

Boomerfest celebration set for April 20

Community members from Wayne and the surrounding area will once again take part in Boomerfest, a celebration filled with vendors, bands and delicious sundaes, from noon to 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 20 at the Wayne City Auditorium.

Boomerfest, formally known as Elderfest, is an annual event that is designed to allow residents of all ages the opportunity to participate in a day of fun. The celebration acts as a way to celebrate and give back to the senior residents of Wayne who have helped make the community a great place to live as well as let the residents of Wayne participate in a day of festive events to bring the community closer together to create a better social network within Wayne.

The celebration will begin with a vendor fair, showcasing around 25 vendors and announcing the event's sponsors for the event from non to 2 p.m. At the Vendor Fair, residents will get to learn about resources, participate in drawings while eating some of the delicious snacks.

Then a 10-point pitch tournament will follow at 1 p.m. Cash prizes will be rewarded. After the tournament, the Burt Heithold Band, which is known for playing a lot of show tunes, will perform from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

After the performance, a Brownie Sundae bar will be served from 3 to 4 p.m. A performance by the Embers Band will end the day with music from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Karrissa Hays, one of the organizers for Boomerfest said, "A lot of the seniors that go to this event, go to dances every weekend and Wayne doesn't host anything like that. A lot of them go to South Sioux City to the Eagles Club and to some of the other smaller towns," Hays said, "Since Wayne doesn't have anything, at least one time of the year, we can provide that dance."

For more information, residents can follow the Boomerfest Facebook page or Contact Karrissa Hays for more information.



Attendees at the 2022 Boomerfest were able to visit a number of vendors, such at the Providence Medical Center booth (above) to get heatlh information and enjoy music by the Burt Heithold Band (below) in the afternoon before enjoying additional live music in the evening.



Exploding older demographic in northeast Nebraska means critical need for care

Andrea Trautman, owner, Home Instead Norfolk

tech industries have received a lot of sional caregivers for older adults. Recent headlines about the labor short- attention. But there is one labor crisis

age and layoffs across consumer and that is going unseen: a lack of profes- of older adults as very essential, even

Across the country, nearly 71 million life when they will need some assistance. By 2030, the last baby boomers will turn 65-years old. According to AARP, nearly 90% of adults over 65 would prefer to often the safest place for them to be. To make this possible, the home care industry will need to grow the workforce by

That means the caregiving industry, which has one of the largest employment gaps, will require more than one million new care professionals by the end of the decade. Here in our community, we are hiring 10 professional caregivers, but that will only begin to support the expected 32% growth in the local older demographic by 2030.

and respect a career in caregiving proresponding see in-home care providers older safely, and with dignity.

more so than childcare providers.

Professional caregivers can also go a baby boomers are entering the stage of long way toward helping the nationwide labor shortage. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, there are 10 million open positions across all industries with only 5.7 million unemployed remain at home as they age, and home is Americans to fill them. In-home care professionals can help ease the strain on our healthcare system by flagging early warning signs of serious health conditions and helping keep older adults out of the hospital. They support family caregivers, allowing them the confidence to re-enter the workforce. These positions also provide hands-on training and experience for those wishing to become nurses or other healthcare professionals.

A career in caregiving provides a sense of fulfillment and purpose, providing many of the characteristics people are There is no question about the value looking for in their work, including job security, flexibility, and the ability to vides. In a recent survey by Home make a difference. Together, as a com-Instead, Inc., 92% of the respondents call munity, we need to make sure our aging in-home care providers for older adults loved ones know there is someone there essential. In fact, three-fourths of those to care for them and help them grow



Power Lift & Power Reclining Chairs

See them today! **See for yourself • Relax with ease**

DISCOUNT FURNITURE

YOUR FURNITURE HEADOUARTERS FOR NORTHEAST NEBRASKA 1 1/2 MILES NORTH OF WAYNE 402-375-1885 OR 1-855-375-1885

-- EASY TERMS -- FREE DELIVERY & SET-UP --

Ways to make bathrooms a safer place

each year injuries in and around the dren and people age 65 and up. home contribute to millions of medical visits and many fatalities each year.

tend to be the most dangerous room in the house. Slippery tile, the presence of water, stockpiled medications and many sharp and hard edges in a small space

Homes should be safe havens. But bathroom, particularly for young chil-

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says falls, which can result Although anywhere in a home can in serious injuries like hip fractures and be the scene of an accident, bathrooms head trauma, are the cause of 80 percent of all bathroom accidents.

