

# VET★COM

**GEORGIA WAR VETERANS NURSING HOME  
December 2023**

*Wishing you a  
happy & healthy  
Holiday Season!*

**Featuring**

- Coloring Page.....pg. 19**
- Puzzles.....pg.20-23**
- Hidden Name Contest Winners.....pg.24**
- Scavenger Hunt.....pg.25**
- Chaplain’s Corner.....pgs.26-27**
- Puzzle Solutions.....pgs. 29-32**
- Activities Calendar.....pg.33**

# WELCOME!

Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home would like to give a warm welcome to the following new residents:

**David Borton**

**Morris Crew**

## Pinnacle Honorable Mentions November 2023

3rd Floor  
Amy Green

4th Floor  
Chaplain Lark  
Sizemore Security

Crystal Allen  
Dr. Sams

**Birthstone: Turquoise, Tanzanite, and Zircon**

**Flowers: Narcissus**

**Astrology Zodiac Signs: Sagittarius & Capricorn**

**Dates to Remember:**

- 12/7 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**
- 12/7-12/15 Hanukkah**
- 12/13 U.S. National Guard Birthday**
- 12/20 U.S. Space Force Birthday**
- 12/21 First Day of Winter**
- 12/25 Christmas**
- 12/26—1/1 Kwanzaa**
- 12/31 New Year's Eve**



# RESIDENT'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Planning to take your loved one home for the Holidays? Here are some helpful reminders regarding Georgia War's therapeutic leave policy:

- Temporary planned overnight absences may be granted after approval by the medical staff.
- Overnight therapeutic leave may in no case exceed twelve (12) days of overnight leave per calendar year.
- Therapeutic leave may be canceled if the resident's medical condition contraindicates leaving the facility.
- All requests for therapeutic leave must be made at least seven (7) days in advance.
- For leave requested less than seven (7) days before departure, prescriptions will be written for necessary medications and the family/responsible party will be required to have prescription(s) filled at their expense.
- Also remember to complete the sign in and sign out log sheet in the leave book at the time of departure and return.
- Please notify nursing home staff immediately if Resident's condition changes while on leave.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Health Information department at 706-721-2405.



# INFECTION PREVENTION UPDATE

Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home currently has 3 positive COVID-19 cases. Incidence of a COVID-19 variant has increased threefold in the U.S. in recent weeks. According to federal tracking, hospitalizations and deaths are on a steady upward incline. As an immediate action we are strongly recommending that all our residents receive the newest COVID-19 vaccination. We understand that some of our resident's had some level of COVID vaccine in the past; however, similar to the influenza virus, the COVID-19 virus can change over time making previous vaccines ineffective in preventing illness and death from COVID-19. Vaccines that target those viruses may be updated to better protect against disease. An updated COVID-19 vaccine will help give your loved one the best protection available against COVID-19.

We are currently testing all residents and staff and have implemented our respiratory illness plan in efforts to prevent further spread of the virus. Our goal is to start administering the vaccine to as many residents as possible, sometime in the week of December 4th-11th. The vaccine that we will administer is the Moderna Spikevax vaccine. The GWVNH Administrative team (Carlton Deese, Executive Director, Julia Eveker Associate Director, and Stephanie Nichols, ADON), Medical Director (Dr. Richard Sams), and Infection Prevention nurse (April Holliman, RN) have met to discuss the prevention measures at the facility, and we strongly encourage you to consider providing consent for your resident to receive the vaccination. We are providing this information to allow you an opportunity to make an informed decision to vaccinate your loved one. Thank you and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us.

## **Visitation Guidelines:**

1. Mask mandate for all staff and visitors.
2. Only small groups of 5 visitors/volunteers or less permitted in the building at a time.
3. No more than 3 family members at a time are permitted to visit a resident. (This does not apply to end-of-life situations.)
4. Visitors under the age of 18 are not permitted in the building. (This does not apply to end-of-life situations.)
5. Practice social distancing when appropriate.
6. Please wash/sanitize hands frequently.
7. If you are sick, please stay at home.

# DONATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS

The following individuals/organizations contributed their time and/or services to GWNH:

American Legion Department of Georgia	Snack Cakes, Body Wash, Razors, Puzzle
American Legion Family Post 178	Toiletries
American Legion Auxiliary Post 192	Toiletries
American Legion Post 192	Sweet Treats, Cupcakes, Razors, Body
American Legion Riders	BINGO Prizes & Assistance
Chaplain Larry Jesion	Church Service
Debbie Yazanko	Gifts and Sweet Treats
Elks Lodge 205	Sub Sandwich Party
Evans VFW	Birthday Party
Faith Baptist Church	Sunday Church Service
James Pinkston	Board Games, Socks, Razors, & Toiletries
Karen Phillips	Resident Crafts
Linda Shockley	Fall/Halloween Treats
The Links Incorporated	Comfort Items, Toiletries, Socks, & T-Shirts
Mackey House Music	Live Music
Olivia Jones	Halloween Ghost Suckers
Operation BBQ Relief	BBQ Lunch
Therapy Dogs	Therapy Dog Visits

# DONATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS

The following individuals/organizations contributed their time and/or services to GWNH:

T-Mobile

Swag, Caps, Gift Bags

Soldiers Angels

BBQ Lunch, Drawstring Bags, & Caps

Project Lifting Spirits

Sweet Treats & Ornament Painting

WJBF

Breakfast & Ornament Painting

The following individuals/organizations made contributions to our Resident Benefit Fund:

Stuart Bloom

Georgia's Own Credit Union

Stolkin Court 173





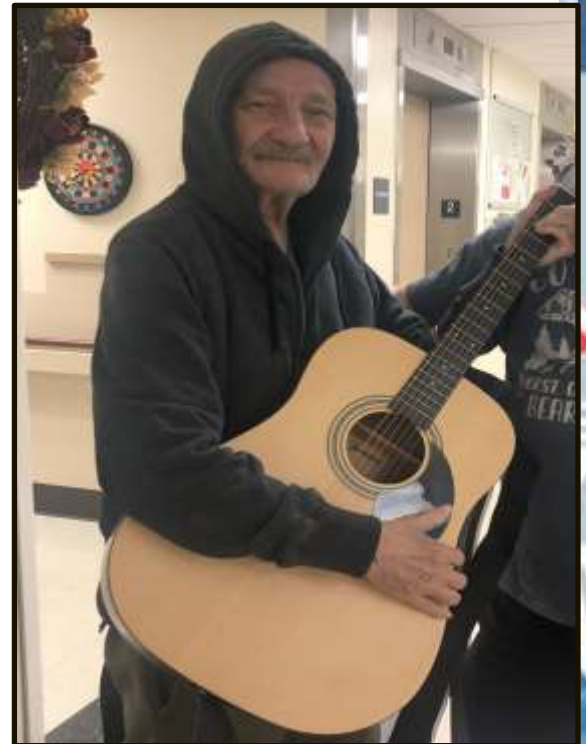
## Warrior of the Month

Our December Warrior of the Month is a remarkable individual who never fails to surprise us. Meet George Whiting, a devoted member of the U.S. Coast Guard with an impressive 20-year tenure. Originally from Massachusetts, George made the most of his time in service, driven by a profound desire to remain engaged and assist others. He pursued an MBA in English/Media studies, which proved instrumental in his role as a journalist for the esteemed Coast Guard Magazine. George's captivating storytelling abilities and unwavering attention to detail earned him immense admiration and a loyal following among his comrades.

While in the Coast Guard, Mr. Whiting had the pleasure of being stationed around the world and developed many talents along the way. He became proficient in playing the guitar, banjo, and mandolin, and enjoyed engaging in creative musical sessions and pick-up baseball games. Despite his busy schedule, George managed to establish a family and impart his passion for exploring new places to them. His fondest recollections include touring the Grand Canyon and traversing the vast expanse of the western region. In addition to these pursuits and a passion for writing, Mr. Whiting also has a deep love for animals.

George's passion for animals led him to pursue a career in animal control. Among his many passions, he particularly enjoyed finding caring homes for animals in need. Whether it was a stray puppy or an escaped circus elephant, George never turned away from any animal. Eventually, his zest for life, people, and excitement brought him to Key West, where he utilized his social skills as a tour guide for a sightseeing trolley.

George, a distinguished veteran with a remarkable record of service, has traversed the world and dedicated himself to various animal-related pursuits. Throughout his illustrious career, he has been bestowed with numerous prestigious accolades, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Coastguard Achievement Medal, the Coastguard Good Conduct Medal, and two Bronze Stars. Having decided to establish his permanent residence in Augusta, GA., George has firmly planted his roots in this community. Despite his settled life, he remains passionately engaged in creating and performing music for his fellow Veterans. Engaging in conversation with George is an enlightening experience that can extend for hours, as he consistently imparts fresh knowledge and insights. We take great pride in considering him as one of our own.

