



The Beacon



A Newsletter for Long-Term Care Residents

November 2022

Fostering Independence for Residents with Visual Impairments



Nicole is 53 years old and is legally blind. Until recently, she lived in a long-term care facility where virtually no effort was made to accommodate her disability. She spent most of her days in her room in bed with no recreational activities.

That all changed when she moved into a new facility and LTCO Investigator/Advocate Adlyn Nelson helped her reconnect with the NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI) and to connect with the facility social worker.

Now Nicole feels alive and well cared for. A representative from CBVI has interviewed Nicole and is committed to provide training and all necessary equipment to help Nicole improve her social and activities of daily living functioning, thus providing her with a better quality of life.

Nelson, a seasoned social worker hired by the LTCO this year as part of the agency’s Social Isolation Project, not only linked Nicole with needed services but also provided Nicole with a cuddly mechanical cat who is a comfort to Nicole in her new environment.

“ Now I am looking forward to walking by myself on and off the unit when I get trained to walk with a cane...”

Nicole enjoys listening to talking books. Her favorite is the Bible. With the new equipment and training she will receive from the CBVI, she is feeling more comfortable at this facility, and looks forward to meeting new friends and participating in activities. Reflecting on how her life is changing, Nicole said that in the old nursing home she “felt so alone, it was as if I were in a dark hole.”

Today, Nicole is far more optimistic and looks forward to having greater independence. “Now I am looking forward to walking by myself on and off the unit when I get trained to walk with a cane and I won’t have to bother the staff to turn my cat on and off.”



NOVEMBER 11 IS VETERANS DAY. CURRENTLY, THERE ARE MORE THAN 16.5 MILLION VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES. WITH RESPECT, HONOR, AND GRATITUDE

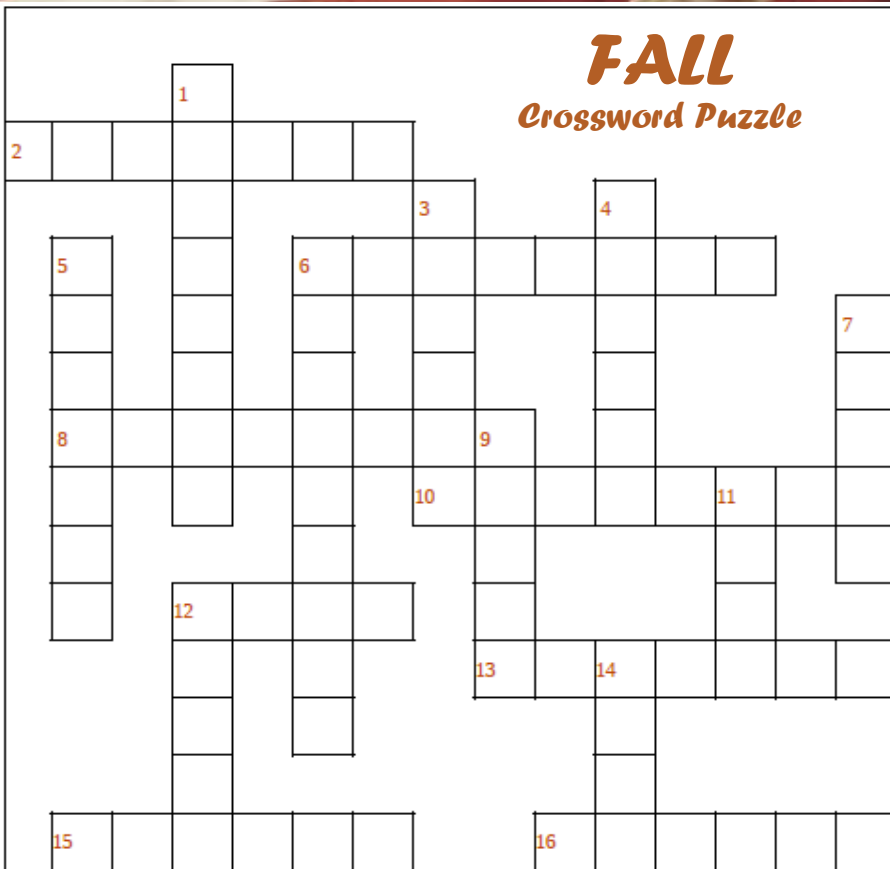
VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

THANK YOU, VETERANS!

FALL

Crossword Puzzle



Across

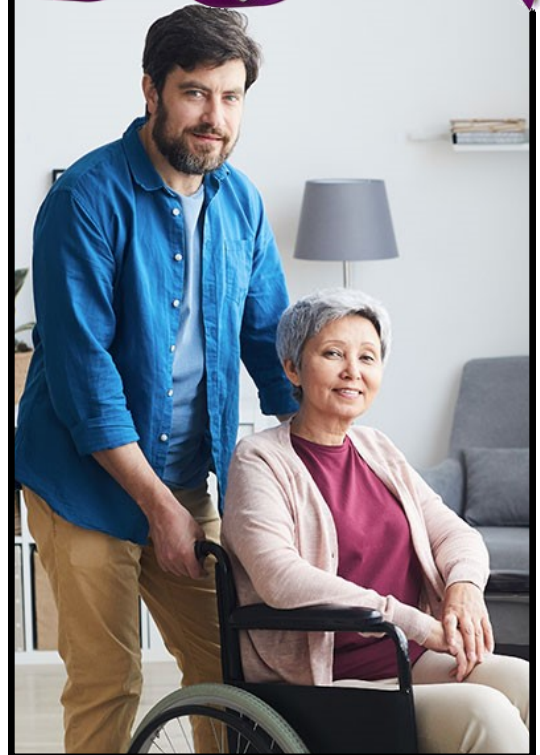
- 2 Halloween month
- 6 Rodent that hordes nuts
- 8 People at the first Thanksgiving
- 10 Thanksgiving month
- 12 Yellow vegetable that grows on stalks
- 13 To gather farm crops
- 15 Thanksgiving main dish
- 16 Falls from trees

Down

- 1 Sport played with a brown ball
- 3 Another name for Fall
- 4 a color and a fruit
- 5 Great for pies or for carving
- 6 Keeps birds away from fields
- 7 Nut from an oak tree
- 9 Birds fly ____ for the winter
- 11 Bundles of hay
- 12 Drink made from apples
- 14 Tool to clean up leaves



November is
National Family Caregivers
Month and
National Alzheimer's
Awareness Month!



Across: October, Squirrel, Pilgrims, November, Corn, Harvest, Turkey, Leaves
Down: Football, Autumn, Orange, Pumpkin, Scarecrow, Acorn, South, Bale, Cider, Rake

New Jersey Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Laurie Facciarossa Brewer, LTC Ombudsman

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