Many bathroom accidents are preventable with some easy modifications.

- 1. Reduce slippery surfaces. Wet tile pose several different hazards in the is a recipe for slick conditions. Bath rugs with rubber backing can provide traction in the bathroom, as can nonslip mats placed on the floor of the bathtub or shower enclosure. Water-resistant flooring made from recycled rubber is another option. It is softer, less slippery and more forgiving than traditional tile flooring.
 - 2. Install lever-style fixtures. Round knobs in the bathroom can be difficult to grasp, especially for the elderly or those with arthritis. Lever-style fixtures are easier to maneuver and can help alleviate scalding from not being able to adequately adjust the water temperature.
 - 3. Utilize transfer benches and shower seats. A transfer bench can help reduce injuries that occur when trying to climb over a tub wall. Benches are placed outside of the tub and a person sits and then swings his legs over the ledge. Transfer benches also can be used in conjunction with shower seats. This is a chair or bench that allows people to sit while they shower.
 - 4. Discard old medications. Clean out the medicine cabinet of old or expired medications, including both prescription and over-the-counter drugs. This

See SAFER PLACE, page 4



Dating tips are given for senior citizens

including advancements in medicine ogy guiding their every move. and greater dissemination of informa-

People are living longer, a reality that be confusing and anxiety-inducing for can be a great opportunity to get out and much larger body of water. Furthermore, can be traced to a number of factors, adults who didn't grow up with technol- meet someone who shares your passions dating app profiles typically spell out

According to a report in The Atlantic, tion regarding preventive health care. more than one-third of baby boomers are According to data from the United not currently married, and this genera-Nations Population Division, the avertion has had higher rates of separation age life expectancy in the United States and divorce and lower rates of marriage

and interests.

•Online dating has its advantages. While online dating apps and websites may have certain things working against them, particularly if their algorithms for pairing people are not fine-tuned, they also can be helpful. Online dating can expand social circles beyond local neighborhoods or even states, provinces or countries. You're casting your net over a

exactly what another person is seeking, which can save seniors from having to revisit awkward dating moments from years past.

Seniors may have to navigate new waters in modern dating. But with a good mindset and a little persistence, it is possible for seniors to find a special someone in cyberspace



Canada has even higher life expectan-

live their significant others and ultimately find themselves once again interested in sharing experiences with a special someone. Seniors ready to re-enter the dating pool may find that things are quite different from what they experienced as naïve teenagers or young adults. Dating used to be about hanging out with friends and meeting people at shared events, such as school dances or work parties or even while enjoying a night out with friends. Nowadays, dat- a senior, you may have more time to ing often begins in cyberspace. This can devote to recreation and leisure. This

is 81.65 for women and 76.61 for men. than the generations that preceded them. Many boomers have years ahead of them cies, at 84.74 for women and 81.15 for to devote to new relationships. Here's what they may want to know before As people live longer, some may out- navigating twenty-first century dating

- You're not in this alone. While online dating may be portrayed as a young person's game, plenty of older adults are now finding connections online. In fact, many different dating apps are geared toward the senior set, including SeniorMatch, eHarmony, Singles50, OKCupid, and Silver Singles, among
- •You have more time for fun. As

Hillcrest Care Center & Assisted Living



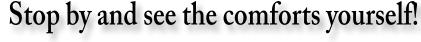
The mission of the Hillcrest Care Center and Assisted Living is to provide support, care, and rehabilitation in an environment where each person feels at home.

For more information on Hillcrest Care Center & Assisted Living contact 402-256-3961 •Laurel, NE • hillcrestcarecenter.wordpress.com



The newest in comfortable living for the seasoned citizen."

