

For Active Adults | 60+ Forever Young

CENTER INFORMATION

245 N. 200 W. St. George, UT 84770 phone: 435.634.5743 web: <u>http://</u> coa.washco.utah.gov/st-george/

Facebook: <u>https://</u> <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>StGeorgeActiveLifeCenter/</u>

HOURS

Tuesday -Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Closed Saturday thru Monday)

LUNCH

BEGINNING MAY 4TH

Tuesday -Friday 11:30 am -12:30 pm Suggested Donation \$3.00

THRIFT SHOPPE' AND BOUTIQUE

Tuesday -Friday 9:30 am - 1: 30pm We take donations!

CENTER STAFF

Supervisor: Jeanie Johnson Meals on Wheels: Linda Dial-a-Ride: Deanna Bringhurst Director: Jacob Browning



May 2021

ON THE FOURTH, THE THINGS YOU WILL SEE. OTHER PLACES. THE FUTURE. THE PAST. - YODA (SORT OF)

A LONG TIME AGO, IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY, THE ST. GEORGE ACTIVE LIFE CENTER WAS FORCED TO CLOSE THEIR DOORS DUE TO AN EVIL ILLNESS THAT WAS SPREADING THROUGHOUT THE STAR SYSTEM. FEW HAD HOPE THAT THERE WOULD EVER BE A TIME WHEN THE CENTER WOULD OPEN AGAIN. HOWEVER, AFTER BATTLING THE FORCES OF DARKNESS WITH SOCIAL DISTANC-ING, MASK WEARING, AND VACCINATIONS, THE LIGHT OF HOPE RETURNED TO THE GALAXY.

AND THERE WAS MUCH JOY. AND LUNCH. AND YOGA.

May 4th is OPENING DAY, ya'll! Business as usual, for the most part. Almost all classes are back (check the schedule to see if your favorites have changed days or times), and lunch will be served in the dining room (with fewer seats, spaced further apart). Please be patient as the staff and instructors work through the technical details that may arise. We are so excited to see everyone!

P.S. We need some volunteers to help out in the Thrift Shoppe on Wednesday or Thursday, and in the dining room during lunch. Please contact Jeanie Johnson at 435-634-5743 for more information.

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Our community features an environment rich in daily activities; all day restaurant style dining; 24-hour staffing & emergency response; shuttle and appointment transportation; housekeeping & laundry services; beauty salon & barber shop; gym & exercise programs; library & garden areas!



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Dial-a-Ride

Need a ride to a medical appointment, to pick up a prescription or groceries?

CALL DIAL-A-RIDE 435-256-6343

Between 8:00 am—12:00 pm, or leave a message anytime!

Please State Clearly:

- 1) First & last name, telephone number, and home address.
- Date & time you would like to be picked up at home.
- 3) Destination name, with complete address.
- 4) Appointment time (if applicable).
- 5) Time you would like to be picked up and taken home.
- 6) Any special condition such as mobility aids or personal attendant travelling with you.

Transportation Available Tuesday through Friday 9:30 am—2:30 pm

PLEASE SCHEDULE AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE!

SUGGESTED DONATION:

\$3.00 ONE WAY, or \$5.00 ROUND TRIP.



4 For Your Health

MANAGING CHRONIC ILLNESS—DEMENTIA

Understanding Dementia

Each evening, as the sun goes down, I watch as my grandmother transforms into a different person. She becomes restless, anxious, and paranoid; she is convinced we are stealing from her and that we are untrustworthy. In these moments, Grandma no longer recognizes me and I have difficulty reassuring her. These symptoms are the calling cards of dementia, a disease that is heartbreaking and overwhelming for both the person affected and their caregivers.

What is Dementia?

Dementia is a broad term that encompasses several types of brain diseases, of which Alzheimer's disease is the most common. It is degenerative, which means it becomes worse with time, and there is no cure. Healthy brains rely on nerve cells (neurons) to communicate and transmit signals that allow us to think, learn, problem-solve, and make memories. With dementia, these connections are damaged by the build-up of betaamyloid protein fragments outside of the neuron, and by accumulation of twisted strands of tau protein inside of the neurons¹. These plaques and tangles eventually cause the death of neurons and damage brain tissue.

