



"THE SENIOR INFORMER" **July 2023**



Your source of current news and information from The Neal Center, 100 T.R. Harris Drive, Shelby, NC 28150



Something to think about

**"People can't drive you
crazy if you don't give them the
keys."**

—Mike Bechtle



Did you know...?

**....that German Chocolate
Cake doesn't come from
Germany. It's named for
Sam German, who
developed this type of
baking chocolate in 1852
for Baker's Chocolate.**



**(Source:)101 Fun Facts | Random, Interesting
Facts To Blow Your Mind - Parade: Entertainment,
Recipes, Health, Life, Holidays)**



From the Executive Director's Desk...

Paulette Putnam, Neal Center Executive Director

When I think of the month of July, I think of cookouts, watermelon, the beach, and...of course...all those 90-degree days. If you're like me, (not a hot weather person), you choose to do inside events. We have plenty at the Senior Center. Please come visit us and see all the fun things going on you have been missing!

Hope you all will have a Happy July 4th and try to stay cool!

*Paulette Putnam
Executive Director*

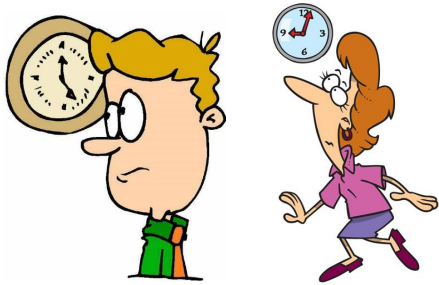


Neal Center Staff and Contact Information
Have a question? A specific need? Not sure what to do?

Neal Center main number: 704/482-3488

Paulette Putnam, Executive Director	Daniel Dedmon, Program Director
Teresia Ladd, Administrative Assistant	Dolores Ashworth, Volunteer Coordinator
Heather Ledbetter, Nutrition Coordinator	Linda Geter, Housing Director/Rental Coord.
April Wheatley, Bookkeeper	Jane Wright, Administrative Secretary
Stephanie Baxter, Housekeeping	

What are the hours for the Neal Senior Center?
Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm
Friday, 8:30am-12:00pm
Not sure if the center is open? Call our
"Weather Line" at 704/481-7398!



**Announcing the 3rd Annual
Neal Senior Center/COA
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Presented by:



Sponsored by-



When: Friday, August 25, 2023

Where: River Bend YMCA Golf Course

Format: 4-man Captain's Choice

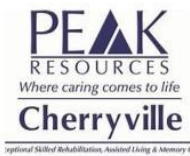
Time: Tee-Time Start (Call for Tee-Time
704/482-4286)

Cost: \$75/player, \$300/team

Deadline to register: Friday, August 18, 2023

Box Lunch provided by: Bayada Home Health Care

Drinks provided by: Brookdale Senior Living of
Patrons:



For more information, call Rick Hord of Tumbleweed Marketing at 704/473-6744
or email at rick.tumbleweed@gmail.com. All proceeds benefit the Council on
Aging.

**WANT TO LEARN HOW TO PAINT?
FEEL YOU HAVE NO TALENT?**



TAKE THE
*"PAINT WITH BOB ROSS
OIL PAINTING CLASS"*
AND FIND OUT HOW **EASY** AND **FUN**
PAINTING IS!

The class is taught by local artist Suzzette Proffit
and will meet two Tuesdays
monthly, from 12 Noon to 3 PM on the following
dates:

July 11th & 25th, August 1st & 8th,
September 5th & 12th,
October 3rd & 10th, November 7th & 28th, &
December 5th & 12th

**For further information, please send a
TEXT to Suzzette at 704/747-2844**

**Are you dealing with “summer boredom”?
.....and it’s just now JULY???**



**Then, LEND YOUR VOLUNTEER SERVICES to the
Neal Senior Center!**



The Neal Senior Center is looking to start new classes! However, we need volunteers who can serve as an instructor in the following activities:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Chess | ▪ Button Art |
| ▪ Beginning Bridge | ▪ Rhythmic Drumming |
| ▪ Mah-Jong | ▪ Smartphone use |
| ▪ Canasta | ▪ Ballroom Dancing |

If you’re interested in being a volunteer instructor in any of these activities, please contact Daniel Dedmon, Neal Senior Center Program Director, at 704/481-7387 or at ddedmon@agingcouncil.org

Warming Up the Vintage TV

The show: “The Edge of Night”

The network: CBS, ABC

Broadcast history:

April 2, 1956–November 28, 1975 (CBS)

December 1, 1975–December 31, 1984 (ABC)

Format: Black and White & Color/30 minutes

Where to watch: YouTube

Many of the early daytime dramas, or “Soap Operas” as they’re affectionately referred to, focused mainly on love, marriage, deception, sickness, death...and the list goes on! However, in 1956, a new daytime drama was launched that involved those typical elements of the traditional soap operas, but with a unique twist....mystery and suspense! Hence, “The Edge of Night” became very popular in that it was a combination soap opera and mystery show.



