

July 2025

West Plains Housing Authority

Live in harmony with one another; be compassionate and humble.



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UPCOMING EVENTS!

Mark your calendars for the recurring events taking place at both towers each month.

First Monday of the month is the birthday party sponsored by Southern Care & Comfort. Come out for Birthday Bingo and cupcakes.

The first Wednesday each month is breakfast provided by Assist America Home Care.

Later each month is a seasonal activity sponsored by Southern Care & Comfort.

Check your calendars and make plans to attend these activities.

WPHA Staff

Mandy, Executive Director / HR
Brenda, Deputy Director
Stacie, Housing Specialist
Desirae, Housing Clerk
Sandra, Section 8 Coordinator
Nina, Financial Operations Specialist
Jerry, Resident Initiative Coordinator

WPHA will be closed on Friday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day! WPHA wishes you a safe and happy 4th of July!



Jerry's Journal

Greetings Residents!

Happy Independence Day!!

America is definitely "Home of the Free because of the Brave". Take a moment to be thankful for the freedoms that we have and for the brave men and women that have helped fight for these privileges. We often take these freedoms for granted until it is too late.

Life is precious. Take time to enjoy your blessings **each** and **every day**.

If you need help with paperwork, have questions or any issues that concern you, please come by or call the main office (417-256-6663) and choose extension 207. If I do not answer, please leave your name and number and I will call you to schedule an appointment. My email address is wpharic@gmail.com. I am here to help YOU! There is never a silly question.

Beware of Scams

It's important to know the signs of a Medicare scam so you can protect yourself. To get your personal information, like your Medicare number, **scammers may call, text and email saying things like:**

- "You need to activate or renew your Medicare card."
- "We'd like to send you a free genetic testing kit."
- "Medicare has authorized us to send you a free (knee, back or elbow) brace."
- "You qualify for a refund on your Medicare costs."

Remember, **never give your Medicare card or number to anyone** except your doctor or people you know should have it.

Protect yourself from fraud.

Keep in mind: Caller IDs and email addresses can be faked, so if you're not sure who's calling, **call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. And remember, Medicare will never contact you unless you've contacted them first.



A big "WELCOME" to our new residents! We are glad to have you with us. We look forward to getting to know you.

Dance/Mobility Sessions at South Tower

There is a new weekly activity being held at South Tower. Weekly dance/mobility sessions will be held in the Community Room on Wednesdays at 2:00 (changed from Saturdays). This is for residents only and **NO** partners are needed.

ALL RESIDENTS are invited to attend, regardless of how mobile you are. All ages and mobilities are invited. If you use a walker, wheelchair, etc., there will be activities for you to be a part of.

Mark your calendars, dust off your dancing shoes and make plans to attend. Hope to see you Saturday!



The Fourth of July

*is a time to reflect
on freedom, honor
those who fought
for it, and celebrate
the strength that
brought us
independence.*

What's Cooking?

Caramel Crackers

- Oyster crackers (1 package/9 ounces)
- 2 sticks butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spread crackers evenly on parchment-lined baking sheet.

Melt butter in saucepan. Add sugar, vanilla, and cinnamon. Stir until dissolved. Boil 2-3 minutes until thickened.

Pour caramel over crackers, coating evenly. Sprinkle with salt.

Bake 7-9 minutes, watching carefully to prevent burning. Let cool completely before breaking into clusters.

Store in airtight container.



- ¼ teaspoon smoked paprika

This is a no-cook recipe! Just mix, chill, and serve. Perfect for summer snacking.

Ritz Cracker Party Sandwiches

- 4 oz. softened cream cheese
- 2/3 cup cheddar cheese, finely shredded
- ¼ cup green onions, finely chopped
- ¼ cup red bell pepper, finely diced
- ½ cup cooked ham, finely chopped
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- Salt, to taste
- Black pepper, to taste
- 1 box Ritz crackers (approx. 80 crackers)

In a mixing bowl, combine cream cheese, cheddar cheese, green onions, red bell pepper, ham, garlic powder, salt and black pepper. Mix thoroughly until the ingredients are evenly incorporated.

Using a butter knife or small spatula, spread approximately one teaspoon of the filling on the flat side of a Ritz cracker. Gently press another cracker on top to form a sandwich. Continue assembling sandwiches with the remaining crackers and filling until all ingredients are used.

Serve immediately, or cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

For optimal flavor, assemble sandwiches shortly before serving to maintain cracker crispness.

