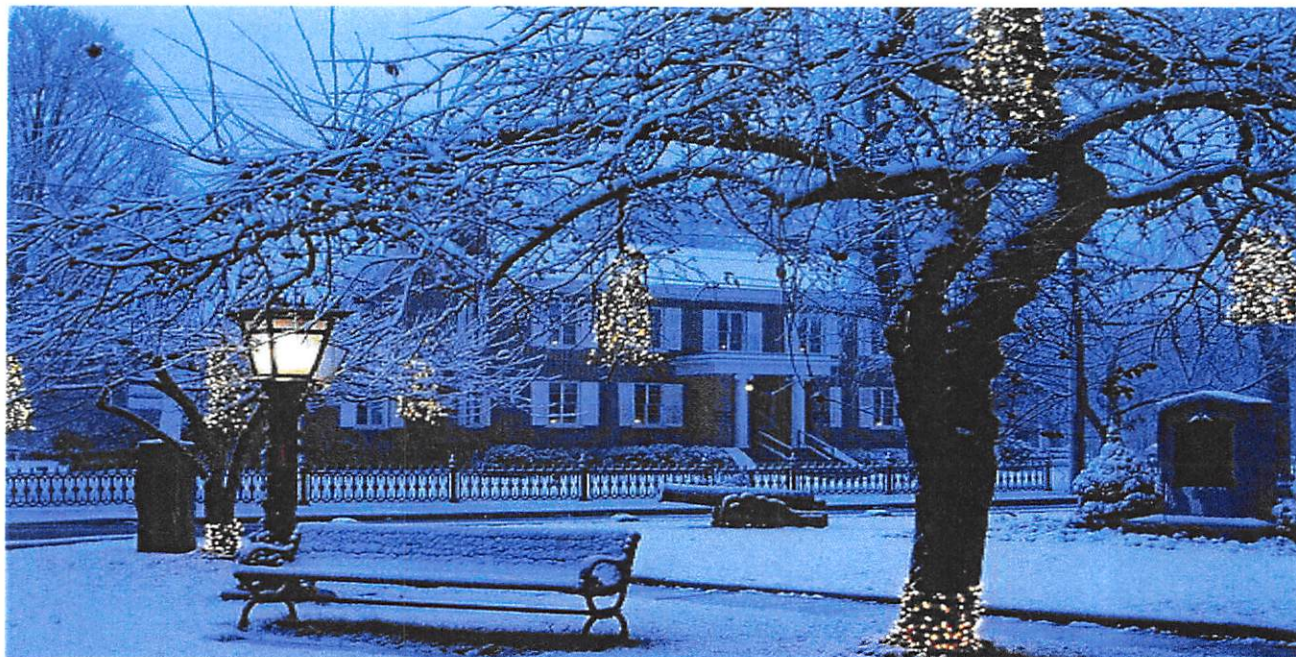


# The Kinderhook Times

Winter 2021-Spring 2022



## Happy Holidays

### From the Mayor's Desk

This time of year, we turn our attention to the celebrations of the season. There are mixed emotions as we plan for a variety of celebrations and prepare for the conclusion of 2021 and the start of another year of opportunities.

Each of us has our own traditions for the holidays, specific to our family, our faith, and our history. I like to use this time of year to share my gratitude and to reflect on all we have accomplished together as we set our sights on the future goals of our Village.

I would like to recognize the Village staff, Trustees, Boards, and Commissions, who collectively provide services, benefits and opportunities to our Village throughout the year.

Equally, I am grateful for the residents who make our community so enjoyable. The e-mails and phone calls that I receive each day, remind me we are in this together.

May your holiday celebrations build memories and instill in the next generation the importance of legacy, heritage, and traditions.

*Warmest regards and Happy Holidays.*

*Dale Leiser*

Dale Leiser, Mayor  
Village of Kinderhook



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Important Information...2	Recreation Commission...5	CCHS .....8	Holiday Word Search...12
Climate Smart.....3	Did You Know .....5	Business News.....9	
Employee Spotlight.....4	Know Your Neighbor..... 6	Seniors' Corner..10	
Holiday Gifts.....4	Bushes, Shrubs & Trees...7	Kids Fun Page.....11	

Visit us at [www.villageofkinderhook.org](http://www.villageofkinderhook.org)

## For Your Information . . .

### MONTHLY VILLAGE MEETINGS

**Board of Trustees**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 7:00 PM

**Climate Smart Community Task Force**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7:00 PM

**Historic Preservation Commission**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 7:00 PM

**Planning Board**  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – 7:00 PM

**Recreation Commission**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday – 7:00 PM

**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday – 7:00 PM

All meetings are open to the public and you are invited to attend.

