

HELLO EVERYONE AND WELCOME TO FEBRUARY! THIS FEBRUARY IS SOMEWHAT UNIQUE IN THAT WE HAVE 29 DAYS THIS YEAR IN FEBRUARY THANKS TO THE LEAP YEAR. I HOPE THAT YOU HAVE A "JUMPING" GOOD LEAP DAY! THIS MONTH THE CENTER WILL ALSO HAVE A PRESENTATION ON DIABETES FROM A SMITH'S PHARMACIST (SEE MORE DETAILS LATER IN THIS NEWSLETTER) AS WELL AS A PRESENTATION FROM IMMUNIZE NEVADA, AN OPEN HOUSE FOR
T.O.P.S. (FEBRUARY 15TH), AND WELCOME A NEW GROUP, THE ELKO ALZHEIMER’S SUPPORT GROUP (MEETING THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH). UNFORTUNATELY, WE WILL NOT SEE ART CLASSES THIS MONTH, AS THEY HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, MOST LIKELY UNTIL MARCH.

MANY IN THE COMMUNITY WILL ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION (PPP) AND CAUCUS. IF YOU ARE BUMFUZZLED BY THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PPP AND CAUCUS, YOU ARE NOT ALONE. I'LL TRY TO EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCE HERE IN A BIT. FIRST THOUGH, SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE PICKED UP ON "BUMFUZZLE" AS THE FUN/FUNNY-SOUNDING WORD OF THE MONTH. MERRIAM-WEBSTER DEFINES THIS TRANSITIVE VERB AS "CONFUSE; PERPLEX; FLUSTER." THE WORD IS A FAIRLY YOUNG WORD, HAVING FIRST BEEN SPOTTED AROUND 1873, THOUGH THERE IS NOT A DEFINITIVE EXPLANATION AS TO HOW IT CAME TO BE. THE MOST LIKELY EXPLANATION IS THAT IT IS RELATED TO DUMFOOZLE, WHICH ITSELF MAY BE A MUDDY COMBINATION OF "DUMBFOUND" AND "FUZZLE", A VERSION OF FUDDLE, MEANING TO INTOXICATE (AND FIRST INTRODUCED AROUND THE TURN OF THE 17TH CENTURY). NONETHELESS, THIS YEAR'S PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION PROCESS, AT LEAST FOR SOME, HAS CAUSED SOME BUMFUZZLEMENT!

WITHOUT GETTING INTO THE POLITICS, THE WHY, OR WHO IS RESPONSIBLE, HERE IS A SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE UPCOMING NEVADA PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION (PRIMARY) AND CAUCUS. FOR BREVITY, THIS MOSTLY PERTAINS TO THE REPUBLICAN PROCESS AND ONLY DISCUSSES THE TOP TWO REMAINING REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES ACCORDING TO POLLS. REGISTERED DEMOCRATS WILL ONLY PARTICIPATE IN THE PRIMARY.
THE PRIMARY WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6. ANYONE REGISTERED AS EITHER A DEMOCRAT OR A REPUBLICAN CAN VOTE AND SAME DAY REGISTRATION IS ALLOWED. YOU CAN VOTE EARLY BY MAILING IN YOUR BALLOT OR BY VOTING AT THE ELKO COUNTY LIBRARY, JANUARY 27 TH THROUGH FEBRUARY 2 ND , FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 6:00
P.M.. ELECTION DAY VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTY. COME TO THE OFFICE FOR LOCATIONS. FOR REPUBLICANS, IF YOU ARE SUPPORTING HALEY (OR OPPOSING TRUMP), YOU MAY WANT TO VOTE "HALEY." IF YOU ARE SUPPORTING TRUMP (OR OPPOSING HALEY), YOU MAY WANT TO VOTE "NONE OF THE ABOVE."