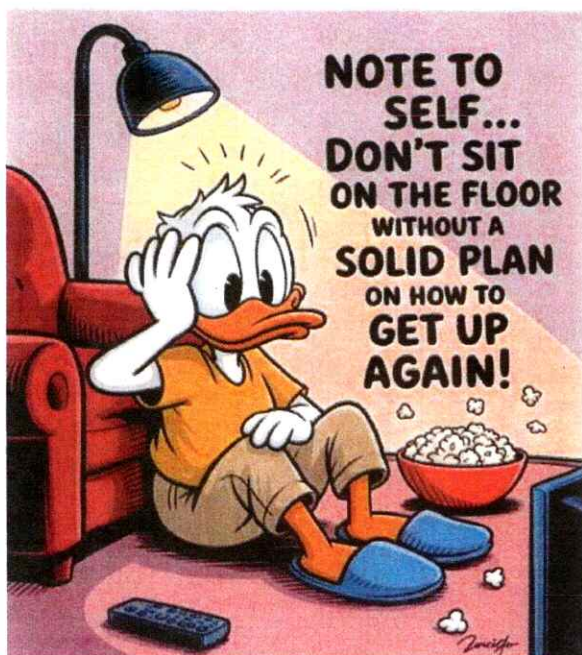


Boat Dip (Rotel Ranch Dip)

- 16 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 packet (1 oz.) dry ranch dressing mix
- 1 can (10 oz.) Rotel, drained (retain 1 tablespoon liquid)
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 3 green onions
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce (optional)
- ½ teaspoon black pepper

Just for Fun!

Welcome to old age. You
now take pictures of
instructions just so you
can enlarge them



Have you ever been to
Engagement, Ohio?

It's between Dayton and Marion.

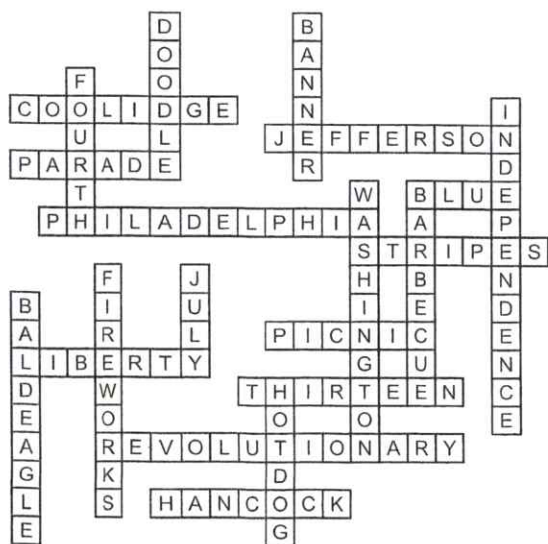
IT'S FINE

I'M FINE
EVERYTHING IS FINE

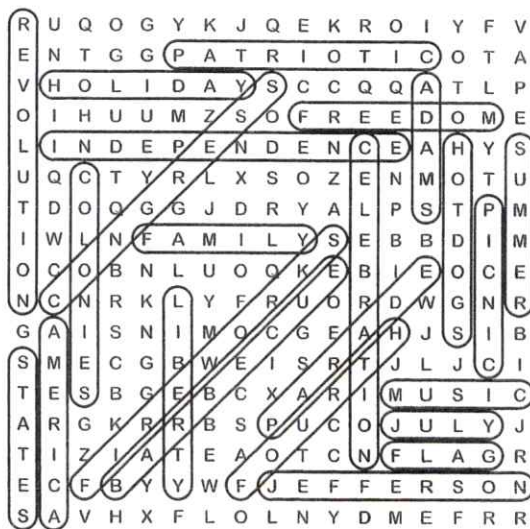
You know you need to lose weight
when you step on the scale and it
says, "One at a time, please".

