WINTER 2023/24 | ISSUE 15



# AGECaring NEWSLETTER

Providing support and education for older adults and caregivers

Sponsored by The Arkansas Geriatric Education Collaborative (AGEC)

## **Seasonal Affective Disorder & Seniors**

#### **Seasonal Affective Disorder**

known as SAD or Winter Depression is a type of depression that usually comes on during the fall and winter months when there is less daylight, but tends to improve during the springtime.

Older adults can be especially at risk for SAD if they stay inside more during the winter months. Here are a few tips to help you stay mentally and physically fit this winter!

Reference: American Psychiatric Association

### 7 Tips to Combat SAD

- 1 **Get enough sleep:** 7-8 hours a night can help you feel more energetic
- **Be social:** Finding ways to spend time with friends or family members can boost your mood
- **Meditate or practice mindfulness:** Taking time to be in the moment and quiet the mind may relieve stress and boost mood
- 4 Stay active: activities that get your heart pumping can promote feelings of well-being and can subdue mild depression
- **Get outside (safely):** Don't just hibernate all winter, go outside and get sunlight and fresh air
- **6 Use a light box:** Artificial light therapy has been successful in treating SAD. Talk with your Doctor
- 7 Stay off social media: Upsetting news or headlines can negatively affect your mood. Limit this when you can

## Healthy Pumpkin Pie Recipe for the Holidays

#### **Ingredients**

#### Pie crust:

1 cup quick cooking oats

½ cup whole wheat flour

1/4 cup ground almonds

2 tablespoons brown sugar

½ teaspoon salt

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

1 tablespoon water

#### Pie filling:

1/4 cup packed brown sugar

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 egg, beaten

4 teaspoon vanilla

1 cup canned pumpkin

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup evaporated skim milk





## "Learn with us"

Nov. 7	Noon (Virtual)	Disaster Preparedness for Seniors
Nov. 14	10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Bryant Senior Center	The Importance of Brain Health & Lifelong Learning
Nov. 28	Noon (Virtual)	Recognizing & Preventing Social Isolation & Loneliness in Aging
Dec. 5	Noon (Virtual)	Understanding Opioids & Non-opioid Pain Management
Dec. 12	Noon (Virtual)	Understand Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease



## Check out our calendar!

agec.UAMS.edu/ community-events

### Use the AGEC website and Facebook page for FREE PROGRAMS



## Use <u>facebook.com/UAMSagec</u> to view saved video content!

- · Recognizing and Preventing Social Isolation
- · Heart and Brain Health
- Eat Well, Live Well
- Ageless Grace Exercise video
- · Healthy Cooking videos
- AGECaring Friends interviews
- Caregiving tips for Dementia and Alzheimer's disease
- Understanding Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease and many more!

## Now online at agec.UAMS.edu/workshop

or check the calendar for in person workshops

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