IF YOU WERE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN AS OF JANUARY 9, YOU MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8. YOU MUST BE PRESENT AT THE CAUCUS, WHICH BEGINS AT 5:00 P.M. (VOTING ENDS NO LATER THAN 8:00 P.M.). THE LOCATION YOU WILL GO TO DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU LIVE. FOR ELKO, IT WILL BE AT THE ELKO CONFERENCE CENTER, AND IN SPRING CREEK, IT WILL BE SPRING CREEK HIGH SCHOOL. VISIT WITH THE OFFICE FOR HELP DETERMINING WHERE YOU WILL VOTE. TRUMP IS THE ONLY MAJOR CANDIDATE LEFT, THOUGH DESANTIS MAY STILL BE ON THE BALLOT. IF YOU ARE NOT SUPPORTING EITHER TRUMP OR DESANTIS, YOU NEED NOT ATTEND, THOUGH LOCAL REPUBLICAN DELEGATES AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE NOMINATED AND IT CAN BE AN INTERESTING PROCESS TO BE INVOLVED IN.

THERE WILL BE ANOTHER PRIMARY ELECTION ON TUESDAY, JUNE, 11, 2024 FOR SOME LOCAL, STATEWIDE, AND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS. THE GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024. I HOPE THAT YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL LEAP MONTH AND THAT YOU DO SOMETHING SPECIAL ON THE EXTRA DAY THAT OUR CELESTIAL TRIP AFFORDS US. UNTIL NEXT MONTH!

MATT

To provide nutritious meals, socialization, health screening, and education. We act as a catalyst for access, opportunity, health, and independence for older adults.

The Terrace at Ruby View - 1795 Ruby View Dr. Elko 775.738.3030 - www.elkoseniors.org

## FEBRUARY ACTIVITY SUMMARY

|  | Day(s) | Date(s) | Time | Location | Fee |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BYOS $=$ Bring Your Own Supplies |  |  |  |  |  |
| Games \& Recreation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bridge (Duplicate) | Weds, | Ongoing | 1:00-4:00 p.m. | Dining Room | \$2.00 |
| Bridge | Mon.-Thu, | Ongoing | 1:00-4:00 p.m. | Varies | Free |
| Bunco | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Mon. | Feb. 12 | 12:45 p.m. | Dining Room | BYOS |
| Beginning Bridge Class | Monday | Ongoing | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Dining Room | Free |
| Dominoes | Weds. | Ongoing | 1:00-3:00 p.m. | Díning Room | Free |
| Penny Ante Poker | Mon. \& Th. | Ongoing | 9:00-11:00 a.m. | Dining Room | BYOS |
| Pinochle | Thursdays | Ongoing | 9:00 a.m. | Dining Room | BYOS |
| Exercise |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stretch \& Strength | Thursdays | Ongoing | 1:00-2:00 p.m. | Technology Room | Free |
| Stretch Program | M, W, F | Ongoing | 9:00-9:45 a.m. | Large Activity Room | Free |
| Strength Program | M, W, F | Ongoing | 9:45-10:15 a.m. | Large Activity Roorn | Free |
| Tai Chi Techniques | $\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{Th}$ | Ongoing | 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Large Activity Room | Free |
| Chair Yoga | M | Ongoing | 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Large Activity Room | Free |
| Arts \& Crafts |  |  |  |  |  |
| Watercolor Painting \& Drawing | Cancelled until further notice |  |  | Art Room | BYOS |
| Char's Craft Class | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Tues. | Feb. 13 | 10:00-11:30 a.m. | Art Room | Varies |
| Happy Hookers | Fridays | Ongoing | 9:00-11:30 a.m. | Dining Room | BYOS |
| Connecting \& Support |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bible Study | Tuesdays | Ongoing | 1:00-3:00 p.m. | Tech. Room \& Zoom | Free |
| TOPS (Taking off Pounds Sensibly) | Thursdays | Ongoing | 9:00-10:30 a.m. | Technology Room | Varies |
| Friends Day Out - Java Music Club | Fridays | Ongoing | 1:00-3:00 p.m. | Art Room | Free |
| Alzheimer's Support Group | 1st Weds. | Feb. 7 | 1:00-3:00 p.m. | Technology Room | Free |
| Nevada Care Connection | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Friday | Feb. 9 | 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. | Dining Room | Free |
| WAFD Bank Presentation | $2^{\text {nd }}$ Friday | Feb, 9 | 11:30-12:00 noon | Dining Room | Free |
| Cancer Support Group | Varies | Feb. 2 | 11:00-12:00 noon | Craft Room | Free |
| Dementia Friendly Elko | $3{ }^{\text {rd }}$ Weds. | Feb. 21 | 1:00-2:00 p.m. | Technology Room | Free |
| Memoir Writing | $4^{\text {th }}$ Thurs. | Feb. 22 | 1:00-2:00 p.m. | Technology Room | Free |
| Golden Years Solutions Medicare | Varies | By Appt. | 11:00-1:00 | Díning Room | Free |
| Garden Club | Varies | Feb. 2 | 11:30 | Technology Room | Free |
| Nevada Legal Services | Varies | Feb. 14 | 10:00 a.m. $-12: 30$ p.m. | Office | Free |
| Dr. Patton's Podiatry | Varies | Mar. 28 | 1:00-3:30 p.m. | Podiatry Room | \$10.00 |
| Sunrise Toastmasters | F | Ongoing | 6:45 a.m. | Art Room | Free |
| Kiwanis | M | Ongoing | 12:00 noon | Technology Room | \$10.00 |
| Rotary (Noon Club) | W | Ongoing | 12:00 noon | Large Activity Room | \$10.00 |
| Rotary (Desert Sunrise) | Th | Ongoing | 6:30 a.m. | Dining Room | \$10.00 |