Irving Vendig, a writer for the “Perry Mason” radio show, designed the layout of the show similar to “Perry Mason”, but for daytime television. His creation, “The Edge of Night”, premiered on April 2, 1956, as one of the first two half-hour serials on television, the other being “As the World Turns”. Up to this point, 15-minute-long soap operas had been the standard. Both shows aired on CBS, sponsored by consumer product giant Procter & Gamble. Actor John Larkin, who played “Perry Mason” on radio, was cast as “Mike Karr”, the main focus of the show, where he began as a detective and eventually became an attorney. Taking place in Monticello, somewhere in the mid-western part of the USA, the show dealt with a constant array of gangsters, drug dealers, Blackmailers, cultists, international spies, corrupt politicians, psychopaths, and murderous debutantes, while at the same time coping with more usual soap opera problems like courtship, marriage, divorce, child custody battles, and amnesia.

For the serial’s entire duration, stories had much to do with Mike and the cases he was involved in. As the series began, Mike started a relationship with co-worker “Sara Lane”. Yet, the added complication for Mike was that Sara’s family was involved in organized crime! Her paternal uncle was a corrupt megalomaniac, whose trucking company was a front to fence stolen goods. In the first major story line, Sara’s impressionable younger brother, Jack, was slowly being drawn into the criminal world through Harry. Harry also plotted to murder his blackmailing secretary and frame his dipsomaniac wife. With this plot, the show established a winning formula that would guide the series for the next nine years: a villain would create an elaborate plan to murder an enemy and frame an innocent party for the crime. Every murder plot ended with a criminal trial, in which Mike, often with the assistance of close friend and Chief of Police, Bill Marceau, would solve the puzzle, prove the innocence of his client, and bring the killer to justice. Although this story structure was predictable (which, in truth, may explain the program’s success), the writers worked overtime to devise an endless stream of idiosyncratic villains in a variety of interesting settings.

“Edge” was an instant hit with daytime viewers, amassing an audience of nine million in its first year. At one point, the audience for the show was estimated to be more than 50% male, largely due to the show’s crime format and its late airtime of 4:30 pm. Even in mid-1963, when the show was moved to the 3:30pm time period, the show dominated the time slot. However, in 1972, Procter & Gamble insisted that CBS air all of the Procter & Gamble owned shows in a block. As a result, when the show moved to 2:30 pm in the fall of 1972, it slid from 4th out of 17 daytime soaps in the Nielsen ratings down to 10th. It was theorized that this major ratings drop happened because many male viewers and teenagers were unable to make it home from work or school earlier in the afternoon to watch.

In 1961, Teal Ames, who played “Sara Karr” for five years, decided to leave the show to do other things. It was decided that no other actress could successfully replace her, so the writers had Sara “killed off”. Sara was struck by a car while saving daughter Laurie Ann, who had wandered into the street. After clinging to life for five days, Sara died peacefully in the hospital. Grieving fans immediately swamped local affiliates and CBS with telephone calls and telegrams, with almost 500 logged before that episode finished its broadcast for the day. Public reaction was so fervent, that Teal Ames made a special appearance at the end of the following episode, explaining to the audience that she was perfectly fine and had voluntarily left the series to pursue other interests. However, this loss also showed in the Nielsen ratings, as Edge’s viewership declined for the first time in its history. Eight months later, when lead performer John Larkin also announced his intent to leave, producers wisely sent his “Mike Karr” to Capitol City for a brief sabbatical until an appropriate actor could be found to fill the part. In early 1962, veteran soap performer Lawrence Hugo assumed the role. In the storyline, his character was immediately paired with a sympathetic reporter “Nancy Pollock”, played by actress Ann Flood. Their popularity reached the same level of audience interest previously held by Mike and Sara. A year later, in 1963, Mike and Nancy were married. Their union was to be the series’ longest, lasting until the final episode over 21 years later.

