

Warning Humor may be hazardous to your illness

mor Month, following is a list of reasons why laughter really is the best medicine!

•Natural pain killer: Laughter releases endorphins creating a momentary euphoria. Endorphins attach to the same receptors in the brain as opiates, making laughter a natural pain killer without the negative side effects.

•Natural mood lifter: Along with endorphins, other neuropeptides and neurotransmitters, like dopamine, are released. This has the effect of a "joy" cocktail on the body, enhancing feelings of happiness, tolerance, generosity, compassion and love.

•Improves brain function: Laughter also releases neurotransmitters that enable your brain to function faster and make connections more rapidl, improving clarity, memory and understanding. In addition, the process of laughing increases the amount of oxygen flowing to the brain which is crucial to brain health.

•Reduces blood pressure and improves circulation: Studies have shown that a good belly laugh initially increases blood pressure but that rise is followed by a decrease to below normal resting blood pressure, improving circulation.

•Fights Cancer, and asthma, and rheumatoid arthritis, and allergies and many more diseases and infections - Laughter stimulates development of antibody cells improving the body's natural ability to

To celebrate National Hu- fight illness and infection. Laughter has also been shown to decrease the levels of some stress hormones. This further strengthens the immune system since high levels of stress hormones can have a harmful effect.

 Improves sleep quality and prevents insomnia: Laughter has been clinically proven to cause the body to produce more melatonin, which is responsible for regulating the sleep cycle. A lack of melatonin leads to insomnia.

 Increases social connections and improves relationships: We all know that laughter is contagious. Shared laughter helps strengthen the emotional connection between people, building trust and closeness. Laughter is a key tool for keeping relationships healthy and fresh.

•Promotes natural exercise and healthy diet choices: It is impossible not to wiggle when you giggle! Laughter engages the body's core muscle groups and diaphragm as well as various other muscle groups in the body. That's why you can literally "laugh til it hurts". Studies have also shown that when people feel good (see all the above benefits) they tend to make healthier food choices. So there you have it! In the

words of Mary Pettibone Poole, "He who laughs, lasts."

Need to up your laughter quotient? Find numerous resources and tips at: www. humormonth.com



It's beginning to look a lot like spring at Topsail Senior Center. The ladies made beautiful pastel colored mesh wreaths in crafts over the last two weeks under the direction of RSVP volunteer Barbara Norris. Pictured left to right front row: Mary Morrison, Louise Shepard, Emily Bradley, Fran Nelligan & Pat Coyle, back row: Josie Migliara, Shirley Dickinson, Francis Bowser, Ramona Belford, Barbara Norris, Sonja Morrell & Bernice Simone.

Heritage Happenings

We've had a quick and busy March here at Heritage Place. We began the month with Wear Blue Day - colon cancer awareness and had lots of fun with our program, especially the "soul-train." Special thanks to Pender County Health Department for helping us with our program and

co- sponsoring the event. We have recently completed a Matter of Balance class. We want to thank Samantha and Sarah with the Health Department for providing that educational class.

We are currently planning our spring auction at Topsail April 26. The Cape Fear Chords Men will be providing entertainment. This is our big fundraiser for Topsail Meals on Wheels and the Senior Programs. Everyone always enjoys this evening for a great cause!

We have other fun planned for National Humor Month. So we hope you will realize the benefits of a good laugh. We will celebrate the pursuit of happiness day April 13. We have many opportunities for you to be involved and are always open to suggestions for new programs and activities. Call Jennifer Mathews, center coordinator at 259-9119 x 303.



RSVP celebrates National Volunteer **Appreciation Month**

By Barbara Mullins RSVP Director

Retired Senior Volunteer Program is celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation month Tuesday April 3 at 9 a.m. at Heritage Place in Burgaw and Wednesday, April 4 at 9 a.m. at Topsail Senior Center, Hampstead.

We have invited prestigious people in our community to join us for a game of RSVP Jeopardy. They will be our contestants and surely a fun morning is planned for all. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Three of our Pender County mayors will be reading Proclamations in support and praise of our RSVP volunteers throughout Pender County. Community is welcome to join us and see what great opportunities there are with RSVP.

Our volunteers are all more than 55 years of age and enjoy fun experiences together, awesome speakers (with varied topics of interest) every month at our Perks meetings, share their expertise in past careers and life skills.

It is proven fact that volunteering promotes healthier living and happier lives. Please consider coming to this event and check out the fun we have together. For more information, call 910-259-9119 (ext 329).



Participants at the Heritage Place Blues Day enjoy the "Soul Train."



Our Topsail Quilters would love for you to join them. Wednesday mornings or Thursday afternoon. They make beautiful quilters. The Heritage Place group meets on Tuesday afternoons.





Join Fran and Anna and create beautiful jewelry. Thursday mornings at 9 a.m.



Topsail Senior Center will host their Silent Auction April 26 featuring the Cape Fear Chordsmen. Tickets are available now. Items are being accepted for the silent auction.

"Generation to Generation Event"

WHEN: Wednesday March 28th
TIME: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
WHERE : HERITAGE PLACE, PENDER ADULT SERVICES, BURGAW





STUDENTS FROM PENDER EARLY COLLEGE WILL BE HERE TO HELP WITH PROBLEMS YOU HAVE WITH YOUR CELL PHONE, TABLET, AND LAPTOP

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ITEM CHARGED AND BRING YOUR CHARGER WITH YOU !