### DATES TO REMEMBER\*

December 3	Candlelight Night
December 5	Martin Van Buren Wreath Laying
December 25	Christmas Holiday
January 1	New Year's Holiday
January 17	Martin Luther King Holiday
February 14	Valentines' Day
February 21	Presidents' Day Holiday
March 5	Registration Day for Village Elections
March 15	Village Election Day
March 17	St. Patricks' Day
April 1	April Fools' Day
April 1	Water bills mailed
April 30	Water bills due

### VILLAGE OFFICIALS

#### Mayor

Dale Leiser 518-758-6177

#### Trustees

David Flaherty 518-758-7733

Mike Abrams 518-929-0519

Dorene Weir 518-758-1498

Mark Browne 518-428-1967

#### Village Justice

David A. Dellehunt 518-758-8778 EXT. 303

### CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Peter Bujanow

518-758-8778. Ext. 302

[pbujanow@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:pbujanow@villageofkinderhook.org)

#### **Office Hours:**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 7am-9am**

**Wednesday Evenings 4pm- 6pm  
or by telephone and by appointment.**

**Inspections are scheduled by appointment.**

**\*See Village COVID-19 updates and the website for any revisions due to COVID-19.**



## CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

The Village Climate Smart Community Task Force (CSCTF) was established by the Village Board of Trustees in 2016 to consider initiatives that may be suitable for Kinderhook under the Climate Smart Community (CSC) program sponsored by New York State Department of Environmental Protection. The program's purpose is to provide local governments with guidance on how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save tax dollars and advance community goals for health and safety, economic development, energy independence and quality of life.

The CSCTF is an advisory group of resident volunteers and Village Trustees. Our broad focus has two main objectives:

1. Providing educational events and regular communications that offer practical ideas and information to community members on what each of us can do to preserve and improve our environment.
2. Working with the Village Board to foster environmentally sound policy and actions.

Recent accomplishments and ongoing efforts:

- The Village was designated as a NYSERDA Clean Energy Community (CEC) in 2019 after completing four action items. Completion of these items resulted in grants totaling more than \$50,000 to be used for energy efficiency and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction projects. In 2021, NYSERDA initiated a CEC Leadership round from which we hope to receive additional funding for sustainability projects in the Village. We have now completed six action items by recently achieving success in our Community Solar Campaign. At this time more than forty households and businesses have signed up with our partners in the campaign, Astral Power and Solstice. By reaching our goal, the Village is eligible to receive a grant of \$5,000 from NYSERDA and additional donations to a sustainability fund by both Astral Power and Solstice.
- In 2021, the Village's electric vehicle charging station (EVCS) usage accounted for a reduction of more than 4.3 metric tons of GHG. Since its installation in 2019, usage of our EVCS has resulted in an estimated 5.9 metric ton reduction in GHG emissions.
- As part of our continuing collaboration with the Kinderhook Memorial Library, "Bat Week 2021" was held at the library. It was a great success! During the week, 30 kids stopped in to make bat crafts, go on a bat scavenger hunt, and learn some bat facts. Family participants made bat houses with the help of Tom Messina who volunteered his time in preparing materials and assisting the builders along with the Teen's Librarian Matt Pavloff. Mandy Babirad, the Children's Librarian, also purchased 20 new bat books for the library collection, 15 of which came from funds provided by the Climate Smart Task Force. At the time of this report, all the books are checked out.
- We are conducting a battery and small electronics recycling program called the "Big Green Box" in partnership with the Library. Boxes are available at the Library and the Village Hall. You can drop off used batteries and unwanted cell phones at either site.
- We continue to publish updates of our activities and achievements on the Village website and in the quarterly Village newsletter. We also regularly post environmental information and tips on sustainability on local social media outlets like Nextdoor Kinderhook and IMBY.
- Plans for solar installations on two municipal buildings have begun. Sun Common won the bid for the work. The majority of the cost for this project is covered by a grant we received in 2019 from NYSERDA under its Clean Energy Communities program.
- It is expected that all municipal electrical service will "go green" in 2022 with the Village's agreement to subscribe to a community solar program with NEXAMP.

