

# MANAGING ARTHRITIS WITH EXERCISE

By Diane DiCarlo

Exercise has important health benefits for everyone -- regardless of age and physical condition. But for people with arthritis, working out regularly, and within their limits, is critical.

"Regular, moderate exercise offers a host of benefits to people with arthritis," says Jack Klippel, M.D., medical director for the Arthritis Foundation in Atlanta. "Exercise reduces joint pain and stiffness, builds strong muscle around the joints and increases flexibility and endurance."

It also helps promote overall health and fitness by giving you more energy, helping you sleep better, controlling your weight and decreasing depression.

The following tips will help you start and stick with an exercise program.

#### First Steps

Remember to start slowly. Exercises that improve flexibility or stretching exercises that improve your range of motion and help you perform daily activities are good ones to initiate yourself into an exercise routine. Once you feel comfortable, you may be able to move on to weight training and endurance workouts, such as cycling, swimming, walking or yoga.

"Whatever exercise program you decide on, you should always consult your doctor before starting out," says Dr. Klippel. You should also talk to your doctor if you notice a change in your condition -- for example, if you have increased pain or decreased mobility. A physical therapist can help you get started. Over-the-counter anti-inflammatory medications are available to ease discomfort during and after exercise.

#### **Watch for Fall Hazards**

When you have arthritis, physical activity and exercise may not seem appealing. The thought of walking or

swimming might make you cringe when your body already aches.

However, "exercise keeps you moving when your condition threatens to immobilize you," says Dr. Klippel. "I recommend water exercises because water buoyancy takes weight off your joints."

Swimming laps, water walking or jogging and water aerobics are examples.

Other forms of low-impact workouts that place less stress on your joints include yoga, tai chi and cycling, as well as using cross-country ski simulators or elliptical trainers. Cross training -- performing a variety of exercises and activities on different days -- helps prevent overuse injuries, keeps your program fresh and contributes to better training for your muscles.

#### **Strong Muscles Ease Joint Pressure**

Weight training isn't just for bodybuilders and athletes. Strong muscles around joints help take pressure off cartilage and bone.

"It's particularly important for people who have arthritis to do exercises that strengthen quadriceps muscles," Dr. Klippel says.

You have various options for resistance training, including free weights, machines or elastic tubing.

It's crucial to use proper techniques when strength training, and moves must be tailored to your specific condition. "Your doctor or a physical therapist can design a strength program that will give the most benefit with the least possible joint irritation," Dr. Klippel says.

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## **Monthly Programs**

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**MARCH** 

#### **TOPIC:**

#### "SPRING INTO ACTION" ZUMBA FOR SENIORS W/ PEGGY

(Refreshments Served)

March 9, 2020 **Bayside Presbyterian Church** 1400 Ewell Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23455 10 am-12 noon

March 18, 2020 **Sentara CarePlex Hospital** 3000 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666 10 am-12 noon

#### **APRIL**

#### TOPIC:

#### "ADVANCE CARE PLANS, WHY THEY ARE IMPORTANT"

(Refreshments Served) **Debbie Wacker, Chaplain** 

**April 13, 2020 Bayside Presbyterian Church** 1400 Ewell Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23455 10 am-12 noon

**April 15, 2020 Sentara CarePlex Hospital** 3000 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666 10 am-12 noon

#### **MAY**

#### TOPIC:

#### "BALANCE AND GOOD BODY MECHANICS"

**Physical / Occupational Therapist** (Lunch Served)

May 11, 2020 **Bayside Presbyterian Church** 1400 Ewell Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23455 10 am-12 noon

May 20, 2020 **Sentara CarePlex Hospital** 3000 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666 10 am-12 noon

#### **Inclement Weather Policy**

All Sentara Living programs, workshops, seminars, and meetings will be cancelled if the local school district is closed due to inclement weather. Please check with the Sentara Living phone line, 757-SENIORS, for cancellation information due to inclement weather, the day of any scheduled Sentara Living event.