- Three home cooked meals per day plus scheduled snacks Assistance in arranging medical care
- Daily wellness checks Assistance with activities of daily living and personal care
 Assistance with administration of medication
- Weekly housekeeping
- Weekly laundry
- Cable & television hook-ups
 Assistance with care planning schedule
- Coordination of therapies, if needed Social and leisure activities
- Scheduled courtesy transportation
- Assistance with whirlpool or shower
- Garage stall rental available
- Much more . . .



One Mazour Dr. (Hwy. 16 & Slaughter Ave.) Pender, Nebraska • Phone 402-385-2088





PERSONAL CARE | MEALS & NUTRITION | MEMORY CARE | HOSPICE SUPPORT

Each Home Instead® office is an independently owned and operated franchise of Home Instead, Inc., an Honor Company.
© 2023 Home Instead, Inc.

A guide to modern automobiles for senior citizens

nologically advanced than ever before. more comfortable and convenient, but

Modern automobiles are more tech- That tech isn't just making driving also more safe.

cle accidents, researchers at the Subaru, chances are you already know International Institute for Highway how to use the tech in your loved one's Safety found that vehicles with blind vehicle. If you drive cars made by difspot and lane departure warning sys- ferent manufacturers, visit the dealertems were involved in 11 percent fewer ship where your loved one bought his sideswipes and head-on crashes than or her car and ask for a quick tutorial cars that did not feature such systems. on all the safety features in the vehicle. In addition, the IIHS estimates that Salesman demonstrate these features the number of automobile crashes in every day, so it shouldn't take long for the United States could be decreased them to show you the ropes. by 85,000 each year if every vehicle were outfitted with a lane departure a new technology at his or her own warning system.

driving safer for millions of people use the tech in their vehicles. Old habacross the globe, but one demographic its die hard, and while some drivers may need some extra help adapting to may quickly adapt to tech like backup modern vehicles, and may even need cameras, others may not be so quick a little extra encouragement to utilize to abandon driving techniques they've tech that can keep them safe behind been safely using for decades. Stay the wheel. The Centers for Disease the course, remain patient and allow Control and Prevention notes that, in senior drivers to adapt at their own 2018, the United States was home to pace. 45 million licensed drivers aged 65 and over. That marks a 60 percent increase overwhelming for drivers of all ages to since 2000. Though seniors' perceived adapt overnight to all the tech in their unwillingness or inability to utilize new vehicles. When teaching senior modern technology is often overstated, drivers how to utilize various driver some aging drivers may need a little assistance technologies, take it one extra help as they try to learn how to tech at a time. When coupled with use assistance technologies in their your patience, this approach can help vehicles.

technologies are not all one and the embrace the tech in their vehicles. same. Vehicle manufacturers have learning curve when adapting to a new one. If you aspire to teach a senior how in his or her vehicle, first learn the

tech on your own. If both you and your In a recent analysis of motor vehi- aging friend or family member own a

·Be patient. Each person adapts to pace. It's important to remain patient Driver assistance systems have made when teaching aging drivers how to

·Teach one tech at a time. It can be seniors avoid being overwhelmed and · Learn the tech yourself. Assistance increases the likelihood that they will

Many senior drivers utilize driver their own systems and there can be a assistance technologies every day. A patient and methodical approach to showing seniors how their vehicles can to utilize the assistance technologies help them stay safe behind the wheel can be a road map to helping seniors adapt to life in modern vehicles.



2614 West Norfolk Avenue • Norfolk, NE 68701 1-800-672-0036 • 371-6550 Branch Locations in O'Neill, Ainsworth & Valentine

We Provide Service To All Of Northeast & North Central Nebraska

Everything For The Home Care Patient Including:

- Oxygen/Respiratory Equipment
- Nursing Scrubs
- Walking Aids
- Wheelchairs
- Hospital Beds
- **Incontinence Supplies**
- Life Chairs
- Much More Medical Equipment & Supplies
- Complete Service Department



Safer Place _

(Continued from page 2)

reduces the likelihood of medication confusion, and does not put potentially harmful pills and syrups into the hands of children.

