

GEM STATE NEWS



FALL & WINTER 2023 EDITION (September - December) <https://gsdcdda.com>

TABLE OF CONTENT

New Year's Word Search	page 2
Company Auction	page 3
Library Trip	page 4
Rack 'Em and Let's Play	page 5
Exercising Can Be Fun	page 6
Notable Happenings...	page 7
Our Halloween Fun (1-3)	pages 8 - 10
Happy Thanksgiving	page 11
Staff Xmas Party	page 12
Participants' Xmas Party	page 13 -14
Scavenger Hunt	page 15
Arts, And Crafts, and More	page 16
New Year's Resolution	page 17

Photo by [Ian Schneider](#) on [Unsplash](#)



As the holiday season quickly approaches, people everywhere are preparing for their celebrations. While, for many, just one holiday comes to mind when thinking of the December season, there are many other reasons for all people to celebrate this time of year.

Mawlid al-nabi

December 11-12



This Islamic holiday honors the birth of the Prophet Muhammad, who founded Islam. Sunni and Shiites celebrate by reading the prophet's teachings.



Hanukkah

December 24- January 1



This holiday is the eight day Jewish celebration of lights. A candle on the menorah is lit each night of the eight days to celebrate.



Christmas

December 25



One of the most well known of the winter holidays, Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ in the Christian religion. To celebrate, many attend church services, spend time with loved one, and exchange gifts.



Kwanzaa

December 26- January 1



A celebration observed by many members of the African American community to recognize their cultural heritage and traditional values.





Happy New Year



Word Search

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

Ball Drop
Herrera
Midnight
Party Hat

Celebrate
Hopkins
New Year
Sparklers

Fireworks
Kiss
New York
Time Square

Happy
McEvoy
Party

Company Auction



Photo by [Patrick Tomasso](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Today our participants had an opportunity to participate in the company auction. They were able to use their saving, budgeting, and negotiating skills in a realistic event. It was great to see them apply what they've learned with us. Plus, it was a lot of fun.



Library Trip

Photo by [si Janko Ferlič](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Our participants were inspired by a recent visit to the library. In reading about Helen Keller, they were impressed by her determination to overcome personal challenges to become the first deaf and blind person to graduate from college. She later became a teacher and an accomplished author. That's Incredible!



Rack 'Em and Let's Play

A favorite pastime of the company owner – Lori Jo. Our participants enjoyed this fun activity on a recent outing. We know they all scored many shots in the pocket.

Photo by [Stephen Collins](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Exercising Can Be Fun

Our participants are getting into the groove of things. Watch them as they show us how to keep the mind, body, and spirit active.

Photo by [Ignacio Brosa](#) on [Unsplash](#)

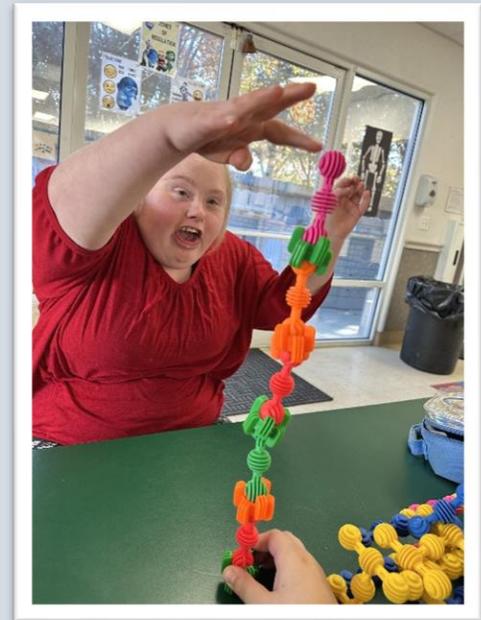


Notable Happenings Around the Center



Justun reminds us to stay hydrated. Drinking water nourishes your organs and provides fuel for the all your activities.

Watch, as Aleera builds this amazing tower. Activities like these improve hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.



We love it when staff bring their pets in for all to enjoy them. Here is Tara's dog Molly, posing with Maria. What a nice picture.

