



THE WILLOWS  
AT HOWELL

*A Trilogy Senior Living Community*

# Monthly

November 2019



## *Smart Eating:* Your Guide to Brain Food this Thanksgiving

The brain is the most significant organ in our body. Without it, we wouldn't have any of the unique thoughts and memories that make us who we are. As we continue to age, it is important to exercise the brain as if it were a muscle. In fact, studies have shown individuals who keep their brains healthy are less prone to certain forms of dementia, like Alzheimer's disease. Their brains form what is called a "cognitive reserve" to help protect from this disease. Simply put, an active mind is a healthy mind!

There are many things you can do in order to help keep your brain

healthy. Make sure to get plenty of sleep and physical activity, continue to learn and explore new things, keep an active social life, and include brain food in your diet. This Thanksgiving, consider incorporating some of these brain foods into your meal. Some of these might seem untraditional for a Thanksgiving dinner, but they'll help you build up your cognitive reserve!

- **Blueberries** - These sweet, juicy berries have been shown to protect the brain from oxidative stress. Oxidative stress happens when there is an imbalance between the production of oxygen and the body's ability to purify that oxygen. Studies

have also shown that blueberries increased the motor ability and learning ability of aging rats, making them equal to young rats. It is recommended that you eat at least one cup of blueberries daily.

- **Wild Salmon** - Many kinds of fish, including salmon, have Omega-3 fatty acids which are crucial to brain function. Omega-3s also contain anti-inflammatory substances. It is recommended that you eat four ounces of fish containing Omega-3's at least three or four times a week.

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## Smile of the Month

We are smiling ear to ear over her! We have many different fun activities and events going on in the campus! Come join us!



## Did You Know...?

The Private Dining Room can be reserved for parties, family gatherings, and other special events. Please see Robb in Guest Relations to sign a room reservation contract and book a room.

Happy Hour is every Friday from 3:00 to 5:00 with music, food, beer, wine, and spirits. Come out and join us during this wonderful time!

Brunch is the second Sunday of the month. Residents are allowed to bring 2 guests for free and can make those reservations with Robb in Guest Relations.

November is Aviation history month, National Alzheimer's Disease Month, National Long-term Care Awareness month, National Native American Heritage Month, and National Roasting Month. The flower of the month is chrysanthemum, and the birthstone is topaz.



## Executive Director Corner

Happy November! I hope that October was good

to you, and I hope you're ready for all that November has in store. Now that I'm already hearing the occasional Christmas Carol on the way in to work, I'm finding it hard not to get excited about the weeks ahead. If you're also noticing yourself getting lost in the tune of a favorite song, I highly encourage you to check out our *Music to My Ears* program, where you can participate in musical activities up to three times a week.

Around this time of the year, we hear a lot about family. In honor of National Family Caregivers Month, we especially like to remember our loved ones who never question helping us when we need it, and who continue to keep us warm with their love

and support. This year's theme for the month is "Caregiving Around the Clock," which acknowledges the struggles that family caregivers face, and seeks to provide them with the tools necessary to deliver the best care possible. Talk to any member of our team about the multitude of resources we provide for family caregivers, as well as our Long-Term and Short-Term care options that can lift some of the weight off of their shoulders.

Thank you to everyone who works so compassionately to make our community a home for all that we serve. I hope that you have a great November, and I look forward to spending the holiday season with you!

Sincerely,

*Jamie Scott*, BS, LPN, NHA  
Executive Director

## Happy Birthday, Loma!

Loma turned 100 on September 26th! Her family and the whole campus came out to celebrate her birthday! Even Howell's major and sheriff came out to congratulate her; while the Livingston Paper came out to take photos of her surprise puzzle party!







## SUNDAY BRUNCH

Our last brunch was Willy Wonka themed for our Customer Service Satisfaction survey period. Our residents and their families got the yellow envelopes, which had the survey in it, in the mail; this was their "Golden Ticket" There were Wonka inspired decorations, and even the food was Wonka inspired, such as Golden Egg Saffron Risotto and Cocoa Rubbed Beef with Bacon-Whiskey Gravy.



## Live a Dream

We have a new type of dream called Dream VR we are piloting at our campus, which uses virtual reality to transport our residents to new places and experiences! We will have the experiences on the activity calendar on Tuesdays and Thursdays! We would love to have you join us for this new experience!



## Cooking Class

We love to make different types of desserts and savory items! Join us on Fridays to help us create wonderful dishes to share during happy hour! Our favorites from last month were the Moon Cheese Ball, crab dip, and coleslaw and pigs in a blanket!







# THE WILLOWS AT HOWELL

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*Andrew Russell, RN*  
*Director of Health Services*

*Drew Plemmons, RN*  
*Assistant Director of Health Services*

*Kait Garrett*  
*Community Service Rep.*

*Becca Mullen, MA, CTRS*  
*Life Enrichment Director*

*Jackie Zolnier, LPN*  
*Assisted Living Director*

*Neil Palmer*  
*Director of Plant Operations*

*Tiffany Price*  
*Director of Food Service*

*Diane Long*  
*Director Environmental Services*

*Bruce Cassidy*  
*Medical Director*

*Melissa O'Brian*  
*Rehab Program Director*

*Rose Stockbridge*  
*Director of Social Work*

## Stay in the Loop [t](#) [f](#)

Keep up with latest campus news  
and happenings by following  
us on your favorite social networks!

*We strive to provide the best customer  
service and quality care for our residents.*

*Our Department Leaders are here  
to solve any concerns you may have.*

*In the event that you need further  
assistance with any unresolved concerns,  
we encourage you to call or email  
our Compliance Hotline: 800-908-8618,  
ext. 2800; or [comply@trilogyhs.com](mailto:comply@trilogyhs.com)*

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# 'Smart Eating'

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• **Nuts and Seeds** - Nuts and seeds are a great source of Vitamin-E, and the more Vitamin-E you have, the greater your chances of avoiding cognitive challenges in later years. Try to eat an ounce a day of your nuts or seeds of choice. There are plenty of different flavors and options for both of these brain healthy foods!

• **Avocados** - Are you a guacamole fan? Then you have avocado to thank! However, they aren't just good for a zesty green dip; they also have lots of mono-saturated fat, which helps increase blood flow. Increased blood flow helps keep a healthy brain. They also lower blood pressure, which helps prevent hypertension-a risk factor in the decline of cognitive abilities. You should eat 1/4 or 1/2 of

an avocado as a side dish with one of your main courses.

• **Whole Grains** - Whole grains can reduce the risk of heart disease because they increase blood flow, which in turn helps the brain. Try eating a 1/2 cup of whole grain cereal, or a slice of whole grain bread daily.

Hopefully, this list gives you plenty of options for healthy eating. If not, there are many other tasty foods to assist you in keeping your mind sharp. Also, if you have a loved one who calls our campus home, you can rest assured that they too will receive all of the delicious brain nutrients that they need. Our chefs are well trained, our ingredients always fresh, and the health of our residents is always our top priority.

## Word Search

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AVOCADO  
BLUEBERRY  
BRAIN  
DELICIOUS

EATING  
FOOD  
FRESH  
GRAINS

HEALTHY  
MEAL  
NUTS  
SALMON

SEEDS  
THANKSGIVING  
VITAMINS  
ZESTY