Prevention

There is no single specific activity that will protect you from developing dementia, but research indicates that keeping cognitively, physically, and socially active in midlife and later life is important. Those with depression are at a higher risk for cognitive impairment, and should have routine screenings for changes. Controlling other known risk factors, including high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, and obesity, have been implicated in delaying disease development². Some studies also indicate a link between gut health and brain health, and suggest that having a less diverse gut microbiome can contribute to amyloid plaques depositing in the brain more easily³.

<u>Management</u>

The number of people living with dementia approximately doubles every five years⁴ and the majority live in their homes with family, so support and education for caregivers is vital. Behavioral and psychological symptoms are common in dementia, and management can be difficult. The most successful programs utilize multiple

interventions, tailored to the unique needs of the person with dementia and their caregivers. Generally, clinicians prefer to try non-pharmacological approaches first, to avoid or delay the use of medications. People with dementia also have more hospital admissions than other older adults, including for illnesses that are potentially manageable at home⁵, so routine assessments from skilled providers are key.

Who Can Help?

Dixie Home Rehab, Palliative, and Hospice knows that caring for someone with dementia is no easy task, and it is important to surround yourself with as much support as possible. They can provide you with the needed education, skills training, and clinical support to give your loved one the highest quality of life. Dixie Home Rehab, Palliative, and Hospice has services to assist at any stage of a dementia diagnosis, in the convenience of your home. Please call (435) 628-8347 for a free consultation.

Logan Winterton, RN, BSN



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Scammers are using a new trick to steal your money and personal information: a bogus COVID vaccine survey. People across the country are reporting getting emails and texts out of the blue, asking them to complete a limited-time survey about the Pfizer, Moderna, or AstraZeneca vaccine. (And no doubt, there may be one for Johnson & Johnson, too.) In exchange, people are offered a free reward, but asked to pay shipping fees.

If you get an email or text like this, STOP. It's a scam.



No legitimate surveys ask for your credit card or bank account number to pay for a "free" reward.

If you get an email or text you're not sure about:

- Don't click on any links or open attachments. Doing so could install harmful malware that steals your personal information without you realizing it.
- Don't call or use the number in the email or text. If you want to call the company that supposedly sent the message, look up its phone number online.

Remember:

- Don't give your bank account, credit card, or personal information to someone who contacts you out of the blue.
- You can filter unwanted text messages on your phone, through your wireless provider, or with a call-blocking app.
- If you get an email or text that asks for your personal information and you think it could be a scam, tell the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov.

MY CHOICE IS



CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ASSESSMENT

- Allow patient to remain at home
- Physical and psychosocial care
- Communicate with physician, patients and caregiver

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6 For Your Health

4 LEADING HIP FRACTURE RISKS FOR OLDER ADULTS



Experiencing a broken hip is painful at any age. It often requires surgery to repair the damage and can even result in life-threatening health complications. The hip fracture itself isn't usually the real problem. The culprit is the chain reaction of health issues older adults often experience after breaking a hip.

The risk for losing your life after a hip fracture increases even for adults as young as age 50. From infections to pneumonia, 1 in 3 people who break a hip will die from complications within a year. Almost everyone knows an older adult who never really recovered after they broke a hip.

Here's a look at what we know about hip fractures, and how you can lower your risk for suffering one.

The Facts About Hip Fractures

The statistics on broken hips among adults over the age of 65 are eye opening. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), adults over the age of 65 don't fare well if they experience a fall or other accident that results in a hip fracture:

- 300,000 seniors a year experience a broken hip
- 75 percent of hip fractures occur in women
- 95 percent of hip fractures are the result of a fall
- 50 percent of these falls happen at home What can you do to prevent a hip fracture?

We have some suggestions that might help lower your odds of a broken hip.

4 Tips for Reducing the Risk for a Hip Fracture

1. Get screened for osteoporosis

The risk for developing osteoporosis increases with age. It's a condition many people aren't aware they have until they experience a fracture of some kind. There are screening tests your physician can order to identify if you have osteoporosis or the precursor for it known

as osteopenia. By undergoing routine bone density screenings, you may be able to avoid osteoporosis. Diet, exercise, and other lifestyle choices can all play a role.

2. Schedule a home safety audit

Falls are the leading cause of broken hips, and most happen in a senior's private residence. That's why it's a good idea to take an objective look at your home inside and out — to identify potential hazards. If you aren't sure how to do this, ask your primary care physician for advice. They may have a checklist or online tool you can use. A physician may also recommend a physical or occupational therapist who offers this service to older adults. Check with your insurance provider to see if it is covered.