Evelyn L. Jones
January 10, 2024


Made Del Sarto
January 7, 2024


Charles "Chaz" Wright
December 22, 2023


Jean M. Popp
January 4, 2024


Bettie J. Gunter Tognini
December 28, 2023


Merlin McColm
December 12, 2023


Richard W. Sharp
November 17, 2023


Marilynn E. Huff
January 1, 2024


Ralph Paoli
December 8, 2023


Julian Ybarzabal
January 6, 2024


Giuliana Salicchi Murphy
December 23, 2023


Jean-Louis "Jean" Iribarne
December 4, 2023

# Plooto Fursol DT III $\bigcirc \longrightarrow$ 



Dressing for the occasion!
$\because$

"Now where did that piece go? I just had it!


No, this isn't the Elko Ballet Company, this is Tai Chi!

Would you prefer the Chef Salad or the Chicken Apple Salad?


Ready for Drive Through!

## Valentine's Day? Word Search



S W E E TH EA R TB LA D M I R E R B
$M \quad$ X E E R J D Z R K P DP $\quad$ P $\quad$ P
LT I N Z O K Q A L GU A V H D E O G M

H CH OC O LA TE T S TU OC D F R N
M E M HP Y U M N Z H TY E TV U R L E
F HA GO B N S C C Y P DA TE M I F F
$\begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllll}T & C & P & R & G & R & Z & B & P & E & W & R & G & N & H & E & R & F\end{array}$
DA C K TV NP A S S I O N V HE N I L
U O CI F R GO JV L F V L R L U DE O
J FA S CO A LX I F R R I E ND DO G N W
DC J S M S WO A N DB J X S K M V D E
CA N D Y E L V U E H R D F E F G G E R




LOVERS
HEART
DATE
HUG
FEBRUARY
CUPID

VALENTINE SWEETHEART
ADMIRER
ROMANCE
CHOCOLATE
PASSION

FRIEND
GIRLFRIEND
LOVE
KISS
BOYFRIEND
CANDY

CARD
PARTY
FLOWERS
BE MINE
ROSE
GIFT

FEB 01
ALLEN ANTHONY DONNA BAIR AARONDU PAMELALATTIN PRICE MONTROSE

FEB 02
CHUN HALING ANTHONYOBERN

FEB 03
JANICE BARTON JAMES DENNY VICKI KINNEY SUSAN STEFKA

KAROLAYN SWEDBERG SANDRA WILSON

FEB 04
MARYJEFFRESS JULIE LEVIE VICKY MATYS

FEB 05
CLARENCE FAULKNER
JOE KLUSEWITZ
BETTE JEAN
LONGDEN
LARRY SHAFFER CAROLL SIMS
DEBORAH TEAGUE
FEB 06
GENNIFER GREEN GARYTAYLOR