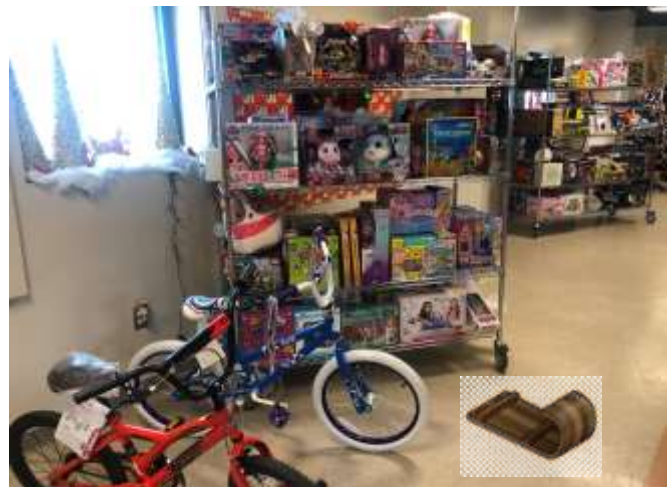


Heather Nichols, Director of Activities

# The Christmas House at Fort Eisenhower

The Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home team joined forces to support the Christmas House charity at Fort Eisenhower for Christmas this year. Thank you to all staff, residents and families that made monetary or toy contributions for this cause. The Christmas House began in 1966 when a group of nurses on Fort Eisenhower hosted a teddy bear drive to ensure children of deployed soldiers received a Christmas gift. Since then, the Christmas House continues to serve Fort Eisenhower's active military families from all branches of service at the rank of E-5 and below. The continued success of the Christmas House is due to the hard work of its volunteers and the generosity of the Greater Augusta community.

More than a toy drive, the Christmas House provides military parents an opportunity to select from new toys, bikes, books and stocking stuffers for their children in a cheerfully decorated holiday setting. When we dropped off the toys and donations, the volunteers had the shelves loaded and ready to go for families to select. They continue to work on the warehouse side restocking with new inventory. We are once again privileged to be able to support this wonderful charity in their mission to give joy and new toys to military families.





# Staying Busy at the Goose





# Pine Needle Garden Club



# Soldiers Angels Gifts & Lunch



# Soldiers Angels Gifts & Lunch



# Project Lifting Spirits Ornament Painting



# Staying Busy at the Goose



# Staying Busy at the Goose



# Staying Busy at the Goose





# Staying Busy at the Goose



# “Happy Holidays” Around the World



French:  
**“Joyeuses Fêtes”**  
 say “jwa-YUHZ FAY-te”



Spanish:  
**“Felices Fiestas”**  
 say “feh-LEES-ehs fee-ES-tas”



Swahili:  
**“Furaha Likizo”**  
 say “foo-RAH-ha lee-KEE-zo”



Hebrew:  
**“Chag Sameach”**  
 say “hahg sah-MAY-ah”



Ukrainian:  
**“Shchaslyvykh Svyat”**  
 say “sh-TCHA-slih-vyh svee-at”



German:  
**“Frohe Feiertage”**  
 say “FROO-eh FYER-tahg-eh”



Dutch:  
**“Prettige Feestdagen”**  
 say “PREH-teh-huh FACE-da-hun”



Portuguese:  
**“Boas Festas”**  
 say “BOW-as FES-tas”



Albanian:  
**“Gëzuar Festat”**  
 say “ge-ZOO-are FES-tah”



Italian:  
**“Buone Feste”**  
 say “BWO-neh FEHS-teh”



Romanian:  
**“Sărbători Fericeite”**  
 say “sar-ba-TOR fe-ree-CHEE-tah”



Turkish:  
**“Mutlu Bayramlar”**  
 say “MOOT-loo bye-ram-LASH”



Irish:  
**“Laethanta saoire sona”**  
 say “lay-HAN-tuh SEE-ra SHO-na”

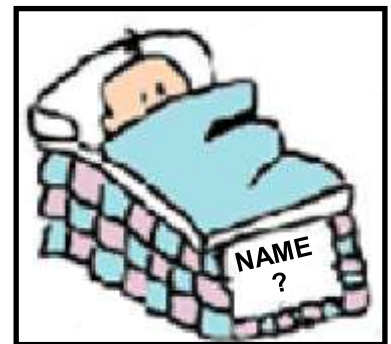
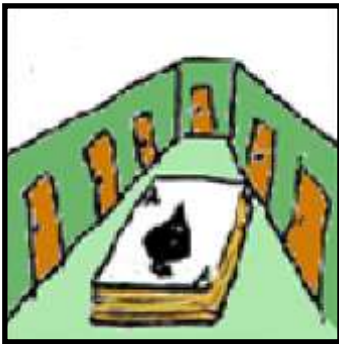
# Coloring Page



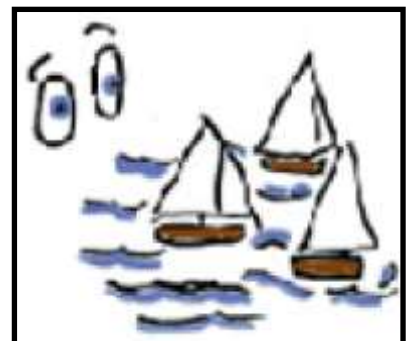
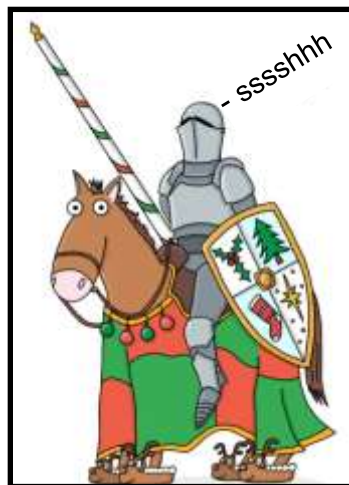
Happy Holidays!