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# Understanding Dementia: Tips for Caregivers

By Delvina Miremadi, Life Advantages

Dementia impairs the brain's ability to function on a daily basis. Dementia is the result of other medical conditions which can be caused by a series of small strokes, Alzheimer's disease, or other braindamaging diseases.

It is common for a person with dementia to lose the ability to do what a normal person may see as simple tasks, like tying their shoe, brushing their teeth, or taking a bath. Because of this loss of function, the person suffering from dementia can become easily frustrated and discouraged. However, as a caregiver, by learning about dementia and how to care for the person who suffers from the condition, you can better help the sufferer cope.

#### Causes of Dementia

As mentioned above, dementia often occurs as a side effect or symptom from other medical conditions. Many causes may result in dementia, but note that some causes are 10 to 15 percent reversible. Here are a few of dementia's primary causes:

- Alzheimer's disease (accounts for 65 percent of all dementias)
- Thyroid conditions
- Depression
- Strokes
- Drug interactions
- AIDS and other infections
- Vitamin B-12 deficiency

#### Symptoms of Dementia

When observing someone with dementia, you may notice that the person has some of the following common symptoms:

- Memory problems
- Difficulty performing daily duties
- Depression
- Difficulty communicating and speaking
- Sleep disturbances
- Confusion
- Difficulty understanding
- Aggression
- Paranoia
- Irritability and agitation
- Hallucinations



#### Tips for Caregivers

If you are caring for someone suffering from dementia, you may notice that he gets easily agitated. People with dementia may not be able to interpret things like they once had, and can get irritated about situations that once were easy for them. You may also notice that their behavior can sometimes appear child-like. It is common for dementia patients to display pouting or stomping of the feet similar to a young child. When this occurs, be patient but be firm. Their initial frustration will pass.

As someone who takes care of a dementia sufferer, you can try to avoid situations where the person may feel incapable of doing something. For instance, instead of expecting the person to fix a cup of coffee on their own, give them a simple task, like putting the sugar in the cup. This will help them feel a sense of accomplishment and competency, and then you can guide the individual through the rest of the tasks at hand. In addition, try to limit complicated situations for the individual, like bathing. Perhaps have the person bathe two to three times a week, rather than every day, especially if it becomes difficult for the individual.

As you care for someone with dementia, you may note that certain times of the day may be more irritating than others. This is typical for dementia sufferers, so keep this in mind when scheduling tasks. For example, the end of the day is frustrating for most dementia sufferers, so try not to schedule difficult tasks around this time. Instead, plan complex tasks earlier in the day to help the person stay calm. Naps may also be a good idea as basic daily tasks will become exhausting over time.

It's important to remember that the person suffering from dementia may say things that he or she doesn't mean. The person will be very confused at times, so don't take anything personal. Also, try not to be confrontational with them. If they insist that it is Friday, when it is Monday, try not to contradict them. Instead, change the topic and encourage him or her to talk about things that will bring them joy, like happy memories. You can also try to get the patient to talk about thoughts or feelings; this will provide comfort, warmth, and security for a person in a very uncomfortable situation.

## EXCURSIONS

SignaTours Presents . . . "Life Rewarding Experiences" for Sentara members, friends, and family!

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## Easter Jubilee at the Rudy Theatre Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Selma, North Carolina's historic Rudy Theatre plays host to a one-of-a-kind performance. If you've seen their Christmas show, you'll love their Easter Jubilee! Sit back and enjoy the music of spring, the message of Easter and the antics of their very own Homer the Easter Bunny. And as the lights go down, you'll be transported to a world of fast-paced entertainment, side-splitting comedy, and music you'll know by heart! Buffet Lunch is included. \$175

## Nashville Dreams and Legends with Memphis April 18-22, 2020

If you are a country music lover, this is a tour you don't want to miss! Enjoy five exciting days in the Country Music Capital of America! Nashville is home to the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the Grand Ole Opry, the General Jackson Showboat, Madame Tussauds, and so much more! In Memphis, visit Graceland, home to the "King of Rock and Roll . . ." Elvis Pressley! If this wasn't enough, spend four nights at the magnificent Gaylord Opryland Resort. This a "Dreams and Legends" tour is one you can't miss!