3. Have regular vision exams

Another risk factor for experiencing a broken hip is a vision impairment. Vision loss increases the odds for a fall, which in turn increases the risk for experiencing a broken hip. Whether it's glaucoma, cataracts, or another issue, vision changes are common with aging. That's why it's important to see the eye doctor regularly. By undergoing a yearly vision exam, you give the eye doctor an opportunity to identify and intervene in problems early.

4. Engage in strength and balance exercises

Core strength and good balance keep you limber and flexible no matter what your age. Both help lower your risk for a disabling fall. If you don't already exercise on a regular basis, talk with your physician for advice on getting started. They'll likely recommend a program that incorporates both aerobic activities, as well as strength training. The article "Seven Kinds of Exercise for Seniors" on page 14 has some ideas to consider.

Monthly Events

AARP Driver Safety Class—Driving class has been canceled until September 2021.

9:00 am—1:00 pm. For more information, contact Victor Lorch at (435) 772-5620. Class size is limited. NO WALK INS!

Dixie Poets

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 1:30—3:30pm

Free Attorney Service

Wednesday, May 5th at 2:00 pm; Thursday, May 13th at 1:30 pm; Thursday, May 27th at 1:30 pm. Please make an appointment with Linda.

Ladies Bridge

3rd Thursday of each month from 12:00—4:00 pm.

Parkinson's Meeting

For caregivers and people with Parkinson's. 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am.

LECTURES AND EVENTS

Love One Another Class

Taught by Pat Sapio, this event will be held May through August. Starting Thursday May 6th @10:00 -11:30 am. More information on page 15.



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.lpicommunities.com

St. George Utah Senior, St. George, UT D 4C 05-1049

⁸ Activities List

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	DAY(S)	TIME	DONATION
Acrylics Painting	Learn interesting techniques to paint photo-realistic style art, using acrylic paints. All levels welcome.	Wednesday	1:00—3:30	\$2.00
Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	Activities also include endurance- building activities, balance exercises, and relaxation techniques.	Tuesday	10:45-12:00	\$1.00
Ballet	Beginning ballet consists of barre ex- ercises to improve core strength, flex- ibility, and coordination.	Thursday	11:00—12:15	\$1.00
Billiards (open play)	We have two billiards tables available.	Tuesday—Friday	9:00—3:55	\$1.00
Bingo (60+ only)	Join us for fun rounds of bingo! You must be 60 or older to play.	Friday	10:00—11:30	_
Blood Pressure/ Sugar Screening	Canceled Until Further Notice Please be fasting for sugar screening test	Thursday	9:00—11:00	_
Cardio Drumming	This fun class is a full-body cardio and core strengthening workout, complete with rhythmic drumming.	Thursday	9:00—10:00	\$1.00
Cardio Floor & Strength Training	Cardiovascular fitness moves with basic dance steps and light hand weights.	Tuesday	1:30-2:25	\$1.00
Ceramics	Bring your own bisque or green ware, or purchase items in class. We have our own kiln. All levels welcome.	Tuesday (instructor) Wed/Thurs/Fri (open)	12:30—3:30 10:00—3:30	\$2.00
Computer Support	This is a drop-in clinic for anyone that needs help with computers.	Tuesday—Friday	9:00—11:30	\$2,00
Five Crowns Card Game	Five Crowns is a progressive rummy- style game that has five suits.	Wednesday	12:00—1:30	\$1.00
Grief Support Group	A safe place to express feelings and thoughts as well as learn healthy coping mechanisms.	Wednesday	2:00—3:30	\$1.00
Hand and Foot Card Game	A Canasta variant involving four to six decks rather than two and is played by teams of two players.	Wednesday and Friday	9:00—11:30	\$1.00
Healthy Posture	This is an exercise class to help with good posture.	Tuesday	2:30—3:30	\$1.00
Knitting and Crocheting	Meet other like-minded people and turn your yarn into something spec- tacular. Any handiwork.	Tuesday	1:00—3:00	\$1.00
Line Dancing— Advanced	This is the most difficult level of line- dancing classes we offer.	Thursday	1:30—3:30	\$1.00
Line Dancing— Beginning	We do all kinds of line dances to all different kinds of music. Tempos range from the cha-cha to the waltz.	Wednesday	9:00—10:30	\$1.00
Line Dancing— intermediate	Same as beginner level, but with dances rated "improver" or "high be- ginner."	Tuesday	9:00—10:30	\$1.00