# Name that Carol

Solution on page 29



A B C D E  
F G H I J K M  
N O P Q R S  
T U V W X Y  
Z



# Word Search

Solution on page 30

P	M	U	F	Y	D	R	H	Q	L	T	E	K	C	A	J	E
Y	T	S	C	A	R	F	E	V	N	G	W	S	I	B	K	R
I	C	J	Z	D	O	Y	G	T	B	M	H	S	W	A	P	L
G	E	S	F	I	S	R	U	N	A	O	X	C	L	Q	I	H
L	V	A	N	L	T	K	S	J	V	E	B	F	Z	U	K	O
O	T	P	Y	O	D	Z	I	E	H	A	W	R	C	S	S	F
O	G	E	C	H	W	T	L	I	R	O	J	S	H	D	N	H
P	N	X	N	S	A	B	V	H	N	W	F	I	K	G	O	Z
L	I	Q	U	E	N	Y	O	S	I	G	V	M	A	N	W	R
F	Z	A	D	R	Z	L	S	A	G	E	Q	I	P	O	S	C
N	E	B	H	Y	S	O	F	I	R	M	U	T	E	S	U	J
T	E	I	C	E	B	E	R	G	E	D	O	T	K	A	I	W
X	R	G	V	L	A	N	U	F	B	I	C	E	R	E	T	F
A	F	O	Z	D	R	I	B	T	E	P	U	N	A	S	R	E
M	L	U	S	O	L	S	T	I	C	E	H	Y	F	O	I	T
G	I	P	H	A	N	B	S	M	I	L	Q	A	S	V	G	Y
E	Z	N	I	U	G	N	E	P	L	A	F	T	U	M	S	L