Puzzle Answers

SOLUTION

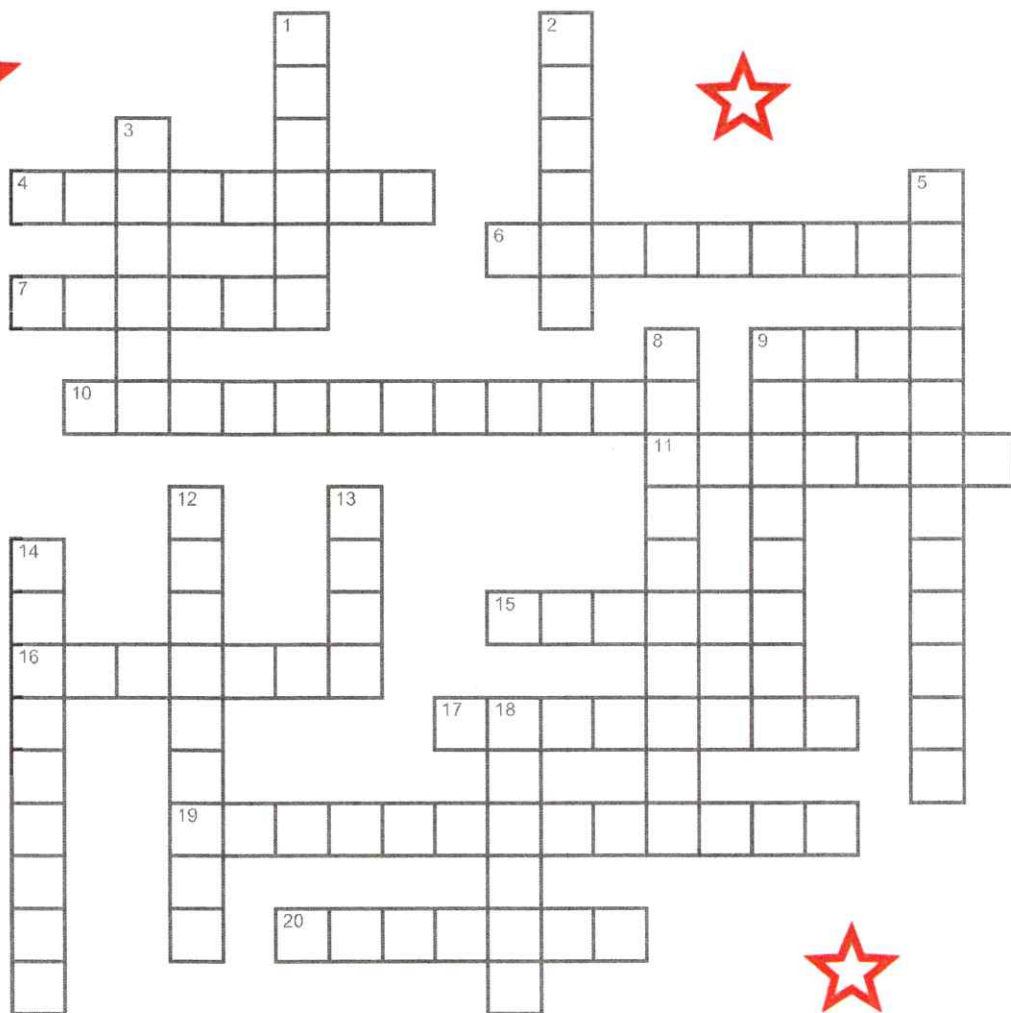


Solution for
Fourth of July Word Search





Crossword Challenge



ACROSS

4. American President who was born on July 4th, Calvin ____.
6. Founding Father and third President of the United States.
7. Public procession that might occur on July Fourth.
9. Red, white and ____.
10. City in which the Declaration of Independence was signed.
11. Nickname for the American flag, stars and ____.
15. Open air meal popular on July Fourth.
16. Symbol of freedom located in the New York City Harbor: Statue of ____.
17. Number of original colonies that declared independence.
19. Fight for American independence: The ____ War.
20. Famous signer of the Declaration of Independence: John ____.

DOWN

1. Patriotic song often sung on Independence Day: Yankee ____.
2. National anthem of the United States: The Star-Spangled ____.
3. The day of the month on which America declared its independence.
5. Founding document of the United States: The Declaration of ____.
8. First President of the United States.
9. Cooking outdoors on a grill.
12. Light show often seen on the 4th of July.
13. Month in 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed

14. National bird of the United States.
18. Commonly consumed food on July 4th.

Bald Eagle	Jefferson
Banner	July
Barbecue	Liberty
Blue	Parade
Coolidge	Philadelphia
Doodle	Picnic
Fireworks	Revolutionary
Fourth	Stripes
Hancock	Thirteen
Hot Dog	Washington
Independence	

Fourth of July

Word Search Puzzle



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



ADAMS	FLAG	LIBERTY
AMERICA	FOURTH	MUSIC
BARBECUE	FREEDOM	PARADE
CELEBRATION	HOLIDAY	PATRIOTIC
COLONIES	HOT DOGS	PICNIC
CONGRESS	INDEPENDENCE	REVOLUTION
FAMILY	JEFFERSON	STATES
FIREWORKS	JULY	SUMMER