Thanks to the ongoing support of the Village Mayor and Trustees, the Task Force volunteers continue to look into additional actions that will promote sustainability and lead to the Village being designated a **Certified Climate Smart Community**. With that certification, the Village will have additional opportunities for grants from New York State for future environmental projects.

The Task Force meets regularly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM. If you are interested in the Climate Smart Community program or joining the Task Force, check the Village website's calendar for the dates, times and locations of future meetings or e-mail Bill Mancini at [sammikit@hotmail.com](mailto:sammikit@hotmail.com).



In this edition of The Kinderhook Times, the employee spotlight shines on Nicole Heeder, the Clerk and Treasurer for the Village of Kinderhook. As a nineteen-year seasoned employee, Nicole has many responsibilities including Tax Collector, Budget Officer and Registrar. Nicole enjoys the many facets of her job, but especially the daily interaction she has with our Village residents.

Nicole has been married to Dennis Heeder Sr. for 29 years and they have four children, Bradford, Robert, Jessica, and Dennis Jr. Their family also includes two grandchildren Mikayla, Riley and a third grandchild due to arrive in May 2022. Nicole also has a dog named Bella and two miniature horses Savannah and Shadow.

Born in Albany, New York, Nicole graduated from Ichabod Crane High School. Over the years, she has volunteered as a co-leader for Girl Scouts and 4-H, Coordinator for CYO Cheerleading and as a member of the Village of Kinderhook Recreation Commission.

On weekends Nicole relishes spending time with her family and traveling to different areas with her camping group of friends. Kayaking and bicycling complete the list of her outdoor leisure time activities. When listening to music, Nicole favors Country and Rock done by a wide range of artists. Her hobbies include reading, gardening, and baking. As a youth sports enthusiast, Nicole was often seen cheering on her children in bowling, football, basketball, baseball, softball, and cheerleading.

Nicole does not have a favorite movie, but she favors movies based on true stories. Her favorite actors are Sandra Bullock and Robin Williams. She also doesn't have a favorite book, but she is currently reading books authored by Kristin Hannah. She is also a regular reader of the Readers Digest.

As an outdoor person, Nicole looks forward to the spring "to watch everything come alive" and in the fall, she "loves to see all of the beautiful colors on the trees".

When we asked Nicole to tell us one place in the world she would like to visit and why, she said Castlebar, Ireland. That is where her grandmother is from, and Nicole would love to experience the beautiful countryside that she has seen in so many pictures.

*Thanks, Nicole, for letting us shine the Employee Spotlight on you!*

## Holiday Gift Ideas

The holidays will be here before you know it, so we thought we would list some senior suggested gift ideas for the older adults on your gift list. Most seniors live on a fixed income and would benefit from items they can use on a daily basis. Grocery prices continue to rise as well as other items and services used on a regular basis, thus the following would most likely be appreciated:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Gift cards to grocery stores and pharmacies | Gift certificates to hair salons and barber shops               |
| Gas cards                                   | Electric toothbrush   |
| Stationery and books of stamps              | Pet food and pet toys   |
| Electric blanket                            | Gift certificates to restaurants, especially those that deliver |

New bed sheets, bathmat, bath, and hand towels to brighten senior's home



The Village of Kinderhook  
**Recreation Commission**

At the October 20, 2021, Recreation Commission special meeting, the Commission welcomed two new members, Mark Plakias and Jennifer Blood. During the Annual Meeting on the same evening, the Commission elected Amber van Moesner to be the Commission Chairperson and Mark Plakias to be the Deputy Chairperson. We still have one open seat remaining, so please reach out to the Village if you would like to be a part of the Recreation Commission.

Discussions are now underway to solidify our event calendar for 2022, as we plan to partner with the Kinderhook Memorial Library on special events and introduce new activities like Yoga In The Park and Music In The Park. We are also finalizing our plans to add new and more inclusive equipment to the Rothermel Park playground.