Call for a Detailed Flyer and Pricing . . .

#### A Tour of "Biblical" Proportions Saturday, May 2, 2020

Back by popular demand, tour the amazing Museum of the Bible. From its special exhibits, to the cultural influences, to the history of the Bible itself, the museum has something for everyone. The Museum is among the most technologically advanced and engaging museums in the world! Showcasing rare and fascinating artifacts spanning over 3,500 years of history, the Museum offers visitors a personalized experience to all. Lunch is on your own.

#### Wagon Wheels and State Park Trails Thursday – June 18, 2020

Experience nature at two North Carolina State Parks! At Merchant Millpond State Park, a Ranger Lecture in the Visitor Center is followed by a scenic guided tour along Cypress Point Trail. Later today, visit Dismal Swamp State Park for a "Ranger Led" Wagon Ride and discover the park's unique ecosystem. End the day with a tour of SWIFT (Sustainable Water Initiative for Tomorrow), a water treatment facility. A Barbeque lunch is included!

## Museum of African American History & Culture Saturday – August 1, 2020

The National Museum of African American History and Culture show-cases the African American experience and how it helped shape the nation. It contains close to 37,000 objects related to civil rights, slavery, and segregation. Highlights include Harriet Tubman's hymnal, Nat Turner's bible, and so much more! Also included, the Library of Congress' special Rosa Parks: In Her Own Words Exhibit. Delicious Lunch included at the Capital Cafe.

#### Virginia's Crooked Road - Birthplace of Country Music! July 31- August 3, 2020

Virginia's Heritage Music Trail "Crooked Road" is an adventure in "Country Music" stretching 333 miles through Southwest Virginia. It's a road that travels "Where America's Music Was Born . . . And Lives On!" A sampling of what to expect on tour: Floyd General Store and Friday Night Jamboree, Barter Theatre, Carter Family Fold Festival, Country Cabin II, Ralph Stanley Museum, Birthplace of Country Music Museum, Tim White, VW Boys, Lincoln Theatre, and more.

Call for a Detailed Flyer and Pricing . . .

## End of Summer Celebration in Chincoteague September 2-3. 2020

Chincoteague Island is famous for its wild ponies and is the gateway to the Assateague Island National Seashore and the Chincoteague Wildlife Refuge. Your two-day tour includes: Sightseeing Pontoon Boat Cruise of Chincoteague and Assateague Islands, a Guided Riding Tour of Assateague Island, Assateague Lighthouse, Bateman Center, NASA Wallops Flight Facility with Launch Pad, Visitor's Center, and more! Delicious meals are included each day!

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## Sight & Sound's "Queen Esther" in Lancaster October 14-15, 2020

Sight & Sound's Millennium Theatre presents the premiere of "Queen Esther," a magnificent Biblical story of courage and bravery. Follow Esther's life from "ordinary life to royalty" during the perilous Persian Empire and discover God's plan as she wears the royal crown. Your Dutch Country get-away also includes an: Amish Tour, Kitchen Kettle, Bird in Hand Farmers Market, Four Meals, and so much more!

Call for a Detailed Flyer and Pricing . . .

#### 1st Annual Christmas at the White House December 3, 4, or 5, 2020

Tour the White House, White House Visitors Center, and Lunch with Tour of Hillwood Estate! This is an "Extremely Time Sensitive" tour with White House Restrictions. It will sell out quickly. Call for a Detailed Flyer and Pricing . . . Deadline July 31st, 2020. \$195

## Annual New York City Extravaganza December 15-18, 2020

This year's tour is guaranteed to sell out quickly so call today and reserve your space. We've included two of the most sought after shows on Broadway . . . "Mrs. Doubtfire" & "The Music Man" starring Hugh Jackman! "Music Man" is nearly sold out for all performances through 2020. Optional tours are exceptional this year! Signup by March 31st for your chance to win a "Carriage Ride" for two.