FREEZING

ICEBERG

SCARF

SLUSH

FROST

IGLOO

SEASON

SNOWBOARD

FROZEN

JACKET

SHIVER

SNOWFLAKE

GLOVES

MITTEN

SHOVEL

SNOWSUIT

HOLIDAY

PENGUIN

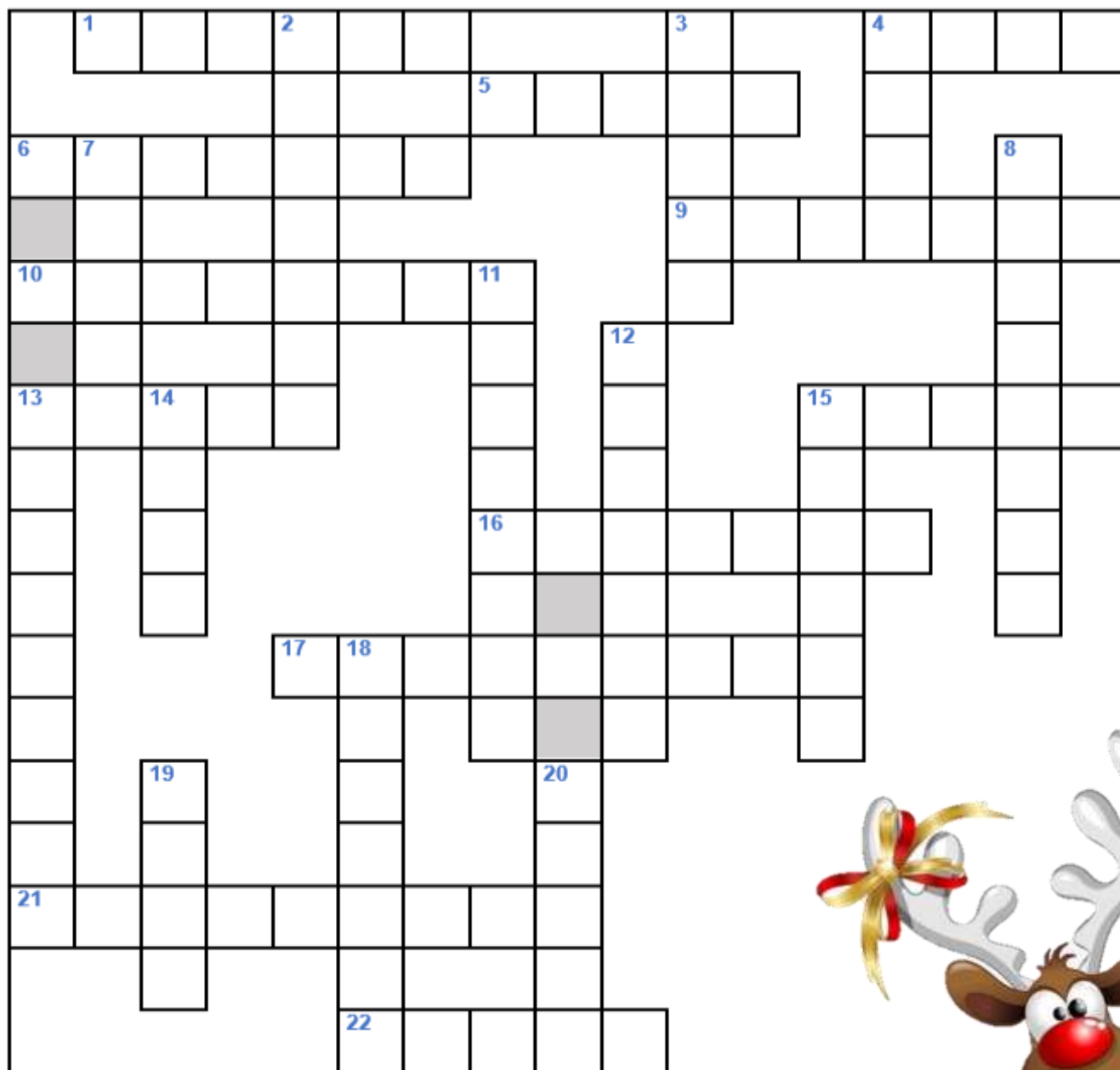
SKIING

SOLSTICE

SWEATER

# Winter Crossword Puzzle

Solution on page 31



## Across

- 1 Ice sport played with a puck
- 4 Fun ride down a snowy hill
- 5 Neck warmer
- 6 Change habitat seasonally
- 9 Sometimes has a carrot nose
- 10 Snowstorm
- 13 Hot sweet drink
- 15 The color of snow
- 16 Keeps your hands warm
- 17 Sleep through the winter
- 21 A unique crystal of ice
- 22 Direction birds fly for the Winter

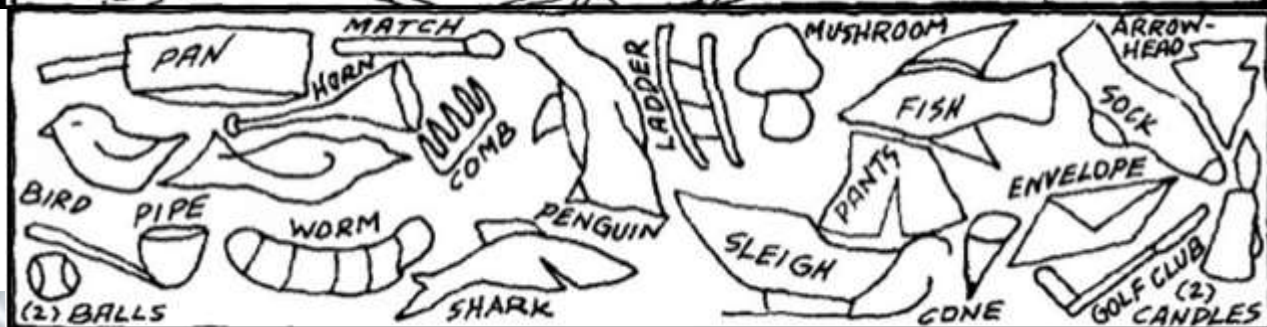
## Down

- 2 African American holiday
- 3 Jack \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Frozen rain
- 7 House made of ice
- 8 Time off from school or work
- 11 Christmas month
- 12 Gliding on ice
- 13 Holiday of giving
- 14 Opposite of hot
- 15 The coldest season
- 18 Frozen spikes
- 19 Vehicle that clears snow from streets
- 20 Mix of snow and rain



# Hidden Images

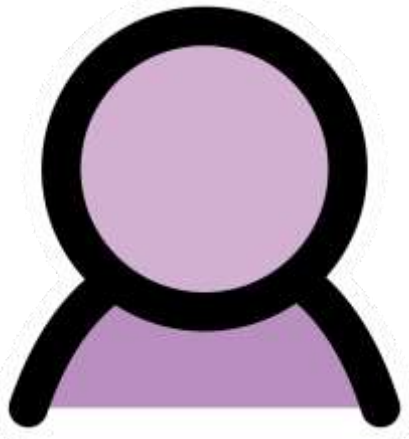
Solution on page 32



# Hidden Name Contest

**Congratulations!**

**November 2023 Hidden Name  
Contest Winners**



**Oops! Our staff  
winner did not  
find their name!**

**William Bentley**

Somewhere in this issue, we have hidden the names of one Georgia War Resident and one Staff Member.

If you find your name, please call the Activities Office to claim your prize.

Each month, we will randomly pick the name of one resident and one staff member. Be sure to carefully review each issue to see if your name is hidden somewhere within.

**Good Luck!**



# Scavenger Hunt

Use your eyes to earn a prize!