Preparations for the Summer Program are also underway. Tentatively the Summer Program dates for the 2022 season are July 11<sup>th</sup> through August 19<sup>th</sup>. Be on the lookout for Email blasts from the Village office, notices on NextDoor Kinderhook, and on the Village of Kinderhook Facebook page for details on upcoming events.

The Recreation Commission wishes everyone a Wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Martin Van Buren was born at the start of the Christmas Season on December 5, 1782 in Kinderhook, New York. America's eighth president, Martin Van Buren, battled a devastating economic contraction throughout his four-year tenure. There is no record of Van Buren sending White House Christmas cards and very little is written about how America's first Dutch president and his family celebrated the holiday during those trying times. Van Buren's most enduring Christmastime contribution is that he chose the color of the décor for the White House State Room (which became known as the Blue Room, and has maintained the same hue ever since), where the official Christmas tree would come to be placed and holiday celebrations would be held each year.

Throughout his life and presidency, a number of important and sometimes historic events took place during the Christmas season. Van Buren assumed the governorship of New York one week after Christmas of 1828. As payback for a political feud with Vice President John Calhoun, his appointment as U.S. Minister to Great Britain was overturned by Congress exactly one month after the Christmas of 1831. In his First Presidential Address to Congress, at the beginning of the 1837 Holiday season, Van Buren called for the establishment of an independent treasury to combat the deep banking crisis. Then, four days after Christmas, the "Caroline Affair" took place when Canadian troops seized a U.S. steamboat which had been leased to Canadian insurrectionists. One American was killed. A week later, the president issued a proclamation warning U.S. citizen not to assist in the Canadian revolt and dispatched Federal troops to the Maine border. For the next few holiday seasons, no White House Christmas cards were sent to the Queen of England (Canada was still a British colony). Later, one day after his final Christmas in the White House, tensions with Great Britain eased when Alexander McLeod was found not guilty of murder. McLeod, a Canadian had been arrested in New York for his involvement in the Caroline Affair.



## Know Your Neighbor

### Joan M Quilty

We are pleased to highlight our neighbor Joan Quilty in this edition of the Kinderhook Times. Joan has been a resident of the Village of Kinderhook for seventeen years.

Born in Kingston, New York, Joan comes from a large family that consisted of seven sisters and five brothers. She also has fourteen nieces and nephews and six great nieces and nephews.

Joan attended the John A Coleman Catholic High School in Hurley, New York and graduated from the College of New Rochelle, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She began her teaching career at the Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School in 1974, and continued teaching there for thirty-three years, until she retired in 2007.

When Joan moved to the Village of Kinderhook, it reminded her of where she grew up. There was an air of peacefulness about the Village and the residents were nice.

Joan was the girls' softball coach at Croton High School where she held the best one season record at the high school level of 13 wins and 0 losses. As a volunteer, Joan has worked at the Sylvia Center at Katchkie Farm, Kinderhook Meals On Wheels, Columbia Land Conservancy, Cornell Cooperative Extension and with the Here 4 You volunteers, for the Food Drive Table that benefits the Valatie Ecumenical Food Pantry. Additionally, Joan volunteered to assist the team at St. John The Baptist Church in Valatie with the sanitizing of the church on Saturday's during the Covid-19.

Although Joan is not a sports enthusiast, she is a "die hard" Boston Red Sox fan and her memorabilia collection backs that up. Joan's taste in music favors Rock N Roll and her favorite artists are the Beatles, John Mellencamp, Bruce Springsteen, Tom Petty and U2. Her hobbies include baking, cooking, and gardening. When we asked Joan about her favorite movie, she replied without hesitation, the Star Wars franchise, and the Harry Potter Franchise. Joan also listed Katherine Hepburn, Martin Short, Steve Martin and Robin Williams as her favorite actors.

While discussing favorites, Joan listed winter as her favorite season, and her favorite authors are Ron Chernow, JK Rowling, Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child and Rachel Carson.

Almost everyone has a favorite vacation spot and Joan is no exception. Popponesset Beach is located on Cape Cod's Nantucket Sound and adjacent to Popponesset Bay in the town of Mashpee, Massachusetts. This family owned vacation home is where Joan and her family have enjoyed their time away every year since the 1950's.