- 5. Install grab bars. Properly installed grab bars around the shower and toilet area can provide leverage and stability. AARP says many injuries to seniors occur when they are attempting to sit or get up from the toilet. Grab bars or an elevated toilet seat can help.
- 6. Install motion-detecting lights. These lights turn on automatically upon detecting movement, making them beneficial for people who routinely visit the bathroom in the middle of the night. Adequate illumination also can help reduce fall risk.

Bathroom safety should be made a priority. Various modifications can make bathrooms safer for people of all ages.

Strength training is necessary for senior citizens to maintain health

ities and strength training, is necessary to maintain long-term health.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, regular physical activity is one of the most important things older adults can do to protect their overall health. Exercise helps to delay or prevent many of the conditions that come with age. Adults ages 65 and older should aim for the recommended 150 minutes a week of



moderate-intensity activity, such as brisk walking, and at least two days of activities that strengthen muscles.

When it comes to muscle strengthening, seniors can follow these safety guidelines as they embark on their strength-training journeys.

first. Get the green light to proceed with an exercise regimen before beginning by having a discussion with your training with a friend or family mem-

includes a combination of aerobic activ- ness goals. Your doctor can recommend strategies that are safe and point out any exercises that may compromise your overall health.

new to strength training, which is Hospital for Special Surgery in New and also improve balance and bone sometimes known as resistance training, can start out slowly, even using just body weight, to provide resistance. Resistance exercises can include squats, crunches, modified pushups, planks, and lunges.

· Graduate to resistance bands. When you're ready to move on to something else, consider resistance bands as an alternative to free weights. The bands can help you develop good form before introducing weight. Good form is key to avoiding injury.

·Work with a trainer. Working with a certified personal trainer can help vou learn how to use free weights and strength-training machines correctly. A trainer also can create a routine that includes the right number of sets and repetitions to gradually build and maintain muscle mass. If you decide against hiring a trainer, gym staff · Speak with a healthcare provider members may guide you through equipment and demonstrate proper form.

· Exercise with a friend. Strength

you on target to meet your goals.

·Build up gradually. Your first new to strength training. strength session should only last 10 · Master basic exercises first. Anyone Chag, C.S.C.S., a strength coach at the exercises help maintain muscle mass York. This enables you to gauge sore- health.

A balanced diet and exercise, which general practitioner about your fit- ber can provide motivation and keep ness. Wait until soreness abates before beginning your next session if you are

> Strength exercises are a vital part of to 15 minutes, according to Tiffany maintaining health as a senior. Such



Where Our Motto is Not "No", But "How" 301 17th Street • Stanton, NE 68779 • 402-439-2111

www.stantonhealthcare.come



Alamo, Riverwalk, Hill Country, LBJ Ranch, Austin, and more. Call Kaki to reserve your spot before this trip sells out.

At age 50 or better and with a qualified account, you can enjoy special travel offers, free movies, and more. Call us now to sign up. With SNB's Century Club, we take the worry out of travel and we always make new friends.



The STATE NEBRASKA BANK & TRUST **Century Club**

HISTORY · PEOPLE · COMMUNITY SINCE 1892 122 Main St. 1010 Main St. Wayne (402) 375-1130 statenebank.com

INSHIP POINTE Independent Living and Assisted Living Join Us This Spring! **Kinship Pointe Wayne**

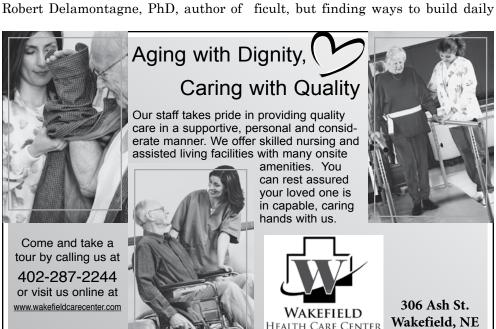
- **Large Spacious Floor Plans**
- **Established Care Team 24/7**
- **Great Food & Engaging Activities**
- **Excellence In Senior Living Every Day**

402-375-1500 1500 Vintage Hill Dr. Wayne, NE 68787 kinshippointe.com

How to create structure after retirement

to find structure.