In 1975, CBS decided to expand the highly-rated “As The World Turns” to a full hour, but had no slot to offer “The Edge of Night”, so CBS cancelled it. ABC Television was anxious to pick up “The Edge of Night”, but there was a problem: ABC wouldn’t have an available time slot for the show until three months after its end on CBS, which almost caused ABC to drop the whole thing. Procter & Gamble intervened with CBS and was able to talk the network into delaying the expansion of “As the World Turns” until December 1, 1975.

On that same day, ABC scheduled the show in the 4:00p.m. late-afternoon time slot for in the Eastern and Central Time Zones, and, due to a different scheduling pattern for ABC's West Coast feed, at noon in the Pacific Time Zone. Because many ABC affiliates chose to air their own programming at the 4:00pm slot instead of the network feed for many years, the early ratings were low. Some stations dropped the show once it moved to ABC, while other ABC affiliates recorded it for delayed broadcast in a morning slot. Nevertheless, for the stations that aired it at 4:00pm, it won its time slot. The show’s demographics were significantly better on ABC because the show got its youth and some of its male demographics back. Therefore, ABC was able to charge higher advertising rates for it than several series with higher audience ratings.

By the fall of 1984, “The Edge of Night” was airing on only 106 of ABC's 213 affiliate stations. Due to the constant loss of revenue from the show, which was often being pre-empted for news bulletins, special sports events, etc., Procter & Gamble could no longer afford to continue producing the show. Thus, on October 26, 1984, ABC and Procter & Gamble made a joint announcement that the final telecast would take place on December 28, 1984. Procter & Gamble had hoped that another network would pick the show up, or have the show go into first-run syndication. It was decided that the final broadcast would be a “cliffhanger” show, with all the storylines unfinished and leaving the audience not knowing what would happen next. Unfortunately, the plan to continue the show elsewhere would have been expensive and a financial risk, so the plan to continue the show was scrapped.

Most CBS episodes of “The Edge of Night” no longer exist as the series was broadcast live until September 1975, shortly before the move to ABC. CBS had discontinued their practice of erasing over shows it owned in 1972, but Procter & Gamble continued erasing tapes until 1978. Of the 7,420 shows that were produced, only forty-five episodes of the CBS era and all episodes from 1978-84 of the ABC era are known to still exist. Thanks to YouTube, a number of complete broadcasts of this vintage classic are available for viewing. (Sources: Wikipedia, YouTube, soaps.fandom.com)

Let's Eat!



“Summer Sweets”

When it comes to summer, we all like foods that reminds us of the “tastes of summer”. Anything with fruit certainly suits the summer palate, so these recipes will be perfect! The recipe for “Dump Cake” dates back to the late 1960’s and was wildly popular. It wasn’t just because it was good eating, but easy enough for anyone to make! And with summer, we need ice cream! This recipe for “Homemade Ice Cream” is an especially good ice cream that is much like a sherbet—it’s light and refreshing, yet creamy and smooth with the addition of sour cream. And it can be made in your choice of fruit flavors!

DUMP CAKE

- ♦ 1 (20 oz.) can Crushed Pineapple
- ♦ 1 can Cherry Pie Filling
- ♦ 1 pkg. Yellow Cake Mix
- ♦ 1 C. Chopped Nuts (Optional)
- ♦ 1 C. Flaked Coconut (Optional)
- ♦ 2 sticks Butter, melted

