## Keep Your Kidneys Healthy

The kidneys have an important role in the body. These two organs filter the blood, regulate the balance of certain nutrients, and produce essential hormones. National Kidney Month in March is a reminder to take care of your kidneys.
Stay hydrated - Being consistent about drinking water and other fluids helps the kidneys perform their most important job, flushing out waste and excess fluid from the bloodstream.
Maintain a healthy diet - Eating nutritious foods, including those low in sodium, may lower your risk of developing kidney problems. Some common foods that boost kidney health include apples, blueberries, red bell peppers, cabbage and fatty fish such as tuna and salmon.
Monitor blood pressure - High blood pressure is a major cause of kidney damage. Get your blood pressure checked regularly and work with your health care provider to make any needed lifestyle changes.
Exercise - Keeping fit can lower blood pressure and improve heart function, which influences kidney health. Review medications - When taken daily, some over-the-counter pain relievers can contribute to kidney problems. Some supplements may also affect the kidneys. Talk to your doctor about all medications you are taking.
Control blood sugar - Diabetes causes the kidneys to work extra hard and can lead to kidney disease, so it's important to regularly monitor blood sugar levels and check kidney function.


## Fancy Footwork

A highlight of many St. Patrick's Day festivities is the fast footwork and lively music of Irish dancing.
Step dancing is the most well-known form of Irish dance. In the 1700s, this pastime became more structured with the emergence of dance masters, teachers who traveled from village to village to give dance lessons.


These
teachers also formalized the choreography of traditional step dances and inspired dance competitions that continue today. Jigs, reels, slips and hornpipes are all types of step dances, and while styles differ between them, the emphasis is always on the feet. The dancer's upper body usually remains rigid, arms loose at the sides, with quick movements by the legs and feet. Traditional Irish music, featuring fiddles, hand drums and Irish bagpipes, accompanies the dancing. When dancers wear hardsoled shoes, their stepping creates a powerful sound that adds to the music's rhythm.
The popularity of Irish step dancing soared worldwide after the debut of the stage show "Riverdance" in 1995.

## Dear Residents, Families and Friends,

Top O' the Mornin' to ya! We are getting in the
swing of a whole month of Irish fun! Every March 17, thousands of people march in Irish pride parades, eat green clover-shaped cookies and quaff frosty mugs of green beer in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.
Patrick was born in AD 387 just south of Hadrian's Wall in Britain, which was part of the Roman Empire (that's right, he wasn't Irish). He was captured by Irish pagans in his early teens and taken to Ireland, where he was enslaved for six years. During that time, he grew to like the spirit of the Irish. When he escaped and returned to his family, he vowed to one
 day return to Ireland.
We have many fun events planned this month that will include our Mad Hatter Tea Party on March 10, at 6 p.m. We have our Employee Appreciation Social Hour on March 6. Outings for March will include Hillside Café and Chili's. Also, please join our daily exercise classes that take place in the Community Room (special thanks to Legacy Rehab and Advanced Rehab Trust).
Cheers,
Erin Montgomery,
Executive Director

## Sweet Spring Flower

Violets are among the first flowers to bloom in the spring, offering cheer to all who see them.
The violet family has about 600 species, including pansies and violas, which are often sold as annual flowers, blooming for a single growing season. Many wild species of violets are perennials, popping up every year and spreading easily on lawns and in fields and forests.
Most types of violets have green heart-shaped leaves and flowers made of five petals, also found in shades of blue, white, yellow, orange, pink and red. Many are twotoned, with patterns that give the blossoms the look of a smiling face.
Violets are said to symbolize love, loyalty, nobility and humility.





Tarantino

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## MARCH 2020

## Locations

Activity Room, AR
AL Courtyard, ALC
AL Parking Lot, ALPL
Bistro, B
Dining Room, DR
Library, LL
Lobby, L
Outing, O
Spa, Spa

## Birthdays

James Long, 7th
Bridgette Riles, 9th (Employee)
Carole Wilson, 11th
Virginia Fields, 26th

## Transportation

## Schedule

Monday, 10 a.m. Grocery Stores
Tuesday, 10 a.m. Walmart
Wednesday, 10 a.m.
Post Office/Bank
Thursday, 10 a.m.
Walmart
Friday, TBA
Field Trips/Outing
"Great art picks up where nature ends."
-Marc Chagall


