WELLNESS CORNER Believing in Happier Aging

Believing in Happier Aging, means reconnecting seniors with interests, hobbies, and passions that might have gotten lost amid busy schedules, health concerns, or other distractions. Aging is worth celebrating and happiness is about rediscovering the fun in life!

Here are some summer activities that are perfect for seniors. Take advantage of the sun while it's out! Not only does it feel good to get outside, but social engagement has been shown to improve mental and physical well-being and even prolong your life.

Whether you're happily aging, or you're a friend or relative of a senior, here are ten summer activities to try-no matter the level of mobility.

GO FOR A WALK, JOG OR STROLL

Whether these legs still love to run or a walker is the safest bet, just getting outside and moving around is a great way to keep the body and mind in shape.

SOAK UP THE SUN AT A PARK

Enjoying the sun doesn't just make us feel better–Vitamin D is necessary for bone and muscle function. Without enough sun, seniors are at a greater risk of fracture and other side effects of a Vitamin D deficiency. Wear sunscreen, and make sure you're able to easily access cool shade by wearing a hat, bringing an umbrella, or sitting beside a tree.

GO SWIMMING OR WADING

If you have access to a pool, summer is a great time to splash around! Because of the buoyancy, swimming is easier on the joints than many other forms of exercise, and can be relaxing as well. Try out the pool at Bedford Walk for a change of pace.

HAVE A PICNIC

Bring snacks, drinks, a blanket, and maybe some music to the local park (or courtyard here at Bedford Walk). Enjoy a sandwich, and even lie back and watch the clouds.

CREATE OR TEND TO A GARDEN

If you have access to an outdoor space (a patio or deck will do just fine) planting flowers or vegetables and herbs can be especially beneficial. Not only does planting bring joy, but tending to any type of gardening will help provide a daily routine while repping the benefits of all the beauty.

GO TO A FARMER'S MARKET OR FAIR

Summer is the season for farmer's markets, craft fairs, flea markets and more. Walk around the booths, browse for deals, and go for lunch afterward.

VOLUNTEER

Keep your mind sharp and give back to the community by volunteering. Talk to your local Rotary club, or non-profits and charitable organizations that resonate with you. Volunteering with friends and family can also bring you closer together. If you are unable to physically volunteer finding a worthy charitable organization to support in other facets can be equally as rewarding.

TRY TAI CHI OR YOGA

Join a Tai chi or Yoga group for a low-impact activity. Tai chi and Yoga can help prevent falls in seniors and is a great way to improve and maintain mental agility. You'll feel great afterwards!

Regular activity and socialization can help seniors improve physical and mental well-being. While this list includes options for people of all abilities, be mindful of your own capabilities. If you aren't confident that you'll be able to handle an activity, check in with your family doctor. After all, you'll have more fun if you're feeling good!

HAPPY Gary Nickels 1st Dale Klausman 16th Rob Larkin 23rd
BIRTHDAY! Barbara Barner 9th Danielle Blanck 21st



JES PRIME SENIOR LIVING

Why is the Fourth of July Important for The United States of America?

July 4, more commonly known as the fourth of July in the United States of America has been a federal holiday in the country since 1941. In several movies you might have heard about the fourth of July, fireworks show, all this is connected to the day being very important in US history and tradition.

The fourth of July is celebrated in the US as Independence Day, much like we, Indians, have our own on August 15. The tradition of Independence Day goes back to 18th century when the Continental Congress in the US voted in favor of independence on July 2.

Two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

Did you know? John Adams, one of the founding fathers and the second US President, believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826—the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

The first fireworks were used as early as 200 BC. The tradition of setting off fireworks on the 4 of July began in Philadelphia on July 4, 1777, during the first organized celebration of Independence Day. Ship's cannon fired a 13-gun salute in honor of the 13 colonies. The Pennsylvania Evening Post reported: "at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks (which began and concluded with thirteen rockets) on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated." That same night, the Sons of Liberty set off fireworks over Boston Common.

Whether you choose to celebrate with family, fireworks or watching festivities from the comfort of your own home, we wish you a very Happy Independence Day!

FEATURED: The Bedford Big Hearts

Throughout the month of July, Bedford Walk continues to Support our local Ronald McDonald House Organization benefiting families in need. Since 1983, Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Mid-Missouri has been keeping families close while their child receives medical care in the Columbia area.



JULY 2023

The Ronald McDonald House gives:

- Children a place to play after a long day at the hospital
- Parents a home near the hospital for a warm meal and a good night's sleep
- Families relief from the financial and emotional burdens of traveling for their child's medical care

To do this, we rely on the love, sharing and caring of hundreds of generous donors and volunteers from across the region. Thank you for supporting their mission of keeping families close, Bedford Big Hearts thanks you as well for your continued support!