Activities List

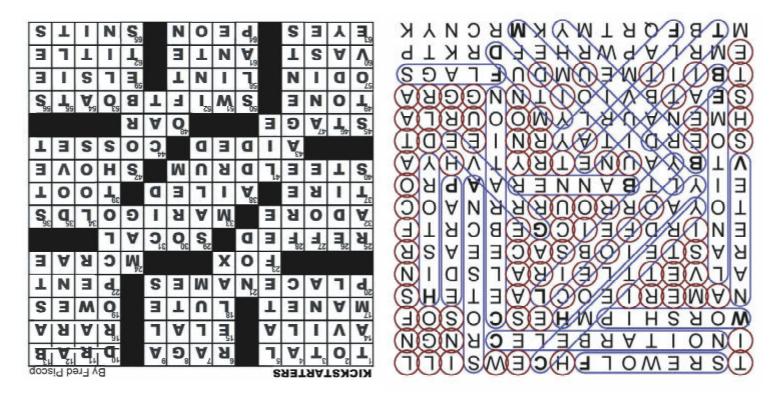
9

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	DAY(S)	TIME	DONATION
Long-term Medical Question	Get some answers to your questions regarding long term medical care and insurance,	1ST Wednesday of month	12:30	\$1.00
Mat-less Yoga	This seated class offers range of mo- tion exercises, working on flexibility, balance, and breathing.	Tuesday (new day starts in June)	10:30—11:30	\$1.00
Oil Painting	This class is for all levels of painters. Work on projects, learn new tech- niques.	Tuesday	9:00—3:00	\$2.00
Party Bridge	A trick-taking game using a standard 52-card deck.	Wednesday & Friday	12:00—3:00	\$1.00
Pickleball	Pickleball is a paddle sport that com- bines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis.	Wednesday—Friday	1:30—4:00	\$1.00
Pinochle	A trick-taking card game typically for two to four players and played with a 48 card deck.	Wednesday & Thursday	12:30—3:00	\$1.00
Social Singles	This is a group for planning friendship- based outings with other seniors.	Friday	12:30—1:30	\$1.00
Stretch Class	Gentle stretching for the entire body, head to feet.	Thursday	10:00—11:00	\$1.00
Table Tennis	Paddles are provided. We have tables available.	Tuesday	9:00—12:00	\$1.00
Tai Chi	This is a great class for beginners and involves gentle stretching, breathing, and meditation in motion.	Wednesday	10:30—11:30	\$1.00
Tap—Beginning	Will resume in September	Wednesday	12:30—1:30	\$1.00
Tap—Intermediate	Will resume in September	Wednesday	1:30—2:30	\$1.00
Tap—Advanced	Will resume in September	Wednesday	2:30—3:30	\$1.00
Ukulele Class	Learn to play the ukulele with an ex- perienced instructor.	Thursday	2:-00-3:00	\$1.00
Watercolor Painting	From beginner to advanced painters are welcome in this class.	Thursday	11:30—3:30	\$2.00
Wii Bowling	Players interact with the gaming sys- tem by a remote control to simulate playing sports or engaging in exercise.	Thursday	1:00—2:00	\$1.00
Yoga	Yoga combines physical and mental disciplines to achieve a peaceful and strong body and mind.	Tuesday	9:00—10:30	\$1.00
Yoga (Gentle Stretch)	Similar to regular yoga with an em- phasis on stretching.	Friday	9:00-10:00	\$1.00