**The (5) fun items below are hidden throughout our December Vet Com! The first five readers to find them and call/write into the Business Office will win a prize! Good luck!**

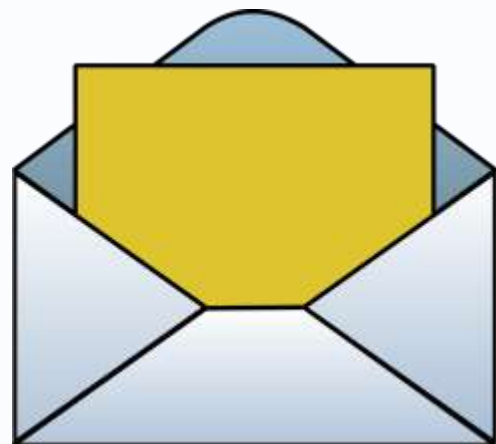


To submit answers via phone



Call the Business Office at  
(706) 721-2386

To submit answers via mail send the  
Business Office a letter



Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home  
ATTN: Business Services  
1101 15th Street  
Augusta, GA 30901



## Let's Celebrate

This is the day the Lord has made. I am choosing to rejoice and be glad in it; how about you?

As I sat at my computer and sought the Lord's guidance on what to share with you, that was one of the thoughts. One thing that I notice is that so much negativity is constantly trying to pull on us as a people. If you are not cautious and careful, it will pull you into its deep, dark, dismal hole. A hole where there is no peace and joy. Here's another thought: December is usually a joyous time for many, but not for all. Some have lost loved ones coming up to this holiday season, and they find themselves grieving instead of celebrating. My prayer for those who find themselves in that place is that they will find a way to celebrate their loved ones, and through that celebration, they will find healing, hope, comfort, and care. Your loved one would not want you to be down and out during this time of the year or at any time.

My last thought I would propose to you in the form of a question: When you celebrate your birthday, who should receive the gifts? How would you feel if everyone else received gifts except for you? Even though we do not precisely know the month or day that Jesus was born, we have chosen to celebrate His birth on the 25th day of December, and we call it Christmas.

We may not know what to give Jesus for His birthday since He has everything, but I wonder, does He have you and me? Have we given Him our all? In Matthew 22:37, Jesus said "Thou shalt **love** the **Lord** thy God **with all** thy heart, and **with all** thy soul, and **with all** thy mind.

Let's not find ourselves so overwhelmed by getting and giving "presents" that we forget to spend time in God's "presence."

If you are seriously struggling during this holiday season with depression, anxiety, or fatigue, allow me to encourage you to reach out for help. If you're a part of a local church, mosque, or synagogue, please reach out.

Feel free to text, call, or email me if you need someone to talk to at either 757-581-1705 (cell) or Tlark@augusta.edu (email).

Sincerely your Chaplain,

Timothy E. Lark

## **How Do We Go On?**

**John Mark Green**

**How do we go on, after the  
unthinkable happens?**

**How can we carry the burden of  
knowing the world can be cruel and  
dangerous?**

**The future so unpredictable?**

**How do we grieve with empty arms  
and a head filled with echoing  
memories?**

~

**We are stronger than we know, and  
this is how we show it:**

**Holding each other, Giving comfort in  
the midst of pain.**

**Loving more fiercely, through our ac-  
tions and the things we say.**

**Making the world just a little bit better,  
every single day.**

**Never taking life for granted, knowing  
that it can be snatched away.**

~

## **Chaplain's Corner**

in Memory of:

**Samuel Marcus**

**Ralph Wooden**

# Happy Birthday

## Residents

Jerry Mounts	12/3
Herman King	12/3
Charles Dunn	12/4
Joseph Thomas	12/5
Thomas Wall III	12/17
Rolland Grisco	12/18
Wilbur Lewis	12/20
Jack Yelton	12/21
Calvin Jones	12/22
John Harper	12/23
Elijah Cherry	12/25
Ronnie Harris	12/26
Robert Lewis	12/31

## Staff

Sharonica Mitchell	12/6
Dorothy Gilmore	12/8
Miranda Crocker	12/8
Natè Lambert	12/9
Lydia Lee	12/13
Mary Walker	12/17
Sharon Martin	12/18
Shirley Hill	12/19
Vita Crawford	12/20
DeMarcus Cooper	12/21
Alyse Taylor	12/28
Reyna Smith	12/28
Janesha Mason	12/29
Joseph Wolfe	12/31

Wishing these wonderful residents and staff a  
Happy Birthday month!

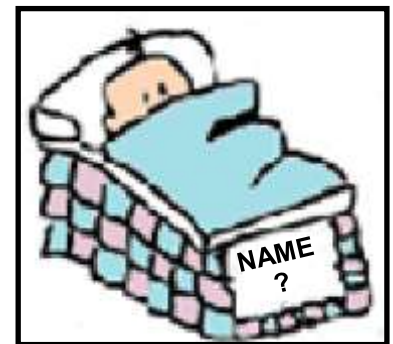
# Name that Carol Solutions



Deck the Halls



The Christmas Song  
(Chestnuts Roasting on an  
Open Fire)



What Child is This?