FEB 07
COLINCALICO
FEB 08
ROBERT NEITZ
CLYDE PHILLIPS
KIM WILLIS

FEB 09
LAWRENCE CARPENTER
TERIFEASEL
LYNN LIPPARELLI MARCIE WIESE

FEB 10
JAMES LEE
CHERYL POLL

FEB 11
KRIS SANDALL DANA YORGESEN

FEB 12
MATT BARRINGTON DAWN DAWSON JOHN MILLER ROSELYNE SMITH MARTHA WALLACE TILLIE WRIGHT

FEB 13
CHARLES SANDERS JOHN WEBB

FEB 14
DERRIL FRY BURKE HEREFORD BARBARASKINNER RULA WEBB

FEB 15 DENNIS GIERE STEVEN GRESS

FEB 16
BILLBAILEY SUE ELLEN NASH ROBERT SMITH SHERI WEAVER

FEB 17
JAN BAKER
CLIFFCHANDLER ORIENCOBB PAMELARAND LILLIAN SECRIST CYNTHIATALBOT

FEB 18
JAMES ELLISON RAMI KAWAR DENNIS
PETERSEN DANA PLUMB

FEB 19
WANDA KRENKA PRISCILLA O\& \# 3 ; DAY

FEB 20
CHARLIE BRANNEN FLOYD FISK EDGAR NICKEL DIANE QUENELL

FEB 21
JOYCEELLISON FRED TRIMPE JACQUELINE WILKINSON JAMES YROZ

## FEB 22

PHYLLIS BOYACK MICHELLE JONES

PO NG
TONY LEE PLATERIO

## FEB 23

RUTH AGEE
ROSELLA BANDORIO BILL BYINGTON HERLINDA CARRINO CYNTHIA MAZE

FEB 24
ROBERT ERICKSON ROBIN ERICKSON

FEB 26
JUDYBEIER
MELODY CRITCHLOW CHERYL GRESS
KAREN MARTIN
CHEUCKNG EVELYN REYNOLDS

FEB 25
BEB ANDRAE HELEN CHABOT MARYELLEN KOFFLER LINDA KRISKEY PADDYLEGARZA DOUG LOUCKS

FEB 27 JAMES HOLDREN

FEB 28 SALLYCOMPTON DAVID HIRST MARGARET PHILLIPS

## ITIEMS TO MRARUE NOTTE OF 



## Thank You!

WILLIAM N. PENNINGTON FOUNDATION NEVADA GOLD MINES HUNT \& AMP; SONS
WESTERN STATES PROPANE FAMILY DOLLAR ON MT. CITY HIGHWAY
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 2350


## H\&R BLOCK

It's that time of year! H\&R Block will be here every Wednesday starting January $24^{\text {th }}$ from 11:00 a.m.1:00 p.m. to help you prepare your tax forms with drop off service. You can also drop off your paperwork to H\&R Block with attention to Sheri Bowers. Call Sheri at 775-738-4026 for more information. the latest news \& activities facebook



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { \$ CASH PRIZES \$ } \\
& \text { Game Packets \$10 each }
\end{aligned}
$$

Each Packet - 10 games/ 3 cards per game Bingo Daubers Available for Purchase Must be 21 or older to play Please NO outside FOOD

# Snack \& Beverage Purchases Available <br> Spring Creek Thursday, <br> February 8th Wednesday, February 21st 

Doors open at $5 \mathrm{pm}-$ Game starts at 5:30 pm The Terrace at Ruby View

Doors open at 5:30 pm Game starts at 6 pm

SCA Boardroom
1795 Ruby View Dr. -

For more information please call us at 775-738-3030

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS BULLETIN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS BULLETIN

due to the president's day holiday, the date of the next board meeting is FEBRUARY 26,2023 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE; ALWAYS CHECK FOR THE AGENDA). WE WILL MEET IN-PERSON AND, PER REQUEST, PROVIDE ZOOM ACCESS. PLEASE SUBMIT THE REQUEST ONE Week Prior to the Meeting. Check the website Under borrd to get the AGenda information. the minutes from the LAst few meetings will also be posted.
they Are in pdfformat so you will need adobe reader (or Another type of pdf PROGRAM, IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO READ IT). IF YOU NEED A HARD COPY, YOU CAN ALWAYS