Professionals typically look forward the 2011 book "The Retiring Mind: How to retirement and the freedom that to Make the Psychological Transition comes with it. The notion that commut- to Retirement," notes that some retiring and deadlines will one day be a dis- ees experience anxiety, depression and tant memory is enough to make any- even a sense of loss upon calling it one excited for retirement. But when a career. Some of those feelings can the day to leave the daily grind behind undoubtedly be traced to the perceived arrives, many retirees admit to feeling lack of purpose some individuals feel a little anxiety about how they're going after retiring. Without a job to do each day, people can begin to feel useless. Retirement is a big transition, and Overcoming such feelings can be dif-



structure can make the transition to retirement go smoothly.

Find something to truly engage in. Professionals who truly enjoy their work tend to be fully engaged, so it's no surprise if such individuals have a hard time adjusting to retirement. Some may suggest volunteering can social. Volunteering and working are help fill the void created by retirement, not the only ways to create structure but researchers with the Sloan Center in retirement. A concerted effort to be on Aging and Work at Boston College more social can help retirees fill their have found that only those individuals who are truly engaged in their post-retirement volunteering enjoy the ing the same feelings. Join a book club, psychological benefits of such pursuits. a local nature group that goes on daily So before retirees dive right in to volunteering as a means to creating local community organization. These structure, they should first exercise are great ways to build structure and due diligence and find an opportunity meet new people. Retirees can create they'll find genuinely engaging.

· Embrace the idea of "bridge employment." "Bridge employment" is the name given to the trend that has seen retired individuals take on part-time structure in retirement life, and social or temporary employment after they media can make it easier to find such have retired from full-time working. individuals in your community. COVID-19 has no doubt skewed post-Secure Retirement Institute found that in their lives.

27 percent of pre-retirees with at least \$100,000 in assets planned to work part-time in retirement. Even parttime work can provide enough daily structure to help retirees feel as though each day is not just a free-for-all.

·Make a concerted effort to be more days with interactions with like-minded individuals who may be experiencor semi-daily morning hikes or another social media accounts to find local community groups that cater to their interests. Even if it seems hard to believe, plenty of retirees are seeking to create

Structure and retirement may seem retirement working statistics since like strange bedfellows. But many the World Health Organization first retirees seek structure after calling it declared a pandemic in March 2020, a career, and there are many fun ways but a 2019 survey from the LIMRA for seniors to create more organization



We are F a Camp PAI N' Visi' We are Proud to be a Campus of Care



PARK VIEW HAVEN **NURSING HOME**

309 N. Madison, Coleridge, NE 68727 Visit us on our website at: www.parkviewhaven.org 402-283-4224

Care With a Loving Touch



THE EMBERS ASSISTED LIVING

509 W. Cedar, Coleridge, NE 68727 Visit us on our website at: www.theembers.org 402-283-5020



Stop In & See For Yourself



How seniors can protect their mental health

No one is immune to issues that can adversely affect their mental health, retirement age and those who are already retired. Though the term "golden years" suggests life in retirement is one sunny day after another, many individuals 60 and older are dealing with mental health

According to the World Health Organization, approximately 15 percent of the world's adults aged 60 and over suffer from a mental disorder. What makes that statistic even more troubling is that the WHO acknowledges it likely doesn't paint the most accurate picture of seniors and mental health, as depression is often undiagnosed among older men and women and untreated because it co-occurs with other issues affecting seniors.

In the past, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has acknowledged that late-life anxiety was not readily understood. However, much progress has been made in recent years thanks to a heightened awareness of the problem of seniors and mental health. That means seniors now have ample resources they can look to as they seek to learn what they can do to safeguard their mental health.

Recognizing warning signs

The National Institute of Mental Health including men and women nearing notes that recognizing the signs of mental health issues is the first step to getting treatment. Mental health issues vary, and individuals with anxiety will likely experience different symptoms than those



with depression. But the NIMH notes that the following are some of the warning signs of mental health issues.