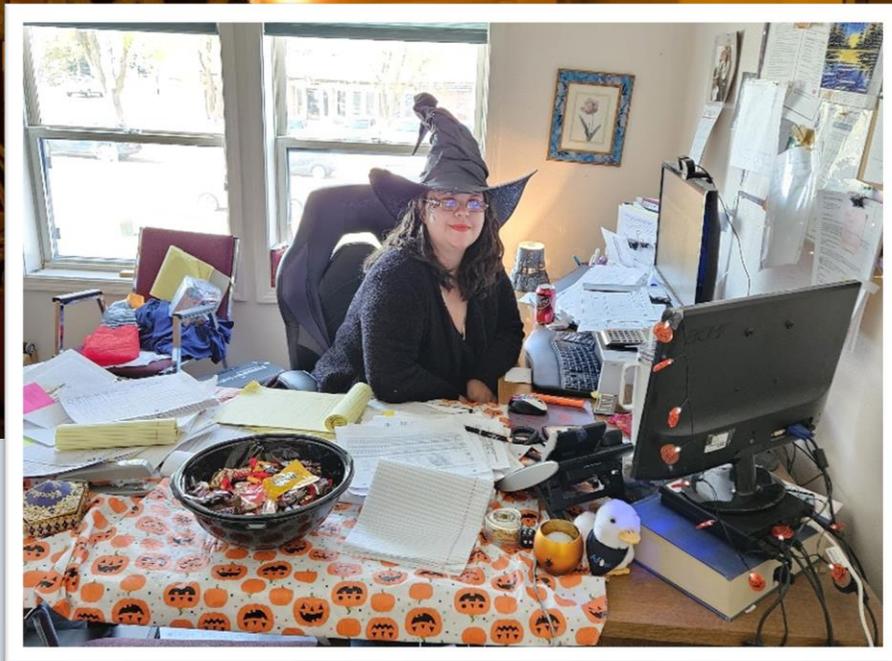
Our Halloween Fun, Part 1 





Our Halloween Fun, Part 2

Photo by [Clint Patterson on Unsplash websites](#)





Our Halloween Fun, Part 3

Photo by [Łukasz Nieścioruk](#) on [Unsplash](#)





Happy Thanksgiving!

Clinical Directors Jamie and Tara get into the Thanksgiving spirit with an accurate depiction of “salt and pepper.” This is so very funny.



GSDC Staff Christmas Party



Returning to Idaho Pizza Company this year, staff once again celebrated Christmas with games, prizes, and oh yeah – lots of pizza.

Xmas Sweater Competition Winners:



1. Ugliest Sweater – Jose'
2. Mosty Festive Sweater – Jamie
3. Overall Sweater – Brandy



Exciting New Card Game

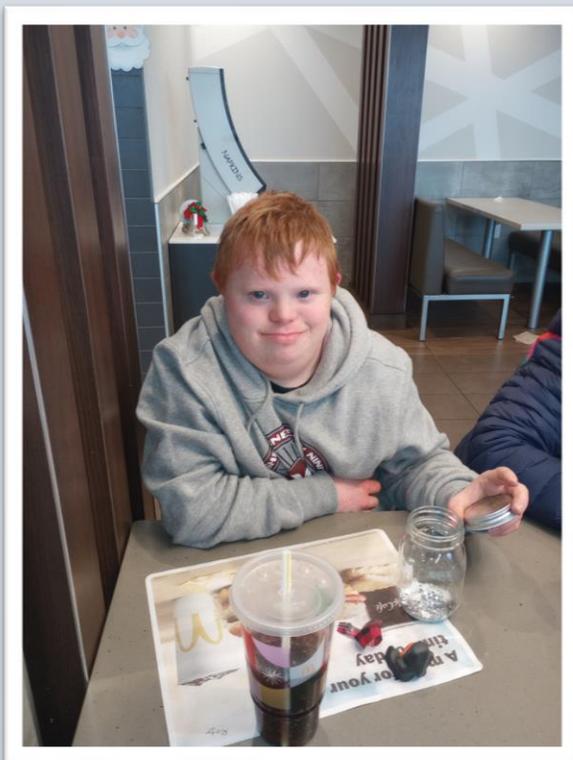
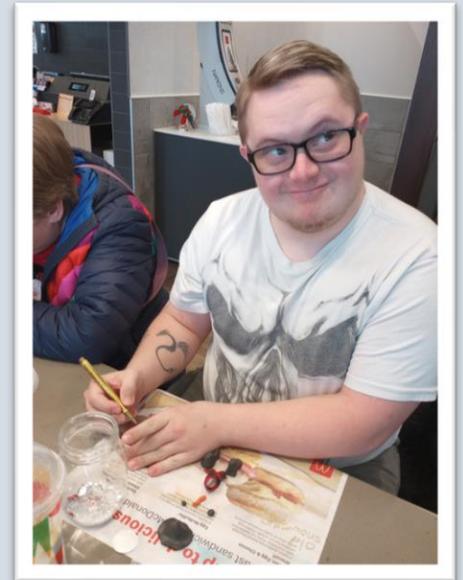


"Old-School" Favorite: Foosball

GSDC Participants' Christmas Party



Our participants celebrated the holiday season with their friends. There was food, games, gifts, and lots of laughter. Merry Christmas!



Christmas Party Cont'd



Scavenger Hunt

Photo by [Attorney Sluice](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Ducks Plane Backpack Teapot Person on Bicycle Guitar



Arts, and Crafts, and More

Photo by [Jorge Franganillo](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Participants from the Adults program gathered to express their artistry. Activities like these foster creativity, enhance motor skills, and provide a sense of accomplishment.



New Year Resolution



Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Can You Name 3 Things you would like to happen in 2024?