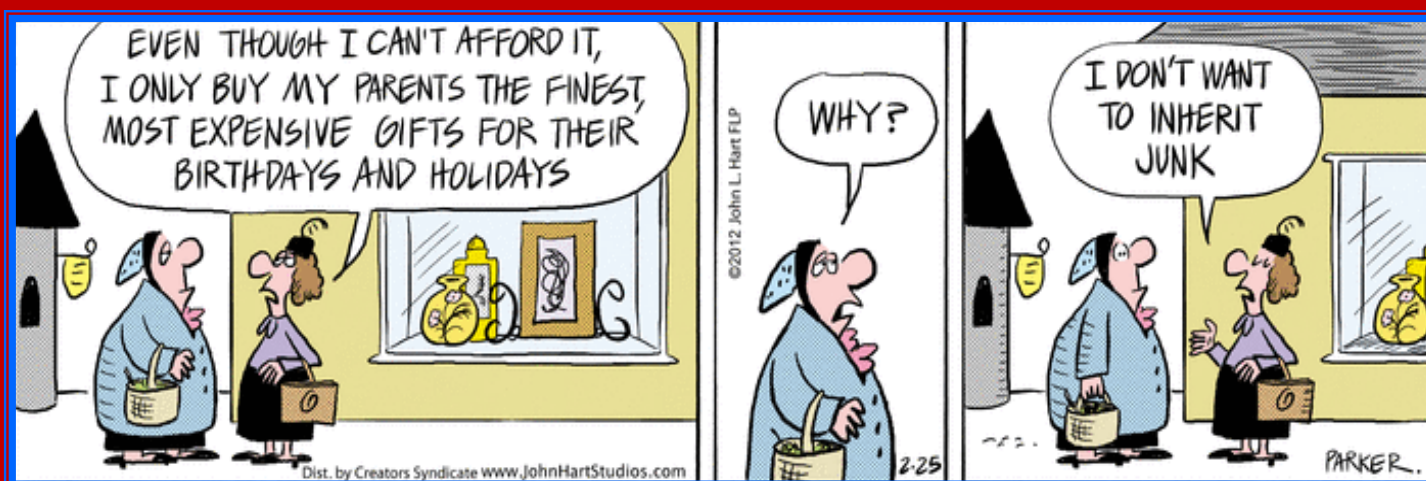
Spray a 9x13 inch pan with non-stick cookware spray. Spread the crushed pineapple, juice and all, evenly on the bottom. Spread pie filling over pineapple. Sprinkle the dry cake mix over the fruit. Top with nuts and coconut, if using them. Drizzle melted butter over all. Bake at 350 degree for 35-45 minutes. Serve warm plain or with whipped cream or ice cream. Serves 6.

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM

- ♦ 2 cans Sweetened Condensed Milk (NOT evaporated milk)
- ♦ 2 cartons (8 oz. each) Sour Cream
- ♦ 4 Cups Milk
- ♦ 4 Cups Crushed, Sweetened Fruit (such as strawberries, peaches, bananas, or pineapple)

Combine all ingredients and stir until well combined. Cover and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled, about 3-4 hours. Pour into the canister of a 1-gallon ice cream maker and freeze according to manufacturer’s directions. Half of recipe will fit a 2 qt. ice cream maker.

Laff-A-Little!



Want to get a back-issue of "The Senior Informer" that you may have missed, lost or that has flat-out disappeared?

ALL ISSUES FROM OCTOBER 2020 TO THE PRESENT ARE AVAILABLE, EITHER IN PRINTED OR EMAIL FORMAT.

For further information, please contact Daniel Dedmon, Neal Center Program Director, at 704/481-7387

Just So You'll Know...

**The Neal Center will be closed on
Tuesday, July 4th,
in observance of Independence Day.**



ATTENTION ALL VETERANS!
Please join the
Neal Senior Center's
"Coffee & Conversation" event.



Tuesday, July 25, 2023
at the Neal Senior Center,
located at 100 T.R. Harris Drive, Shelby
beginning at 10 AM.
No reservations are required,
just show up!
A great opportunity to share stories,
thoughts, and ideas!





LEGAL AID
OF NORTH CAROLINA

LIVING WILLS AND HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY

ATTEND OUR LIVE WEBINAR TO LEARN HOW TO COMPLETE A HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY AND A LIVING WILL ON YOUR OWN. YOU WILL RECEIVE A PACKET OF LEGAL FORMS AND WATCH AN INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO. A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER GENERAL QUESTIONS.

LIVE WEBINAR WITH Q&A
NEAL SENIOR CENTER

NEALSENIORCENTER.ORG
100 T.R. HARRIS DRIVE
SHELBY, NC

TUESDAY
JULY 25TH
2:30 PM

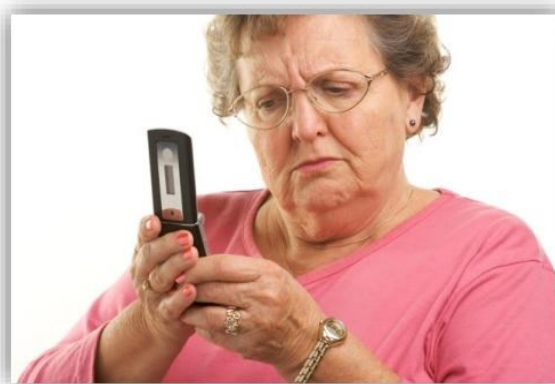
QUESTIONS? CALL THE LIBRARY
AT 704-487-4856 EX.140



To participate, please go to
<https://meet.google.com/umk-pemk-bha>



TRYING TO FIGURE OUT A "SMART PHONE"
DOESN'T TAKE A SUMMER VACATION!