10 Fun and Games

FreeDailyCrosswords.com Solution on page 11 ACROSS -DOWN 1) Pack tightly 1) Completely wreck 39) Short blast 6) Hindu melody 40) Jamaican band instrument 2) Amphitheater shape 3) Fey of "30 Rock" 10) Like khakis 42) Be rude in line 4) Baldwin of "30 Rock" 14) Walled city of Spain 43) Was helpful to 15) Airline with a King David 44) Treat as a pet 5) Library assessment Club 45) Play area? Kick back 16) avis 48) Stroke's need 7) Reunion attendee 17) "Olympia" painter Edouard 49) Manner of expression 8) Scandal suffix 18) Pear-shaped instrument 50) Vietnam-era naval vessels Hoppy brews 19) Has a mortgage, e.g. 10) Painters' protective measures 57) Father of Thor 20) Atlas map data 58) Navel fluff 11) Less polished 22) Confined, with "up" 59) Borden "spokescow" 12) Fight site 23) Henhouse raider 60) Far-reaching 13) Keep from drying out 24) Carmen of jazz 61) Penny, maybe Gesture of concession 25) Called a game 62) Champion's claim 24) Kiosk item, for short 25) Charlie Brown epithet 29) Golden State region, for 63) Keeps a watch on short 64) Lowly type 26) Make cuts, say 32) Love dearly 65) Foul moods 27) Yell after a slice, perhaps 33) Yellow or orange blooms 28) Those not under contract 37) Get pooped out 29) Toast word 38) Had the blahs 30) City near Provo 31) Spanish hero El 33) Mucky stuff 34) London lavatories 35) Bird on Woodstock posters KICKSTARTERS By Fred Piscop 10 12 36) "Leave it," to a proofreader 38) Use a postscript 15 16 14 41) Doctored account 42) Light frozen desserts 18 19 17 44) Scratching post user 45) Potbelly, for one 20 21 22 46) Right now 47) Biscotti flavoring 24 48) "Come here ?" 50) High five sound 51) Sommelier's suggestion 32 33 34 35 52) Division word 53) Lena of "Havana" 37 38 39 54) Sparkling wine, informally 40 41 42 55) Pinball flub 56) Goes out with 43 47 49 50 51 52 53 57 58 59 61 60 62 63 64

F U





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St. George Utah Senior, St. George, UT E 4C 05-1049

12 Fun and Games

Solution on page 11

MEMORIAL DAY

Find the words in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.

TSREWOLFHCEWSILL INOITARBELECRNGN WORSHIPMHESCOSOF NAMERIEOCLAETEHS ALVETTLEIRALSDIN RASTEIOBSACEEASR ENIRDFEICGEBCRTF TOYAORROURRRNAOC EIYLTBANNERAAPRO V T B Y A U N E T R Y T V H Y A SOERDITAYRNIEEDT HMENAURLYMOOURLA SEATBVIOITNNGGRA TBIITMEUMDUFLAGS EMRLAPWRHEFDRKTP MTBFQRTMYKMRCNYK

By Evelyn Johnson - www.qets.com

Duty	Holiday	
Emotional	Liberty	
Family	Memorial	
Flags	Parade	
Flowers	Tribute	
Grave	Veteran	
History	Worship	
	Emotional Family Flags Flowers Grave	

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Dixie Home Rehab offers skilled home health services and is the only company in Southern Utah that specializes in therapy-driven care for orthopedic patients. We are the area's highest-rated rehab service and employ the most experienced staff in the region.

Phone: 435-628-8347

Dixie Palliative bridges the gap between home health and hospice. We work closely with patients' physicians to coordinate optimal and ongoing treatment for serious, chronic, and life-threatening illnesses. Phone: 435-673-2051

Dixie Hospice provides complete and uninterrupted home health

care for as long as the patient requires.

Signs that hospice may be needed:

Weight Loss • Terminal Illness • Rapid Physical and/or Functional Decline & Disease Progression • Increased Visits to the ER, Hospital or Doctor • Increased Dependence for ADLs (at least 2) • Progression of Cognitive Impairment • Progression Pressure Ulcers in Spite of Optimal Care • Recurrent UTIs & Other Infections • Recurrent Falls

Phone: 435-627-2724

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14 Home & Lifestyle

SEVEN KINDS OF EXERCISE FOR SENIORS



Exercise is important at every stage in life. It is essential for cardiovascular fitness, diabetes prevention or management, and maintaining muscle tone and core strength. Working out has proven benefits for not only your physical health but also your mental and emotional well-being. Regular exercise allows you to sleep better, manage stress, maintain stronger bones, and protect brain health. It also helps promote better balance, which results in fewer falls among older adults. What types of exercise should you explore if you are a senior?

We have a few suggestions for you to consider and learn more about.

1. Walking. While walking may not seem like a very strenuous fitness activity, it is an excellent form of exercise. It can decrease stress and improve balance and cardiovascular health. And it requires only a pair of sturdy walking shoes to get started. Check the walking tips website listed at the bottom of this article as you begin your walking program.