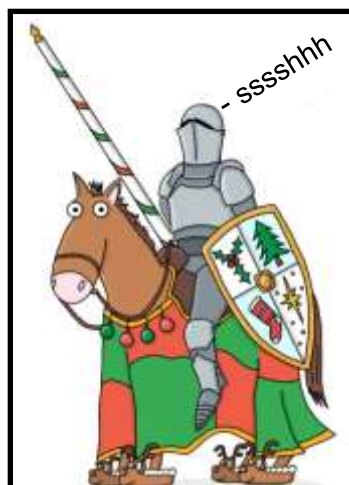
Noel



O Christmas Tree



We Three Kings



Silent Night



Jingle Bells



I Saw Three Ships

# Word Search Solution

P	M	U	F	Y	D	R	H	Q	L	T	E	K	C	A	J	E
Y	T	S	C	A	R	F	E	V	N	G	W	S	I	B	K	R
I	C	J	Z	D	O	Y	G	T	B	M	H	S	W	A	P	L
G	E	S	F	I	S	R	U	N	A	O	X	C	L	Q	I	H
L	V	A	N	L	T	K	S	J	V	E	B	F	Z	U	K	O
O	T	P	Y	O	D	Z	I	E	H	A	W	R	C	S	S	F
O	G	E	C	H	W	T	L	I	R	O	J	S	H	D	N	H
P	N	X	N	S	A	B	V	H	N	W	F	I	K	G	O	Z
L	I	Q	U	E	N	Y	O	S	I	G	V	M	A	N	W	R
F	Z	A	D	R	Z	L	S	A	G	E	Q	I	P	O	S	C
N	E	B	H	Y	S	O	F	I	R	M	U	T	E	S	U	J
T	E	I	C	E	B	E	R	G	E	D	O	T	K	A	I	W
X	R	G	V	L	A	N	U	F	B	I	C	E	R	E	T	F
A	F	O	Z	D	R	I	B	T	E	P	U	N	A	S	R	E
M	L	U	S	O	L	S	T	I	C	E	H	Y	F	O	I	T
G	I	P	H	A	N	B	S	M	I	L	Q	A	S	V	G	Y
E	Z	N	I	U	G	N	E	P	L	A	F	T	U	M	S	L

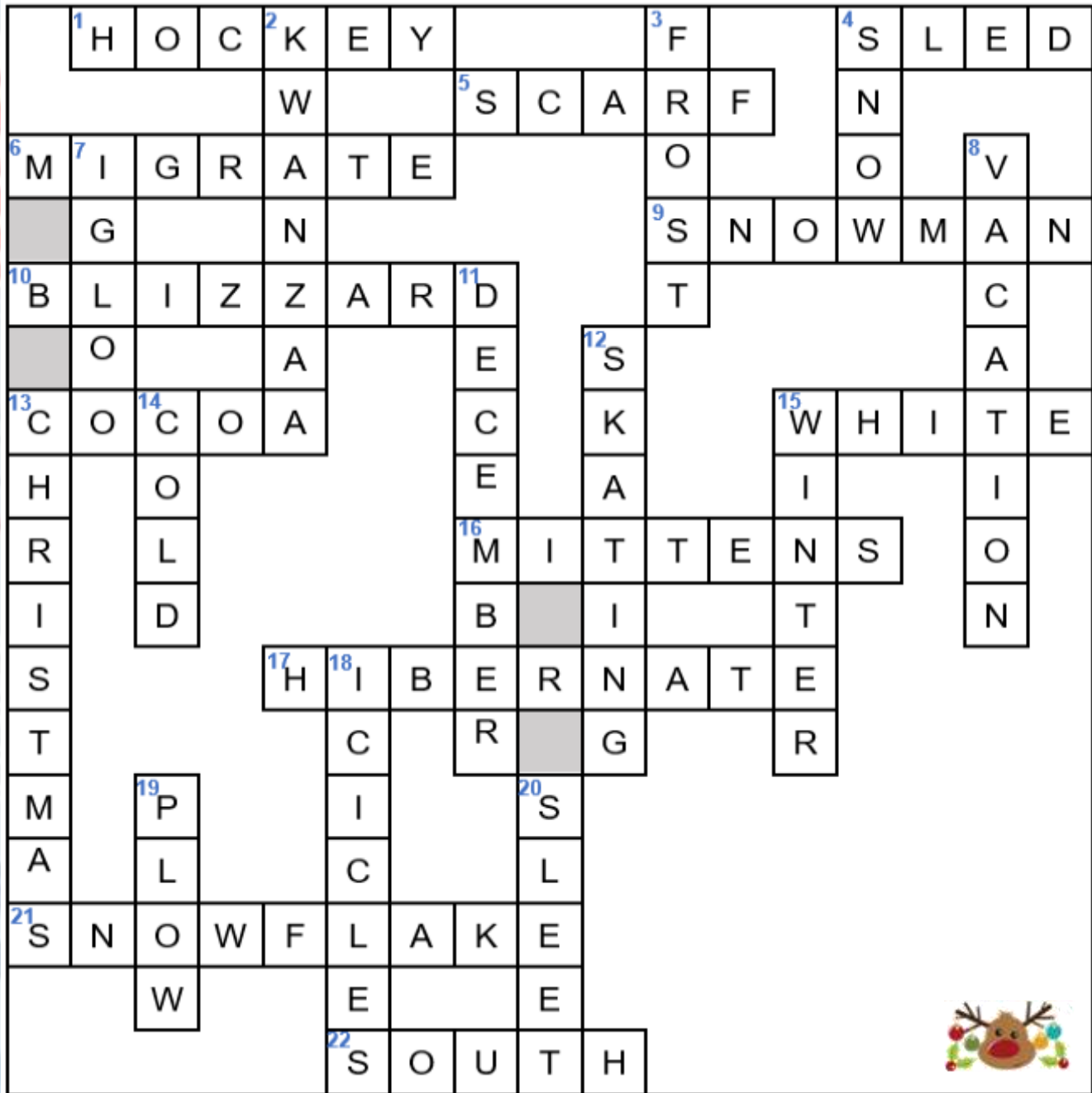
FREEZING  
 FROST  
 FROZEN  
 GLOVES  
 HOLIDAY  
 ICEBERG  
 IGLOO