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All Tours Depart: Target Store in Norfolk, Hampton Sentara Hospital CarePlex, Williamsburg Sentara Hospital.

The 2020 Tour Catalogs are in! If you haven't received yours, you can find it online or give us a call and we'll send you one! There are cruises and bucket list tours available, not listed here. See all our tours at www.TravelSignaTours.com

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## community calendar

For a complete list of support groups visit www.sentara.com or call 1-800-SENTARA (1-800-736-8272)

## southside

## **Alzheimer's Support** 1-800-272-3900

#### **Bereavement Support Group**

Norfolk: Every Wednesday, 2PM 757-388-2631 or 757-388-7817 Suffolk: 1st Thursday, 6PM 757-934-4142

#### **Better Breathers**

Sentara Obici Hospital 757-934-4263

#### **Breast Cancer Support**

Norfolk: 2nd Tuesday, 6PM 757-388-2062 2nd Thurs., 7PM, 757-261-5033 4th Wednesday, 6PM 757-261-5404 Suffolk: 1st Wednesday, 12PM 757-934-4395 Virginia Beach: 2nd Monday, 6:30PM 757-395-6317 or 757-395-8421 Facebook: search Sentara Breast Cancer Support

#### **Caregivers' Support Group**

3rd Friday, 12NOON-1PM Nimmo UMC 757-422-1292

#### **Depression/Bipolar Support**

Monday, 7PM (NORFOLK) 757-456-0657

#### **Diabetes Support**

3rd Wednesday, 7-8PM 757-507-2711

#### **Esophageal Cancer Support**

2nd Tuesday, 7PM Sentara Leigh Hospital 757-261-5405

## Family and Friends of People with Chemical Dependency

Every Tuesday, 7PM Nan at 757-333-7222 x402

#### **Grief Support - Virginia Beach**

Bible Based: Tuesdays, 6:30-8PM Secular Based: Tuesdays, 10AM-12NOON Contact Patty Hendricks at 757-689-2803

## Hampton Roads Pulmonary Fibrosis Support Group

3rd Wednesday SNGH-Heart Pavilion 757-343-9630

#### **Heart Failure Mgmt. Clinic**

Sentara Obici Hospital Therapy, Testing, Resources, Education. For more information: 757-934-4579

#### Living Beyond Cancer Survivorship Program

sentara.com/events or 1-800-SENTARA

#### **Lung Cancer Support**

2nd Tuesday, 1PM Teleconference meetings 757-827-2438

#### Leukemia and Lymphoma Support Group

2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM 1060 First Colonial Road Contact Lynne Streeper at 571-247-3079

#### **Mended Heart Support**

Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital 757-721-7330 Sentara Norfolk General Hospital 757-560-7753

#### Multiple Myeloma Support Group

3rd Saturday, 10AM-Noon Thalia Lynn Baptist Church Contact Tom Glass at 757-406-1470 or Brenda Riggs at 757-409-7518

#### Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Support Group

3rd Monday, 7PM Cancer Resource Center 757-388-2062

#### **Pancreatic Cancer Support**

Thalia United Methodist Church, 3rd Wednesday, 7PM Contact Jim Sullivan at 757-499-8083

#### **Parkinson's Support Group**

Contact 757-495-3062 to find a group in your area

#### Pink, POWERFUL, & Perky Breast Cancer Support Group

2nd Tuesday, 7PM Sentara Leigh Hospital 757-261-5404

## Pink Passion Women's Cancer Support Group

1st Wednesday, 12 noon Sentara Obici Hospital 757-934-4395

#### PROS Men's Cancer Support Group

4th Tuesday, 6:30PM Sentara Obici Hospital 757-934-4395

#### **Prostate Cancer Support**

Norfolk: 3rd Tuesday, 7PM 757-366-2062 Suffolk: 4th Tuesday, 6:30PM 757-934-4395

#### Virginia Beach:

3rd Thursday, 6:30PM 757-395-6317

Facebook: search Sentara Prostate Cancer Support

#### Sentara Obici Hospital Cancer Support

Contact Amy @ 757-934-4395 for times and dates of other cancer support programs.