COME TO NEAL SENIOR CENTER'S "SMART PHONE"
CLASS AND GET ASSISTANCE!

There's nothing more annoying than trying to use your
"smart phone" and it doesn't do what you want it to!
There's a free and easy way to get to know and
understand your phone better!

Take part in our "Smart Phone Class"
(adults age 50+)

To be held on Friday, July 14, from 10 AM-11 AM at
the Neal Senior Center.

Pre-registration is required! Please call
704/482-3488 and provide your name and contact
information. The deadline is Wednesday, July 12,
at 3 PM.

What Will They Think Of Next?

SCOTCH tape

When it comes to wrapping a package, doing a craft using paper, or repairing something torn, what do we turn to but an old reliable: SCOTCH tape! Though adhesive tape has been around for years and is made by numerous companies, the name SCOTCH has become the generic word for all types of tape, regardless of the manufacturer. This most-useful item for homes and offices was developed around 1925 by Richard Drew, who was a technician with the 3M Company. He came up with the idea when watching how auto-body painters detail cars without damaging existing paint jobs. His first invention was masking tape. But, what to name it? Richard was testing his first masking tape to determine how much adhesive he needed to add. A car body shop painter was trying a sample of the tape and became frustrated with it, believing it didn't have enough adhesive on it to make it stick well. The painter in frustration said to Richard, "Take this tape back to those Scotch bosses of yours and tell them to put more adhesive on it!" The name "Scotch" was soon applied to the entire line of 3M tapes. Then, in 1930, he came up with "transparent tape" made from cellophane. In 1932, John A. Borden, also a 3M engineer, built the first tape dispenser, which was made of iron and weighed nearly seven pounds. During the Great Depression, the versatility and durability of Scotch tape led to a surge in demand, as customers used it to mend household items like books, curtains, clothing, etc. It was helping consumers make things last longer, which was especially important during the Depression years. It was even used in industry as the Goodyear Company used it to tape the inner supportive ribs of dirigibles to prevent corrosion.



During World War II, almost all tape production was shifted to the war effort. The 3M company developed and manufactured more that 100 different types of tape to help solve war production problems such as sealing, identifying parts, holding materials, protecting and insulating. Scotch Double-Sided Tape, coated with adhesive on both sides, was first launched during this time.

Scotty McTape, a kilt-wearing cartoon boy, was the brand's advertising mascot for two decades, first appearing in 1944. The familiar tartan design, a take on the well-known Wallace tartan, was introduced in 1945. Quite possibly, the most popular of all the adhesive tape manufactured by 3M is the Magic Tape, also known as Magic Transparent Tape, wrapped in distinctive plaid packaging. Invented and introduced in 1961, it is the original matte finish tape. It appears frosty on the roll, yet is invisible on paper. This quality makes it popular for gift-wrapping. Magic Tape can be written upon with pen, pencil, or marker, comes in permanent and removable varieties, and resists drying out and yellowing.

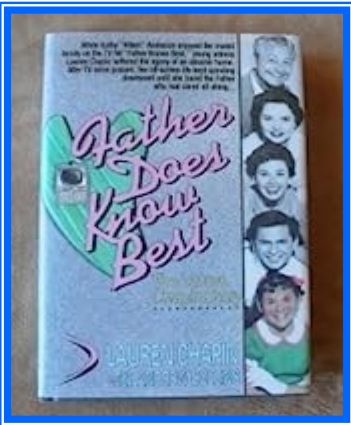
Over the years, 3M has continued to manufacture many versions of adhesive tapes. Among the newest is the Scotch® Brand Expressions Tape. This comes in more than 100 colors and patterns. There is also chalkboard tape and dry erase tape that allow you to write, erase, and rewrite in chalk or dry erase marker on any surface without the mess of sprays and special primers. Another new item is the Scotch® Pop-Up Tape Dispenser, which was introduced in 1997. Precut, 2-inch pieces of tape "pop up" from the dispenser, which can be worn on the wrist or hand. The invention adds speed and convenience to gift wrapping, crafting and school projects.

I’VE BEEN
READING.....



“Father Does Know Best”
by Lauren Chapin

If you were fortunate enough to be around in the 1950’s, you may well remember a family situation comedy called “Father Knows Best”. Even if you didn’t see the show back then, you may have seen it on one of the vintage TV channels today. “Father Knows Best” was about a typical, American family, consisting of the parents , Jim and Margaret Anderson, and three children, Betty, Bud, and Kathy. Each week, a different issue affecting one or more of the Anderson family was addressed, often with comical results!



