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# Happy New Year



## The Eastern Gazette



I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something.

— Neil Gaiman

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## Four undeniable reasons to travel

(BPT) - Do you dream of getting away from the stress of your everyday life? Are you looking for a way to reconnect with loved ones? In the winter blues, how you dreaming of warm sunny days?

Sounds like you're in need of a vacation. Planning a vacation gives you something to look forward to in the new year. What's more, studies show planning a vacation is one of the best ways to avoid the winter blues. It can boost your mood for weeks leading up to the big trip.

From researching exciting destinations, booking accommodations and counting down the days until you leave, travel can get you 2017 off to the right start, or be the perfect gift for the holidays. Here are four tips to make the trip perfect:

**Get away to disconnect:** When planning a vacation, select a location where you can truly disconnect from your job and home responsibilities. For example, with 60 miles of coastline open for relaxation and fun, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, is a wonderful destination that's an easy drive or flight from virtually anywhere in the United States. Once you arrive, make sure your out-of-office email is set and resist the urge to check social media. Now's the time to focus on you and your loved ones.

**Get away to reconnect:** AAA reports two out of three people say quality time with loved ones is the most important part of a vacation. In addition to selecting a great location, strive to find comfortable and convenient accommodations. Condotels, multi-bedroom hotel units and beach homes, are all wonderful options to bring your family and friends closer together. Plus, the extra amenities (like full kitchens) are sure to make your stay that much more relaxing.

**Get away to build memories:** A whopping 91 percent of people say their favorite memory is a vacation, according to Expedia.com research. To set the stage for massive memory-making, select a location with something for everyone. There's more than just the gorgeous shoreline at Myrtle Beach. Feel like a mermaid when you visit Ripley's Aquarium.

Learn the wonders of science and the imagination at WonderWorks. Travel back in history by exploring Hopewell Plantation and LW Paul Living History Farm. Finally, indulge the palate by visiting a variety of eateries along Marlette Inlet MarshWalk. Learn more at VisitMyrtleBeach.com.

**Get away to try something new:** Trying an activity you've never done before is guaranteed to give you and your family memories to last a lifetime. Do some research about the destination you've selected and sign up for activities in advance to ensure you get the

most convenient times. Whether it's crabbing off a pier, kayaking pristine back-rivers or taking a hot air balloon ride, doing a unique activity is something you'll always remember (plus you'll get a story that is sure to make everyone jealous back home).

**Step dreaming and start planning -** that unused PTO is full of possibilities. Whether a gift or a family trip next year, let these ideas guide you to the vacation of a lifetime.



Have a very happy New Year. We hope you to see you again in 2017!

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bring you peace  
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*New is the year, new are the hopes,  
new is the resolution, new are the spirits,  
and new are my warm wishes just for you.  
Have a promising and fulfilling New Year!*



*God bless this new year  
in which love overcomes  
He is always with us  
and unfolds great possibilities  
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bring a sunrise of good fortune  
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### Five easy tactics for making your New Year's resolution to save money a reality

(BPT) - It's almost that time of year again - you prepare for the holidays and start thinking about what you want your New Year's resolution to be.

According to research from Nielsen, one quarter of Americans want to spend less and save more money in the New Year. If you're one of those people, follow these five easy tips to stay on track financially in 2017.

#### Automate payments into your savings account.

When payday rolls around, it can be tempting to pocket every last dollar. But realistically it's difficult to save money that's right in front of you. Instead, automate payments into your savings account before it makes it to your checking account. This way, you won't miss it from your budget, and you'll be on the road to staying true to your New Year's resolution all year.

#### Dine in.

Everyone knows eating out is more expensive than dining in, but you might not even realize how often you're doing it. When you're on the go, buying lunch or ordering take-out, costs quickly add up. Pre-planning and preparing meals for the week ahead will not only save money but help you eat healthier at the same time.

#### Rethink your wireless plan.

Do you feel like you're paying too much for your data? In 2017, set yourself free from your overpriced wireless plan. For only \$40 a month, Net10 Wireless' no contract cell service makes this easy. You'll get nationwide coverage on one of America's top four networks and the first 3 GB of data at high speeds, then at 20%. Plus, you can make the switch while keeping your current phone and number with the Net10 Wireless Bring Your Own Phone program. "Ringing" in the New Year is all about making changes for the better, and switching your plan could save you lots in the long run.

#### Bring the gym home.

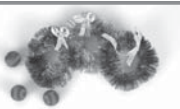
Exercising is important, but monthly gym membership fees can make a huge dent in your savings. Instead, try working out at home for a few months by following exercise videos, running outside (weather permitting) or modifying your favorite utilizing home items. If that's not enough, try pay-per-class offerings coupled with your own exercise outside of the gym.

#### Cut out your cable bill.

Similar to spending too much on a cell data contract, your monthly cable bills could also be hindering your financial goals. How often do you really watch specialty channels anyway? Opting for monthly streaming services can cost you as low as \$7.99 per month while offering the same programs and series you love. Meanwhile, the average cable bill is \$89 per month. Making the switch could save you more than \$1,000 per year, which just goes to show how sticking to your New Year's resolution can pay off.

*May the New Year bring to you warmth of love, and a light to guide your path towards a positive destination.*

## Happy New Year American Legion Post 53




*Wishing you peace, joy, and all the best this wonderful holiday has to offer.*

*May this incredible time of giving and spending time with family bring you joy that lasts throughout the year.*

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Today we do not know what  
the year 2017 will bring for us,  
but what we can do is gather  
together to celebrate and hope  
for blissful months ahead.

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