CALL THE CENTER AT 775-738-3030 TO REQUEST A COPY. ALL OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE BOARD HAVE CONTACT INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THE WEBSITE UNDER BOARDS. PLEASE Feel free tor reach out to any of them If you have Questions or concerns, or even SUGGESTIONS! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AS WE WORK TO PROVIDE THE BEST SERVICE POSSIBLE.


## For the Best Lunch in Town!

Lunch Meals are served Monday - Friday, between 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Diners over the age of 60 -suggested $\$ 3.00$ donation. For diners under the age of 60 , the cost of the meal is $\$ 10.00$.

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Trappy <br> 1 alenline | Day! | 1 <br> Meatloaf Baked Potato Green Beans Caesar Salad Jello Poke Cake | 2 <br> BBQ Beef Sandwich Whole Wheat Bun Corn Potato Salad Citrus Delight |
| 5 <br> Chicken Cacciatore <br> Roasted Potatoes Squash <br> Tossed Salad Pineapple Chunks Sugar Cookie | 6 <br> Baked Pork Chop Whipped Sweet Pot Lima Beans \& Peas Mixed Green Salad Grapes Tapioca Pudding | 7 <br> Baked Fish Brown Rice Mixed Vegetables Garden Salad Tropical Fruit Leman Bar | 8 <br> Cheeseburger Lettuce \& Tomato French Fries 3 Bean Salad Peaches Ice Cream | 9 <br> Pizza <br> Italian Pasta Salad Carrot \& Celery Sticks Mandarin Oranges Assorted Dessert |
| 12 <br> Mambo Pork Roast Wild Rice Broccoli <br> Tossed Salad <br> Cantaloupe <br> Peanut Butter Fudge Cookie | 13 <br> Minestrone Soup Chicken Salad Sandwich Carrot \& Celery Sticks Banana Jello | 14 <br> Sweet Heart Spaghetti <br> Green Beans <br> Caesar Salad <br> Garlic Breadstick <br> Strawberry Shortcake | 15 <br> Oven Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Edamame Green Salad Fruit Cocktail Sundae Bar Sponsored by Tim Hatch from Edward Jones | 16 <br> Pulled Pork Sandwich Whole Wheat Bun Baked Beans Corn Tomatoes Vinaigrette Applesauce Assorted Dessert |
| 19 <br> Closed for PRESIDENT'S DAY | 20 <br> Swiss Steak Parsley Potatoes Winter Blend Vegetables Spinach Salad Peach Crisp | 21 <br> Santa Fe Chicken Aztec Grain Mixed Vegetables Tossed Salad Mandarin Oranges Chocolate Chip Cookie | 22 <br> Hot Dogs Baked Beans Sauerkraut Macaroni Salad Cake \& Ice Crearn | 23 <br> Lemon Baked Fish Wild Rice Peas Tossed Salad Grapes <br> Assorted Dessert |
| 26 <br> Chili Cornbread Mixed Green Salad Pineapple Oatmeal Raisin Cookie | 27 <br> Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole Beet Salad Cantaloupe Chunks Apricot Bran Muffin | 28 <br> BBQ Pork Ribs Au Gratin Potatoes Sunshine Carrots Tossed Salad Ambrosia | 29 <br> Chicken in Orange Sauce Brown Rice Spring Salad Pineapple w/ Poppyseed Frog-eye Salad |  |

The Terrace at Ruby View | 775-738-3030 1795 Ruby View Dr. Elko | www.elkoseniors.org

Drive Thru \& Chef or Chicken Apple
Salad order before 9:00 am
*Menu is Tentative