- April Calendar Pender Adult Services April 5 - AARP Tax Aide continues at Topsail (M & W 1-5 p.m.) April 3 – RSVP Perks - 9 a.m. (HP) April 4 – RSVP Perks - 9 a.m. (TSC) April 9 – Bowling at Ten Pin Alley April 10 – "Generation to Generation" technology help 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. (HP) April 11 – Retired Pender County School Personnel Meeting – 11a.m.
- April 11 Blind Group Meeting 1p.m (HP)
- April 13 "Pursuit of Happiness" Day
- April 16 AARP Tax Aide Last day(TSC) 1-5 p.m.
- April 17 Thank a Volunteer National Volunteer Week
- April 19 Health Checks 11:30 a.m. (TSC) sponsored by PCHD
- April 26 Health Checks 11:30 a.m. (HP) sponsored by PCHD
- April 26 Caregivers Support Meeting 11:30 a.m. (HP) April 26 – Auction at Topsail – 6 p.m. (TSC)

Topsail Silent Auction with the Cape Fear Chordsmen Get your tickets now!

\$20 per person for Dinner and entertainment!

Memorial and Honorary Giving Program

In Memory of Carol Clearman by Heritage Place Knitting Group Contributions from Emma B Anderson Memorial Chapel Wardell & Ruby McDuffie Willarlea Ruritan Club Thank you for your contributions

Have you considered a gift toPender Adult Services, Inc.? We appreciate your supportfor services that we offer! Your donations to PAS are tax deductible. An acknowledgement will be sent whether donation is in Honor or in Memory of individual or group. For more information on Pender Adult Services Memorial and Honorary Giving Program please contact Wesley Davis at 910-259-9119.



Pender Adult Services Class Schedule Heritage Place Opportunities Phone: 910-259-9119

Monday 8:00—7:00	Tuesday 8:00—5:00	Wednesday 8:00—5:00	Thursday 8:00—5:00	Friday 8:00—3:00
9:00 Art Class (Feb 26) 12:00 Meals 1:00 Bid Whist 1:00 Canasta 3:00 Lamplighters Chorus (offsite at times) 6:00 Line Dance	9:00 Crocheting 9:00 RSVP Perks (1st) 10:00 WALK w/Ease 10:30 Group Walk 11:00 Geri-fit 12:00 Meals 12:30 Pinochle/Rummikub 1:00 Quilting/KNITTING	9:00 Basket Class 11:00 Bingo 12:00 Meals 1:00 Bid Whist 1:00 Bridge 1:00 Blind Support (2nd)	10:00 Jewelry <i>(with interest)</i> 10:00 <i>WALK w/Ease</i> <i>10:30 Group Walk</i> 11:00 Geri-fit 11:30 Caregivers Support (4th) 11:30 Health Checks (4th) 12:00 Meals 1:00 Rummikub/ MEX TRAIN 3:00 Craft Club	10:30 Matter of Balance 11:00 Bingo 12:00 Meals Saturday—closed Facility Available For Rentals
Tenceil Conier Conter Oppertunities				Phone: 910-270-0708

Topsail Senior Center Opportunities

Monday 8:30 am—5:00 pm 9:00 Art Class (group) 10:00 Modified PILATES 12:00 Meals 1:00 Tree Top Quilters(2nd) 3:00 Hospice Trg (2nd)



Pender Adult Services is committed to providing our community a safe, stable, environment in which individuals can maintain their independence, good health practices, and a healthy sense of self-esteem. Tuesday 8:30 am—5:00 pm 9:00 Baskets 9:00 Geri-Fit 10:00 Senior Crafts & fun 12:00 Meals 2:00 Gentle YOGA 3:15 Advanced Tai Chi

5:30 RPM Cycling

8:30 BODYPUMP

10:45 FIT OVER 50

5:30 BODYPUMP

9:40 YOGA

Wednesday 8:30 am—5:00 pm 9:00 Quilting Bee 9:00 RSVP Perks (1st) 9:30 Knitting Group 12:00 Meals 1:00 Canasta Thursday 8:30 am—5:00 pm 9:00 Geri-fit & Cribbage 10:00 YOGA 10:00 Bingo 11:15 Beg. Tai Chi 12:00 Meals (BP Checks-3rd) 1:00 Quilting/Mahjong/ BRIDGE Friday

8:30 am—2:30 pm 11:00 Line Dance 12:00 Meals 12:00 Line dance 2 Caregivers Support ** **Call for info

Saturday – Facility Available for rentals

Phone: 910-259-0422

Fitness Fusion Group Fitness ClassesMondayTuesdayWednesdayTIOpen 5:00—9:00Open 5:00—9:00Open 5:00—9:00Open

9:40 YOGA 10:45 FIT OVER 50 5:30 BODY ATTACK 5:30 RPM Cycling

5:30 RPM Cycling

Wednesday Open 5:00—9:00 7:00 RPM Cycling 8:30 BODYPUMP 9:50 PILATES

5:30 BODY PUMP Massage by Appointment Thursday Open 5:00—9:00 5:30 RPM Cycling 9:40 YOGA 10:45 FIT OVER 50

5:30 RPM Cycling 5:30 BODY ATTACK Friday Open 5:00—9:00 8:30 BODYPUMP 9:50 PILATES 5:30 BODY PUMP Saturday Open 8:00—2:30 8:30 RPM Cycling 8:30 Body Attack