*Thanks, Joan, for letting us get to know you a little bit better!*

# Bushes

# Shrubs & Trees Oh My!

By Mark Browne



As a Trustee for the Village of Kinderhook, I have been assigned as a liaison covering Trees in the Village. What I have come to know is that Village residents love their bushes, shrubs, and trees.

The Village code covering this subject was originally written in 1992 and subsequently updated in 2002 and may need updates to cover our present conditions. This being said - and after doing some research on this subject, I feel that before any discussion of updating the code is conducted that maybe a majority of us tree, shrub and bush lovers should agree to a few high-level principals and then Develop – goals, objectives, and actions – Some draft Principles follow:

**PRINCIPLE #1** As an equal part of the Village’s infrastructure, this “green” infrastructure that constitutes our urban forest contributes positively to the health of all residents and is a valued and shared resource.

**PRINCIPLE #2** Guide and promote a sustainable urban forest through education, incentives, and regulation for environmental, social, and economic benefit of Village residents and business owners.

**PRINCIPLE #3** Develop an adaptive and flexible management approach that allows for changes in response to new information on or new circumstances.

**PRINCIPLE #4** Balance the needs of the Village as a whole (the public at large) with the needs and desires of individual residents and business owners regarding the Village’s urban forest.

**PRINCIPLE #5** Recognize the urban forest as a critical local municipal asset and infrastructure component through a long-term commitment to proactive management and adequate resource allocations within Budgets.

This is a start – Please send your comments to the Village Email Address:

[okvillagehall@villageofkinderhook.org](mailto:okvillagehall@villageofkinderhook.org)

I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree  
'Trees' by **Joyce Kilmer** (1886-1918), an American poet

# COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Columbia County Historical Society to begin opening by private tours and advance appointments, please join us for these events and activities in support of Columbia County history & heritage:

## Events & Happenings:

**The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Gallery of Wreaths 2021: Accepting Wreath Applications Now.** Please join us for our annual Holiday fundraiser to be held Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> – Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup> to be viewed and sold in an online auction—More Info Here and look for updated links: <https://www.cchsny.org/gallery-wreaths-2021.html>

**New Drive Through History Road Trips!** Explore our free, self-guided itineraries of Columbia County's history and heritage, with new itineraries:

*"Arts & Letters" Important and legendary authors, artists, and other creatives.*

*"Lights, Camera, Road Trip!" Famous filming spots and more movie lore.*

*"Dutch & Mohican Heritage" Important locations in the County's early history.*

*"Hidden Hamlets" Fascinating stories of smaller communities around the County.*

Download or view interactive itineraries at [www.cchsny.org/drive-through-history](http://www.cchsny.org/drive-through-history)

## Early Heritage of Columbia County Outdoor Narrative Exhibit Opens November 2021

This permanent outdoor exhibit interprets the history of northern Columbia County and consists of eight narrative panels placed throughout our nine-acre Rural Properties site. We invite you to explore the stories of the people who lived, worked, and learned here from the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and imagine what life was like at various points in history as you make your way around the exhibit.

**Location: 2589 NY-9H, Kinderhook, NY 12037**

**Visiting Hours: Dawn to dusk, 365 days a year**



## View the Stories:

- Native Inhabitants
- The Van Alen Family & Early Dutch Settlers
- Colonial Dutch Architecture
- Black Locust Trees
- Washington Irving
- The Original Ichabod Crane
- One-Room Schoolhouses
- Eleanor Roosevelt at Ichabod Crane



*Tis The Reason To Be Jolly. Fa La La La La. La La La La!*

### Shop Local and Support Kinderhook's Revitalization

The revitalization of Kinderhook's historic business district made significant progress during the spring and summer of 2021, with major construction underway on multiple development projects and new businesses getting ready to open. On Hudson Street and Broad Street, the transformation of two of the village's most significant historic structures is well underway. And an exciting slate of new retail businesses will join Kinderhook's collection of existing and new businesses in the New Year.