#### Still Standing Survival Suicide Group

Spring Branch Community Church, 2nd Tuesday, 7-9PM 757-464-9289

#### **Stroke Support**

Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital 3rd Wednesday, 2:30PM Janice Taylor: 347-752-1384 Ed Silverman: 757-486-7799 Ken & Valorie Sumner: 757-651-3370

## Swinging Survivors Breast Cancer Support Group

4th Wednesday, 6PM Sentara Leigh Hospital 757-261-5404

#### **Thyroid Cancer Support Group**

3rd Wednesday, 6:30PM Sentara Norfolk General Hospital 757-388-2062

#### **Unique Boutique**

Sentara Norfolk General Hospital by appointment, 3rd Wednesday: 757-388-0221 Sentara Princess Anne Hospital by appointment: 757-525-5268 Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital by appointment: 757-395-8731

#### Wings In Motion

Every Monday and Wednesday, 10AM at Virginia Beach Rescue Squad #8, Bayne Drive Contact Judy Holland at 757-481-5998

#### **Yoga for Cancer Survivors**

Contact Kerry Clay at 757-395-6317 for more info.

## online

#### Get Off Your Butt: Stay Smokeless for Life

1-800-736-8272 or optimahealth.com/quitsmoking

## Gynecologic Cancer Support Group

Facebook: search Sentara Gynecologic Support Group

## peninsula

#### Alzheimer's Support

1-800-272-3900

#### **Bereavement Support**

Sentara CarePlex Hospital Meets twice monthly Counselor: 757-736-2007 Chaplain: 757-736-1201 Williamsburg: Contact Hannah Creager for location and times at 757-206-1177

#### **Breast Cancer Support**

4th Tuesday, 7-8:30PM Sentara CarePlex Hospital 757-594-1939

#### **Caregiver Support Group for MEN**

3rd Wednesday, 11:15-12:30PM Williamsburg United Methodist Church Complimentary care is available for your loved one; pre-register with Charlie Martino at 757-564-0098 or Carolyn Yowell, 229-1771 ext. 354

#### **Colorectal Cancer Support Group**

3rd Wednesday, 1PM 757-736-1234

#### **Depression Support**

2nd & 4th Wednesday, 10:30AM 757-247-0871

#### **Grocery Store Tour**

Led by a registered dietician Williamsburg Call 1-800-736-8272 for dates, times and location.

#### Living Beyond Cancer Survivorship Program

sentara.com/events or 1-800-SENTARA

#### **Mended Hearts Williamsburg Chapter**

3rd Thursday of each month 3PM Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center Yorktown Conference Room MLHOLLIN@sentara.com for info

#### Stroke Support

3rd Wednesday, 4PM 757-984-9900

#### **Unique Boutique**

Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center by appointment: 757-345-4439

#### **Women's Heart Support**

1st Monday, 7PM Contact Cindy Steger at 757-258-9128

#### **NEW!** We are on Facebook now!

Search for Sentara Living on Facebook and send a request to join this private group only for Sentara Living members!

# Community News

## WAGNER

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Sentara Living Meetings

\*FREE Diabetic Screenings



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Virginia Beach, VA 23452

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## Wellness & Prevention Information

Editor: Tina Waring 757-SENIORS • tmwaring@sentara.com



## THE LAST WORD

"Stay committed to your decisions, but stay flexible in your approach"

—Tony Robbins

It can be scary when life does not go the way we had planned. What matters most is our response to the unexpected. Instead of feeling defeated, take steps to continue moving forward.

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