## Important Dates：

February－National Cancer Prevention Month
Feb．1－National Dark Chocolate Day
Feb． 2 －World Introvert Day
Feb． 4 －Start of Boy Scouts Anniversary Week
Feb．3－National Trivia Day
Feb． 5 －National Bird Day
Feb． 8 －National English Toffee Day
Feb．9－Natl．Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
Feb． 10 －National Bittersweet Chocolate Day
Feb． 11 －National Milk Day
Feb． 12 －National Pharmacist Day
Feb． 13 －National Rubber Ducky Day
Feb． 14 －Alzheimer＇s \＆Dementia Care Edu．Week
Feb． 14 －Ratification Day
Feb． 15 －Martin Luther King，Jr．Day
Feb． 15 －National Hat Day
Feb． 17 －National Random Acts of Kindness Day
Feb． 21 －Start of World Kiwanis Week
Feb． 24 －Global Belly Laugh Day
Feb． 25 －Start of Tax Identity Theft Week


NEWSLETTERS BROUGHT TO YOU WITH THE HELP OF OUR AMAZING NEWSLETTER TEAM！
THEY HELP US SORT，PREP，FOLD， ORGANIZE，\＆ MORE THANK YOU！


 TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 170．C．OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 ， 26 U．S．C． $170 . C$ ．PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR ACCOUNTANT．


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# The Benefits of Eating With Others: Connecting Nutrition and Socialization for Better Health 

## THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF EATING TOGETHER

Studies show that people who dine with others regularly eat healthier and report a better quality of life. It provides a sense of structure and belonging while offering greater opportunities for improved nutrition. Coming together over a meal can also provide meaningful ways to connect with others over shared beliefs and cultural interests. Benefits may include:

## Physical Health

- Improved nutrition
- Reduced risk of chronic conditions
- Better mobility



## Mental Health

- Increased self-care
- Sense of well-being
- Reduced anxiety and depression


## Social Health

- Opportunities to connect
- Stronger relationships

- Reduced Ioneliness


## REDUCED HUNGER IS MORE COMMON AS WE AGE

As a result, some older adults skip meals or eat in an unbalanced manner when eating alone. When we eat with others, our nutrition intake improves. Examples may include:

Eating better overall
or certain food groups like protein and vegetables.

Consuming more calories
to provide needed energy.


Taking in more nutrients
like iron, calcium, and folate.

## Sources cited

- Gender differences in longevity in free-living older adults who eat-with-others: A prospective study in Taiwan. 2017.
- A systematic review and meta-analysis of the social facilitation of eating. 2019.
- Social influences and eating behavior in later life: a review. 2011.
- "You've got to be old to go there:" psychosocial barriers and facilitators to social eating in older adults. 2020.
- Living alone but eating together: exploring lunch clubs as a dining out experience. 2017.
- Eating along or together among community-living older people - a scoping review. 2021.



## Love is in the air!

By Natalie Mazzullo, M.Ed.

It's February and love is in the air. Or is it? Since Covid19 we may still be a little leery of touching others even just a simple handshake could spread bacteria, germs, or viruses. And hugs, have those been brought back? I can tell you I do miss a good hug!

In a 2016 publication for families and caregivers on "Understanding the Effects of Aging on the Sensory System," our friends at Oklahoma State Extension have this to say about our sense of touch: "The skin is the largest organ of the body and has millions of nerve endings. People thrive on stimulation through touch; without it, humans often feel a longing or aching. Touching doesn't have to involve hugging. Just a simple pat on the shoulder or arm can communicate that someone cares. Those caring for older adults can communicate love through the sense of touch by giving a gentle back rub, rubbing lotions to dry skin or brushing the hair. Offering your arm to help someone who may be a bit unsteady walking helps to satisfy the need for touch. Even a pet that might sit on the lap or rub around the legs can fulfill the need for touch. The sense of touch may be the most important of the senses, yet the most neglected. We can survive without sight, hearing, taste, or smell, but without touch, we are at great risk of mental breakdown."

For the $14.3 \%$ of older adults living alone that the State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division reported in its Elders Count Nevada 2021 Report, it may mean thinking outside the box.

Natalie Mazzullo is the Healthy Aging Initiative Coordinator at the University of Nevada, Reno Extension, a unit of the University's College of Agriculture, Biotechnology \& Natural Resources.