JACKET  
 MITTEN  
 PENGUIN  
 SCARF  
 SEASON  
 SHIVER  
 SHOVEL

SKIING  
 SLUSH  
 SNOWBOARD  
 SNOWFLAKE  
 SNOWSUIT  
 SOLSTICE  
 SWEATER



# Crossword Puzzle Solution



## ACROSS

- |    |          |    |           |
|----|----------|----|-----------|
| 1  | Hockey   | 13 | Cocoa     |
| 4  | Sled     | 15 | White     |
| 5  | Scarf    | 16 | Mittens   |
| 6  | Migrate  | 17 | Hibernate |
| 9  | Snowman  | 21 | Snowflake |
| 10 | Blizzard | 22 | South     |

## DOWN

- |    |          |    |           |
|----|----------|----|-----------|
| 2  | Kwanzaa  | 12 | Skating   |
| 3  | Frost    | 13 | Christmas |
| 4  | Snow     | 14 | Cold      |
| 7  | Igloo    | 15 | White     |
| 8  | Vacation | 18 | Icicles   |
| 11 | December | 19 | Plow      |
|    |          | 20 | Sleet     |





# Hidden Images Solution







# DECEMBER 2023

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
26 Family Visits	27 November	28 November	29 November	30 November	1 9:00 Music in Motion 10:00 The Word with Chaplain Lark 2:30 Christmas Tree Decorating	2 Family Visits
3 Family Visits First Baptist Church @ 2:00	4 9:30 Music in Motion 2:30 BINGO	5 10:00 News with Friends 2:30 Music in Motion 7:00 BINGO with CMVA Riders	6 8:30 Barber 9:00 News with Friends 10:00 Remember When? 2:30 BINGO with DAV	7 9:00 Lake Oconee 2:30 Ice Cream Social with DAV	8 10:00 The Word with Chaplain Lark 2:00 Fun & Games	9 Family Visits American Legion @ 9:00
10 Family Visits St. Pauls Ice Cream Social @ 2:30	11 9:30 Coloring Contest 10:30 Pet Therapy 2:30 BINGO	12 9:30 Carol with Me! 2:30 Holiday Music with Berita & Roger	13 8:30 Barber 9:00 News & Stretch 10:00 Chaplain Larry 2:30 Elks Lodge 205	14 9:00 2-5 Movie & Popcorn 2:30 Fun & Games	15 10:00 The Word with Chaplain Lark 2:30 Cookies with Mr. & Mrs. Claus	16 Family Visits
17 Family Visits Kappa Alpha Psi Caroling @ noon Mackey House Music @ 2:30	18 9:30 Scavenger Hunt 10:00 Reindeer Hunt 7:00 BINGO	19 9:30 News with Friends 10:00 VEToga 2:30 Gingerbread Challenge!	20 8:30 Barber 9:00 Coffee & Cookies 10:00 Christmas Gifts With Botsford Church 2:30 Ugly Sweater Contest	21 9:00 2-5 Holiday Movie & Popcorn 2:30 Cocoa & Cake	22 10:00 The Word with Chaplain Lark 2:30 Holiday Character Contest!	23 Family Visits
24 Family Visits	25 CHRISTMAS 	26 HOLIDAY BREAK 	27 8:30 Barber 9:30 News with Friends 10:00 Chaplain Larry 2:30 Birthday Party with VFW	28 9:00 2-5 Movie & Popcorn 2:30 What's Your Resolution?	29 10:00 The Word with Chaplain Lark 2:30 NYE Party with Project Lifting Spirits	30 Family Visits
31 Family Visits	1 January	2 January	3 January	4 January	5 January	6 Family Visits

Activities are subject to change based on Resident interest and safety; One-on-one activities occur on each floor



# Thank you

*To all of our Veterans, families, friends,  
and staff.*

GEORGIA WAR VETERANS NURSING HOME