2. Go4Life. If you prefer a more goal-oriented, structured exercise program, consider Go4Life. This free program, created by the National Institute on Aging at NIH, makes it easier to focus on fitness. It offers a variety of fitness resources for seniors, from workout videos to tools for tracking goals and progress.

3. Swimming. Another great form of exercise for older adults is swimming. If your local fitness center offers what is referred to as a warm therapy pool, all the better. It is easy on older joints and may be especially beneficial for those who suffer from osteoarthritis. Swimming also helps you relax and sleep better.

4. Yoga. One of the best things about yoga for seniors is how easy it is to practice from a seated position. Chair yoga helps build strength and endurance, while also protecting balance and mobility. Each of these is es-

sential for avoiding falls.

5. Tai Chi. Tai chi is an exercise that combines slow, graceful movements with breath control. Because it is gentle, it is an excellent option for seniors who are just starting to incorporate exercise into their routine.

6. SilverSneakers. Participating in a fitness class designed for seniors can be less intimidating than exercising on your own, especially when you are first getting started. Many insurance companies offer their clients memberships to local fitness centers through a program known as SilverSneakers. Visit the SilverSneakers website to instantly check your eligibility and learn more.

7. Cycling. One final suggestion to explore is bike riding. It's a terrific way to enjoy the great outdoors. But for days when it's rainy or snowing, an alternate solution is an exercise bike. You can likely find a good used one for a reasonable price.

Talk with Your Doctor First

If you've been living a fairly sedentary life, we suggest you discuss each of these options with your primary care physician. They can help you set safe, realistic goals for beginning your exercise program.

RESOURCE LINKS:

Walking Tips: <u>https://uhs.berkeley.edu/health-topics/</u> exercise-starting-walking-program

SilverSneakers: <u>https://tools.silversneakers.com/</u>

Go4Life: <u>https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/exercise-physical-activity</u>

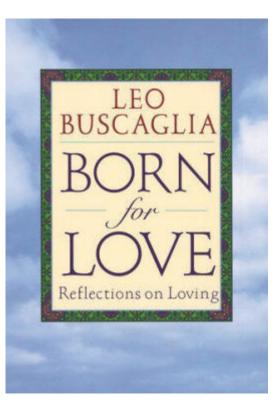
Lifes H ome

LOVE ONE ANOTHER CLASS—STARTING IN MAY

Our class is a continuation of get-togethers where we each have an opportunity to listen and to share responses to pages from the book, "Born for Love," by Leo Buscaglia.

Our class will be facilitated by Patrick Sapio, who has been involved with this class since September of 2003.

We will not talk about religion or politics. Participants can remain quiet and not talk, even though we encourage sharing. Come check in on us every Thursday, May through August, from 10:00-11:30 am.





16 Food & Nutrition

ARE VEGAN AND VEGETARIAN DIETS HEALTHY AT ALL AGES?



Safety and Plant-Based Diets

Are vegan and vegetarian diets safe? It's a question asked by more older adults than younger ones. Most health experts believe adopting a completely plantbased diet is healthy for most people. The exception is growing children — that's because these diets can come up short in a few key nutrients.

Those who limit food intake to fruits and vegetables may develop deficiencies in protein, iron, calcium, and vitamin B12 over the long run. This is especially true for growing children. If you are considering adding more plant-based meals to your diet, or completely switching to vegan or vegetarian meals, it may help to know which foods meet vegan requirements while still being good sources of protein, calcium, iron, and vitamin B12, such as:

- <u>Calcium</u>: With thoughtful planning, you can still serve plant-based meals that are rich in calcium. Foods with a good amount of calcium include fortified milk alternatives, such as soy milk, almond milk, and cashew milk. Fortified orange juice is another, as is tofu. Calcium is naturally found in few foods, but those that do contain it are broccoli, beans, leafy greens, almonds, sesame seeds, and soybeans.
- <u>Iron</u>: You can add iron to your menus by incorporating soy nuts, tofu, kale, spinach, and beans into the soups and salads you serve. Peanut butter is also high in iron and easy to add to snacks.
- <u>Protein</u>: If you want to increase protein in plantbased menus, good choices to include are lentils, beans, quinoa, oatmeal, buckwheat, tofu, whole grains, nuts, and nut butters.

