

## Brain Bending Fun

January might be a challenging month. It is, after all, International Brainteaser Month. There are brainteasers for every taste. Wordsmiths enjoy crosswords, word jumbles, and acrostics. Mathematicians enjoy sudoku and kakuro. Riddles, logic puzzles, tangrams, ciphers, and even good old-fashioned Rubik's Cubes keep our minds sharp.

Just as exercise is healthy for the body, brainteasers are healthy for the brain. Flex your gray matter by answering some of these brainteasers below:

1. A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?

2. In 1990, a person is 15 years old. In 1995, that same person is 10 years old. How could this be?

3. Before Mount Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?

**Answers:** 1. He walked; the river is frozen. 2. The person was born in 2005 BC. 3. Mount Everest; it was the highest mountain even before it was discovered.

## January Birthdays

Those born between January 1–19 are Capricorns, the Sea Goat. Capricorn is the most stable and serious sign of the zodiac. Reliable, resourceful, and determined, Capricorns make excellent leaders and managers. Those born between January 20–31 are Aquarius, the Water Bearer. Witty, clever, and honest, Water Bearers desire independence above all and are not afraid to deviate from the crowd to pursue their own interests.

Floy Keithley	January 2
Jean Roberts	January 8
Dortha Maberry	January 11
Virginia Burrow	January 14
Carol Curtis	January 18
Jean Backer	January 21
Judith Reeds	January 23
Robert Bilbo	January 24
Reta Heinold	January 26
Jim Self	January 29

## Authors of the Month

### J.A. Jance

Judith Ann Jance is an American author of mystery novels. She writes three series of novels, centering on retired Seattle Police Department Detective J. P. Beaumont, Arizona County Sheriff Joanna Brady, and former Los Angeles news anchor turned mystery solver Ali Reynolds.

### JD Robb

Nora Roberts is an American author of over 225 romance novels. She also writes as J. D. Robb, Jill March, and Sarah Hardesty.

Come check their books out from our Library!

January 2025

# Our Lady of Mercy

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## Celebrating January

Adopt a Rescued Bird Month

Mentoring Month

International Creativity Month

Universal Letter-Writing Week  
January 12–18

Buffet Day  
January 2

Twelfth Night  
January 5

National Word Nerd Day  
January 9

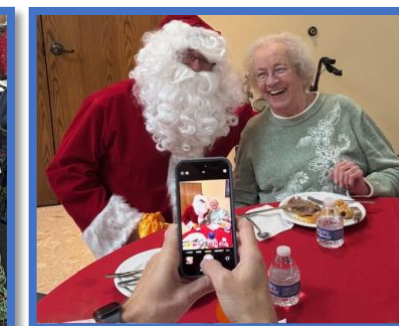
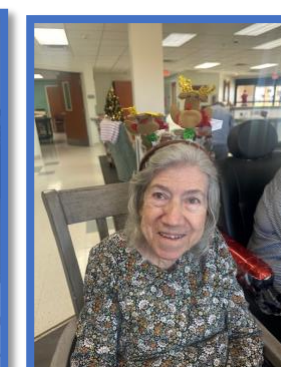
Cut Your Energy Costs Day  
January 10

National Hat Day  
January 15

Belly Laugh Day  
January 24

Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day  
January 27

Chinese New Year  
January 29





## Residents of the Month

### Rita Rojas

Rita was born on April 11<sup>th</sup> and is from a family of 12 kids. She was raised by her brothers, who she says are all hard workers. She grew up in Argentine Kansas and remembers her house always being busy. As an adult Rita spent most of the years being a teacher. She was a Kindergarten teacher at the Kansas City St Joseph Dioceses for 20 years and after that she taught for another 40 years in the Kansas City School District. Her kids said that she was so well known that they couldn't go into a store without a student or former student stopping her to say hello.

### Phyllis Miller

Phyllis was born on June 13<sup>th</sup> and grew up on a farm in Seneca Kansas. Her parents were German and had a houseful with 11 children. Phyllis and her siblings went to a country school that they would walk to and sometimes they even got to ride their horse to school. Some of her fondest childhood memories are of when she walked to school each morning. There was a creek on the way that she would stop and play in. Later she married and ended up having six kids. Phyllis's favorite season is Spring because it's like a breath of fresh air. She loves when everything starts to bloom and grow.

**Happy New Year!!!**

### Alta Williams

Alta was born on November 12<sup>th</sup> and was an only child. Her father passed when she was very young, so her uncle came to stay with her and her mother on their farm in Leeton Missouri. Her fondest memories as a child were of her father. She said that her father was a very kind and special person to her. Later in life Alta met her husband Don at a movie theater on New Years Eve, he had just come home from the service. They were inseparable after that and were married for 60 years. Together they had two children which led to beautiful grand children and great grandchildren. We asked Alta if she had any advice for us and she told us that we should always be loving and caring to our family because that is what is most important.

### Patti Phillips

Patti was born on July 15<sup>th</sup> and grew up in Michigan. As a child Patti's favorite memories were on her birthdays. Her Dad would ask her where she wanted to go, and she would always choose her Aunt Inez's because she had ponies. Patti loves horses! Later Patti met the love of her life Steve, who was in the Air Force, in the backyard of her parents' house. They enjoyed driving around in his mustang and they also enjoyed camping. Together they had two sons. Patti's favorite season used to be summer because she could tan every day, but now its fall because she got married in the Fall.

### Patti Phillips



### Rita Rojas



### Alta Williams



### Phyllis Miller



This month we are "traveling" to Canada!!