### Around the Square

- **Gallery Northeast** opens its third exhibition on November 20, 2021, featuring the paintings of Melanie Stackhouse.
- This fall the **Old Dutch Inn** and **Three Sisters Tavern** on Broad Street received a bright new color palette. According to HPC member Randal Dawkins, "pink was very chic and popular throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century." Major interior construction on the inn has been completed, and attention is now focused on interior finish-level applications.
- **Morningbird**, Coffee, special pastries and a lunch menu are now available Thursday through Monday from 8am to 3pm and Tuesday and Wednesday from 8am to 2pm.
- **Nest**, a lounge bar nestled next to the main dining area of **The Aviary** – a full-service restaurant and event space located in The Kinderhook Knitting Mill – are projected to open in spring of 2022. Watch for the launch of The Kinderhook Knitting Mill website.
- **OKPantry**, featuring home goods, international treats, kids' accessories, and a penny-candy stand and soda fountain, is located at 2 Hudson Street. Opening night is Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, during Candlelight Night festivities.
- The Kinderhook Knitting Mill project will also be welcoming **September Gallery**, formerly of Hudson, to the third floor at 3 Hudson Street. September Gallery will be exhibiting contemporary visual artists from the US and abroad.
- **The Kinderhook Bottle Shop**, a wine-and -spirits store to be located at 8 Hudson Street in The Kinderhook Knitting Mill, is working toward opening this winter.
- **Two Note**, a scent and fragrance maker and retail shop that's expected to open this coming spring, will also be coming to 8 Hudson Street.

### Concerts in the Village

Concerts in the Village, based in Kinderhook, has returned to live performance. Having offered three concerts in September, October, and November, in December CITV will announce the balance of its season. Six or seven orchestral, choral, vocal, and chamber-music programs are planned, including the concert originally scheduled for December 4. For updates, visit [www.concertsinthevillage.org](http://www.concertsinthevillage.org).

### Candlelight Night Returns!

Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5 to 8pm - Gary Spielmann Day Photography Show  
Kinderhook Memorial Library 5:30 to 8:30pm Rising Star Dance Academy - 6:30pm  
Tree Lighting & Caroling 7pm

The Kinderhook Business & Professional Association, in cooperation with the Village of Kinderhook Recreation Commission, invites you to Candlelight Night 2021. This much-loved event features Santa & Mrs. Claus, Letters to Santa (please include a return address), DJ Stuyvesanta, wagon rides, Village Square holiday lights, decorated doors, ice sculpture, selfie station, Boy Scout Troop 113 & 114 bonfire & hot cider, and local makers, featuring Adirondack Barkery, Adirondack Kettlecorn, Damsel Garden Wreaths, and O'Boy's Soaps. Also, a great opportunity to taste, sip, and be merry at local eateries and bars!



## PREPARING FOR WINTER

Living in the northeast, we all know that the beautiful season of fall is followed by winter. It is important to prepare for the impending cold and snow. Listed below are some ideas to help you deal with the demands of winter weather.

- Get your furnace cleaned to increase efficiency and prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and change batteries.
- Maintain a supply of non-perishable food and bottled water to last several days in case you lose power or can't get to a store.
- Keep a non-slip mat inside the entrance door to your home to prevent slipping on snow and or water that may drip from your boots upon entering.
- Store boots and shoes on a mat to catch any snow that might melt and create puddles, causing a fall hazard.
- Keep rain gutters clear of leaves to prevent overflowing of water which can cause damage to your home and ice build-up on walkways.
- Keep sidewalks clear of snow and spread salt to prevent ice build-up.
- Wear layered, loose fitting clothing to stay warm, indoors, and out.
- Pack a flashlight, back-up batteries, radio, and warm blanket in your car in case you get stuck.
- Install snow tires and top off winter windshield solution to melt ice.
- Keep your cell phone charged, especially when venturing out in a car.
- Remember to drink water as it is just as important to stay hydrated during the cold weather.

**Positive Mental Attitude**

**Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.**

*Winston Churchill.*



# HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

angel  
 bells  
 candle  
 chocolate  
 Christmas  
 Christmas tree  
 cookie  
 December  
 dream  
 gift  
 ho-ho-ho  
 ice  
 miracle  
 punch  
 Santa Claus  
 sleigh  
 snowball  
 stocking  
 sweater  
 winter  
 wish list



## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

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