 <u>Vitamin B12</u>: This one is a little tougher. It's why vegans and vegetarians often need to take a vitamin B12 supplement. But you can increase B12 by utilizing nutritional yeast and serving fortified foods and beverages like soy or almond milk, orange juice, and cereals.

Benefits of Plant-Based Meals

When your diet is free from fast foods, trans fats, and animal products, and rich with fruits and vegetables, you consume more fiber, vitamins, and minerals. It's a combination that promotes a healthier heart. Vegans tend to reap more health benefits than vegetarians.

According to research published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, vegans are less likely to be obese and more likely to have healthier cholesterol levels and lower blood pressure. Because vegans don't eat meat products and tend to consume more fiber, it's believed they are at lower risk for many kinds of cancer, including colorectal and prostate cancer.

ForksOverKnives (<u>www.forksoverknives.com/</u> <u>recipes/</u>) and EatingWell (<u>www.eatingwell.com</u>) both have recipes and meal plans you might find useful as you explore the idea of adding more vegan and vegetarian options to your menus.

(Article courtesy of https:// www.lpicommunities.com/blog)

Check out the plant-based recipes on the following two pages! They're delicious!

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BERRY BANANA SMOOTHIE BOWLS (recipe and photo from ForksOverKnives.com)

INGREDIENTS

 $1\!\!/_2$ to $2\!\!/_3$ cup unsweetened, unflavored plant milk, such as almond, oat, soy, cashew, or rice

- 1 tablespoon pure maple syrup
- 1 cup fresh spinach
- 1½ cups frozen blueberries
- 2 bananas, peeled, sliced, and frozen
- 1/2 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 kiwifruit, peeled and sliced
- 2 tablespoons chopped toasted walnuts
- 1 tablespoon bran flakes
- 1 tablespoon unsweetened coconut flakes, toasted
- 2 teaspoons chia seeds

INSTRUCTIONS

In a blender place ½ cup milk, the maple syrup, spinach, frozen blueberries, and bananas in order given. Cover and blend until smooth, adding more milk if needed to reach desired consistency. Pour into serving bowls. Top with remaining ingredients.



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SLOW-COOKER VEGAN CHILI (Recipe and photo from EatingWell.com)



Grab your crock pot for this hearty and easy vegan chili, which is chock-full of great-tasting and good-foryou ingredients, including pinto and black beans, red pepper, tomatoes and butternut squash. Once a little chopping is done, all you have to do is dump the ingredients in the slow cooker, making this colorful veggie chili the perfect weeknight dinner. A garnish of fresh avocado and chopped cilantro is a nice touch.

Ingredient Checklist

4 cups 1/2-inch-diced butternut squash (about 1 small) (fresh or frozen)

1 large onion, chopped

1 medium red bell pepper, diced

4 cloves garlic, minced

2 cups low-sodium no-chicken broth

1 (15 ounce) can no-salt-added black beans, rinsed

1 (15 ounce) can no-salt-added pinto beans, rinsed

1 (15 ounce) can no-salt-added petite-diced tomatoes

2 tablespoons chili powder

2 tablespoons ground cumin

2 teaspoons smoked paprika

³/₄ teaspoon salt

2 medium avocados, sliced

Chopped fresh cilantro for garnish

Directions

Combine squash, onion, bell pepper, garlic, broth, black beans, pinto beans, tomatoes, chili powder, cumin, paprika and salt in a 6-quart slow cooker. Cook for 4 hours on High or 8 hours on Low. Mash some of the squash to thicken the broth. Serve topped with avocado and garnish with cilantro, if desired.

Tips and Tricks

- Pre-peeled and chopped squash is usually available in the produce section of your grocery store or in the frozen vegetable aisle.
- Dried beans are economical and sometimes easier to find than canned beans. Use your Instant Pot or multi-cooker to precook the beans and then add the other ingredients.

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size: 1 1/2 Cups

Per Serving:

314 calories; protein 10.8g; carbohydrates 45.8g; dietary fiber 15.6g; sugars 8g; fat 11.8g; saturated fat 1.5g; vitamin a iu 12215.2IU; vitamin c 68.3mg; folate 94.2mcg; calcium 160.4mg; iron 4.6mg; magnesium 111.5mg; potassium 1102.7mg; sodium 454.1mg; thiamin 0.2mg.

Exchanges:

2 Fat, 2 Starch, 1 1/2 Vegetable, 1 Lean Protein

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20 Monthly Menu



TRIO

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