 Noticeable changes in mood, energy level, or appetite

- positive emotions
- Difficulty sleeping or sleeping too
- •Difficulty concentrating, feeling restless, or on edge
- •Increased worry or feeling stressed
- Anger, irritability, or aggressiveness
- •Ongoing headaches, digestive issues,
- Misuse of alcohol or drugs
- •Sadness or hopelessness
- •Suicidal thoughts
- Engaging in high-risk activities
- •Obsessive thinking or compulsive
- with work, family, or social life
- •Engaging in thinking or behavior that is concerning to others
- •Seeing, hearing, and feeling things that other people do not see, hear, or feel Seeking help

As noted, a growing awareness of mental health issues and how they affect seniors has translated to more available resources for aging men and women who need help. Within the United States, seniors can visit the NIMH Help for nerable to mental health issues. More Mental Illnesses webpage (https:// www.nimh.nih.gov/health/find-help) to access contact information for vari- nimh.nih.gov.

• Feeling flat or having trouble feeling ous groups that help people in times of mental health crises. In Canada, individuals can visit the Canadian Mental Health Association at https://cmha.ca/ find-help/find-cmha-in-your-area/ for contact information for various groups across the country.

Behaviors that can be beneficial

The National Institute on Aging notes that most cases of depression cannot be prevented. However, the NIA also notes that healthy lifestyle changes can have long-term benefits of seniors' mental health. Such changes include:

•Being physically active

- Eating a healthy diet that can reduce •Thoughts or behaviors that interfere risk for diseases that can bring on disability and depression
 - •Getting adequate sleep, which for seniors is between seven to nine hours per night
 - •Remaining socially active, including regular contact with friends and family
 - Participating in activities you enjoy
 - Sharing mental issues or concerns with friends, family members and your physician

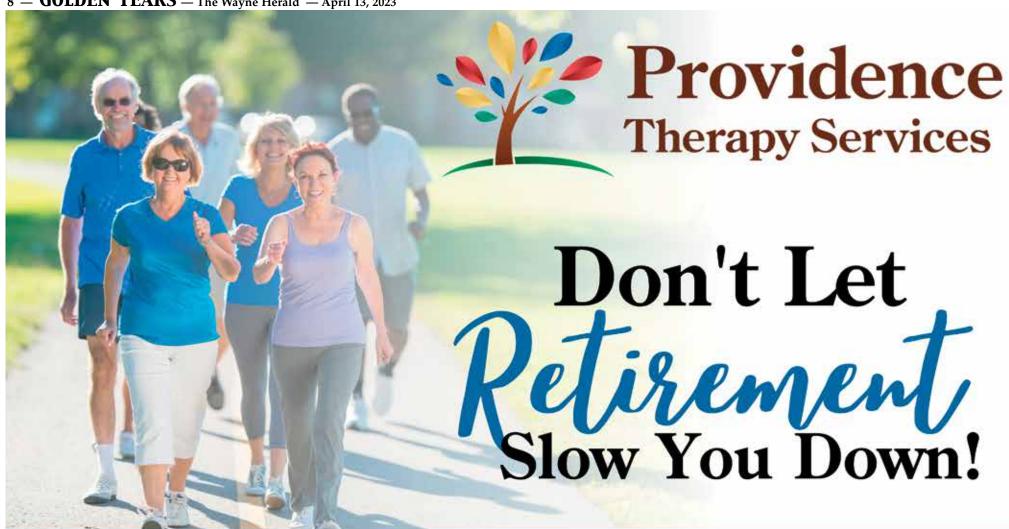
Research indicates that seniors are vulinformation about how to combat and overcome such issues is available at



INSURANCE

LIFE · HOME · CAR · BUSINESS





Providence Therapy Services provides personalized patient care plans to help each individual improve or maintain their physical health and live life to it's fullest!

Services Include:

- Live Safe at Home Program
- Orthopedic and Neurological Therapy
- Fall Prevention
- Treatment of arthritic conditions
- Driving evaluations

• Parkinson's SPEAK OUT Program

• Aquatic Therapy

• Home Health Therapy

- Pelvic Therapy
- Dry Needling
- Lymphedema
- Vestibular Therapy

Three Convenient Locations

Wayne 1200 Providence Rd 402-375-7937 Wakefield 308 Ash St. 402-287-100 Laurel 699 Cedar Ave. 402-256-9551