Here are some ideas:

- A friend of mine, who happens to be a nail technician, suggested a gift certificate or provide a hand massage or manicure which is a great way to add a human touch and a little pampering - to an older adult's life!
- Offer or gift a hair wash and blow dry or shampoo and shave.
- Give a high five, fist or elbow bump to offer encouragement.
- Place your arm around someone, with their permission, to offer comfort or empathy.
- Watch a movie and share a bowl of popcorn, which is sometimes just close enough to feel the benefits of the human touch.
- If you have friends, family, and loved ones who are hand holders a good walk while handholding is excellent medicine so to speak and will keep you a little warmer this winter.

Although as we get older love may look different, it is still in the air this February. Embrace how love looks now. Try some creative sensory touch today!
> "Hugs, holding hands and other physical gestures of affection have the potential to ease our minds, make us feel less isolated, and reduce stress and anxiety. The need for constant touches may fade as we grow older but the feelings certain touches invoke do not."

- Unknown


## Making Healthy Choices: One Day at a Time Breakfast

Small changes in our diets to more nutrient-dense food and beverage choices, especially when combined, become a nutrientdense meal or snack. Nutrient-dense foods are foods that have a high amount of nutrients per calorie, such as vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and phytochemicals. These foods can help boost immunity, supporting our overall health and wellbeing. Sometimes it only takes a small shift to make a more nutrient-dense choices. By making some simple swaps in your favorite recipes, you can easily boost the nutrient density of your meals and snacks.

The following breakfast example, at 375 calories, shows us how we can make thoughtful choices that meet our food group needs, staying within our personal limits, and, most importantly, that we can enjoy. Give it a try!


## Breakfast <br> Total calories: 375

- Banana-Walnut Overnight Oats (350 calories):
» Oats ( $1 / 2$ cup raw)
» Low-fat, plain Greek yogurt ( $1 / 4$ cup)
» Fat-free milk ( $1 / 4$ cup)
» Banana ( $1 / 2$ banana)
» Walnuts (4 nuts)
» Honey (1 tsp)
- Coffee (25 calories):
» Coffee (1 cup)
» Fat-free milk ( $1 / 4$ cup)


## Making Healthy Choices: One Day at a Time Lunch

Nutrient-dense foods are not only good for your body, but also for your mind, as they can enhance your mood, energy and cognitive skills. The following lunch example, which comes in at just 715 calories, shows choices that are delicious while helping your body and mind. If you don't have all the ingredients listed, use these guidelines to create something you will enjoy with the ingredients you do have available. Be creative and explore more choices and combinations!

## Lunch

Total calories: 715

## - Chicken Burrito Bowl (710 calories)

» Brown rice (1 cup)
» Romaine lettuce ( $1 / 2$ cup)
» Black beans, low sodium ( $1 / 3$ cup)
» Grilled chicken with spice rub (2 ounces)
» Grilled vegetables ( $1 / 3$ cup)
» Sliced avocado (5 slices)
» Fresh salsa/Pico de Gallo (11/4 cup)
» Reduced-fat cheese ( $1 / 3$ cup)
» Jalapeño (5 slices)

- Iced Tea, No Sugar (16 ounces) (5 calories)


Next month read about Making Healthy Choices: One Day at a Time Dinner.
Visit DietaryGuidelines.gov for more from the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2020-2025.

## Medicare.gov



Happy New Year! Searching for ways to stay on top of your health in 2024?

People with Medicare Part D (drug coverage) can now get even more covered vaccines, including vaccines for RSV, shingles, whooping cough, and more to help keep you healthy in the new year.

Medicare also covers many preventive and screening services. These services can help keep you from getting sick, and can help find health problems early when treatment is most likely to work best. Talk to your doctor about which ones might be right for you.

See What's Covered

If you have Original Medicare (Part A and/or Part B), log into your secure Medicare account to see a personalized list of current and upcoming preventive services. If you don't already have an account, it's free - and easy - to sign up.

If you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan, contact your plan for a list of covered preventive services. MA Plans must cover all the same preventive services as Original Medicare, and some may offer additional services.

Here's to your health in the new year!
Sincerely,

