Awareness Week™

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 2 National Food Bank Day
- 17 National Physician Suicide Awareness Day

September Impactful Ideas

- 2 | National Food Bank Day**
Contact the Houston Food Bank to see how your team can help provide nutritious meals to the community.
- 6 | National Read a Book Day**
Start a book club at work! Choose books on your area of expertise, leadership skills, or just for fun.
- 10 | National Swap Ideas Day**
Reach out to a colleague from another department to exchange creative recognition ideas!
- 11 | Environmental Services Week**
Decorate EVS carts with balloons, streamers, and signs, or fill an empty cart with treats to share with the team!
- 12 | Boss/Employee Exchange Day**
Hold a roundtable discussion with your team to exchange ideas and share challenges you face in your roles.
- 15 | National Neonatal Nurses Day**
Neonatal nurses already know little things matter. Give a small gesture of thanks to those who care for our most vulnerable patients.
- 18 | Surgical Technologist Week**
Don't forget to celebrate our Surgical Techs — they're instrumental to the success of the OR!
- 19 | Rehabilitation Week**
In Outpatient Rehab, employees submit "kudos" forms this month. Recipients are recognized with comments and candy at the next staff meeting.
- 20 | IT Professionals Day**
IT Education passes around a traveling trophy to recognize a peer-nominated "Virtual Team Player."

Class Credit: Have employees attend a seminar or class of interest. They'll appreciate your investment in them, and you're rewarded with more skilled staff!



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**Whatever you do,
do it with passion
and all of the energy
that you have.**



October

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- American Pharmacists Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Health Literacy Month
- Medical Ultrasound Awareness Month
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- National Physical Therapy Month
- Talk About Your Medicines Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

- 2–8 Customer Service Week
- 2–8 National Healthcare Supply Chain Week
- 9–15 Emergency Nurses Week
- 9–15 Fire Prevention Week
- 9–15 Sterile Processing Week
- 10–15 National Dialysis Technician Recognition Week
- 16–22 International Infection Prevention Week
- 16–22 National Radon Action Week
- 17–21 Nuclear Science Week
- 17–21 Registered Medical Assistants Recognition Week
- 23–29 National Healthcare Facilities and Engineering Week
- 23–29 Respiratory Care Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 10 World Mental Health Day
- 12 Stop American's Violence Everywhere (S.A.V.E.)
- 28 Internal Medicine Day

October Impactful Ideas

2 | Customer Service Week

When a PA Scheduling team member exceeds a goal, they are offered a break while their supervisor takes calls.

2 | Healthcare Supply Chain Week

Plan a team relay race to demonstrate how success relies on every "link" in the chain working together!

12 | National Emergency Nurses Day

Ask your EC nurses what has kept them motivated over the past year. Publish responses as an intranet story.

16 | Boss's Day

Get a "World's Best Boss" mug. Have each team member sign it with a permanent marker.

17 | Infection Prevention Week and Healthcare Quality Week

Combine these events by highlighting the role of infection prevention in healthcare quality.

17 | Pharmacy Week

Monthly winners of the STAR peer recognition program can choose someone to shadow in Pharmacy Ops Management.

19 | National Medical Assistants Day

Hold a meeting to share the impact of their contributions and call out specific achievements.

23 | Healthcare Facilities and Engineering Week

Fill a tool box or hard hat with treats. Pass them out to our Facilities Engineers!

23 | National Respiratory Care Week

Highlight these frontline heroes who save lives, one breath at a time!

Global Diversity Awareness Month: Last year, employees participated in numerous virtual activities to explore diverse perspectives, cultures, and faiths.



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**The day is what you
 make it. So make it
 a great one!**



November

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

- American Diabetes Month
- COPD Awareness Month
- Lung Cancer Awareness Month
- National Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Month
- National Family Caregivers Month
- National Hospice and Palliative Care Month
- Stomach Cancer Awareness Month®

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

- 10/30–11/5 National Patient Transport Week
- 6–12 Allied Health Professionals Week
- 6–12 Nurse Practitioner Week
- 7–13 National Radiologic Technology Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

- 11–13 National Donor Sabbath
- 12 World Pneumonia Day
- 16 COPD World Day
- 29 Giving Tuesday

November Impactful Ideas

- 2 | Stress Awareness Day**
Anticipate the signs of employee burnout. Learn strategies to combat this such as adding variation into your employees’ workload.
- 6 | Daylight Saving Time Ends**
Use the extra hour to do something thoughtful for someone else.
- 6 | Allied Health Professionals Week**
It’s also Radiologic Technology Week. Bring in cupcakes topped with candy bones for a themed celebration.
- 13 | World Kindness Day**
Give a random act of kindness to someone who least expects it — for no particular reason.
- 13 | Perioperative Nurses Week**
Visit aorn.org to find this year’s theme, and plan daily activities around it!
- 25 | You’re Welcomegiving Day**
This national holiday reminds us to accept recognition gracefully and gratefully.
- 29 | National Day of Giving**
Collect nonperishable food at work, and deliver to a local food pantry. Post photos with the hashtag #GivingTuesday.

National Gratitude Month: Pay special attention to employees who sacrifice family time to work holiday shifts. Leave a surprise treat or a “thank you” note.

Adopt a Family: Sponsor a local family for the holidays. Applications close mid-November! Sign up at houstonchildrenscharity.org/programs.

Recognize Your Rookies: Create a “Rookie of the Year” prize to let your newcomers know they are on the right track.



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**Coming together is
a beginning. Keeping
together is progress.
Working together
is success.**



December

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCES

Give the Gift of Sight Month

National Impaired Driving Awareness Month

WEEK-LONG OBSERVANCES

4–10 National Handwashing Awareness Week

4–10 National Influenza Vaccination Week

RECOGNITION DAYS

1 World AIDS Day

31 New Year’s Eve — Quit Smoking Resolutions



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December Impactful Ideas

- 1 | World AIDS Day**
People around the world unite to show support for people living with HIV and those who have died from AIDS-related illnesses.
- 4 | Handwashing Awareness Week**
Harris Health’s “secret shoppers” observe peers practicing hand hygiene, and receive “On the Mark” cards for their observations.
- 4 | National Influenza Vaccination Week**
Make sure your team is in compliance. Thank your team for protecting patients, visitors, and each other.
- 13 | Cocoa Day**
Hand out hot chocolate or candy bars with custom wrappers to your team.
- 16 | National Ugly Sweater Day**
Encourage your team to show off their creativity! Give prizes for the most original, funniest, and ugliest sweater.
- 18 | Start of Hanukkah**
Commit to creating more inclusive holiday and end-of-year celebrations this year.
- 22 | National Cookie Exchange Day**
Ask everyone to bake a batch. Place one of each batch in a personalized takeout box for all participants.
- 26 | Start of Kwanzaa**
This seven-day celebration is a time for African Americans to connect with their heritage and culture.
- 29 | National Hero Day**
Nominate your Harris Health Hero through Recognition Connection today.

Holiday Team Building: Send a holiday card to team members’ homes, hold a White Elephant gift exchange, or ask your team to write notes of thanks on green sticky notes and display as a wreath.

Management Challenge: Offer to dress in a crazy outfit or dye your hair to incentivize your team to meet a goal.

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2023



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June

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August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