The youngest of the children on the show, Kathy, was played by Lauren Chapin. Lauren had an older brother, who was very active in the film and TV industry, and acted as “breadwinner” for the family. Her role on FKB as “Kathy” or “Kitten” as she was nicknamed, was one that appeared to be part of the perfect family, where love abounded and issues were solved in thirty minutes. However, Lauren’s personal life was anything but perfect. When FKB ended in 1960, Lauren’s life fell completely apart. Her parents were divorced and she endured physical and verbal abuse from her alcoholic mother. Because Lauren was so closely associated with her role on FKB, she couldn’t find any other acting work. Over the course of the next twenty years, she endured prostitution, drug addiction, and jail time. To make things worse, she was also a patient in a mental hospital, attempted suicide, and even married a young man she barely knew.

Just as she was hitting rock bottom, she attended a revival and gave her life to Christ. She underwent rehab, kicking her drug habits and straightened out her life. She later became a minister and gives her testimony to church groups, which she continues doing today. She credits God for redirecting her life and stresses that her “Heavenly Father does know best!”

Published in 1989, he book is well-written and makes fascinating reading, if you enjoy nostalgia and vintage TV. The book also contains a section of photos from Lauren’s life, both past and present. Her story is rather graphic in various sections, as she tells her story just as it was without any embellishment. I found the book very interesting reading and I even completed the entire book in just one weekend! If you would like to learn about what went on in a child stars life and how they dealt with their circumstances, do take the time to read this one. It also proves that God is in control and that He DOES know best!

-Critiqued by Daniel Dedmon

Book Title: “Father DOES Know Best”
Author: Lauren Chapin
Publisher: Thomas Nelson, Inc.
ISBN: 978-0840771209
Published: 1989

Format available: Hardcover and paperback
Where available: Amazon
Special features: a photo album section

\$ MONEY MATTERS \$

MANAGING YOUR FINANCES WHEN PLANNING A VACATION

The aim of a vacation is to get away and rest...physically and mentally! If you're watching your budget, you can still plan to take a vacation. It just takes some advanced planning and preparation. Then, you can enjoy yourself to the fullest! Money management doesn't limit your enjoyment, it just means you need to be more organized with the money you set aside for your vacation. It is an effort with family or friends, and the purpose is to maintain a positive balance. When the opposite situation occurs and debt accumulates, you cannot properly recharge your energy while traveling which only increases stress.

Here's some hints for enjoying your vacation while managing your money:

1. **Set up a budget:** By setting up a vacation budget, it would be a great way to help cover costs of a vacation. Review past vacations and determine where the money was spent. Did you spend more than you had planned? If so, how can you prevent that from happening again? If you have older children going with you, it would be a great idea to include them in the budgeting decisions, so that everyone can help with the planning.
2. **Choose an affordable location:** Choosing an affordable destination may be the place to start. Camping is often a great way to experience natural beauty on a budget, whether in the mountains or on the beach. Many mid-sized American cities, such as Kansas City, St. Louis or Nashville, are worth visiting for a weekend or longer. In addition, their downtown areas are often clean, safe and packed with cool, casual bars and restaurants. And even obvious destinations like Florida or Hawaii can be done on a smaller budget if you find a way to travel during the low season.
3. **Consider a road trip:** Many of us have memories, good and bad, of family road trips. Today, with the GPS, music apps, climate control, audiobooks and podcasts, it can be much more enjoyable than it used to be. Depending on where you live, there are likely amusement parks, mountains, beaches, and historical sites within a day's drive. If small children are going with you, you may want to break a long drive of 6-7 hours (or more) into smaller parts, finding interesting places to stop along the way. Either way, by simply eliminating airfare, car trips can make the best family vacations on a budget, as long as you have a phone charger and plenty of snacks.
4. **Be flexible with your finances and your fun:** Search for flights for a few destinations that your family is interested in traveling to. But, instead of committing to a specific week or weekend, look across several dates when you might be free to travel. When you see something affordable, snag it. Even if it means taking an extra day off work, the trip will be memorable for its spontaneity and will help reinforce the importance of travel to your family.
5. **Consider a "stay-cation":** Sometimes you just need a change of scenery. Find a hotel, resort, vacation home and even campsite nearby. If you don't know where to start, try your city's website, which likely offers tourism tips for activities in your own backyard. Pack the car with treats, games and maybe a bathing suit and hit the road. It's an added plus if your hometown has a resort with a pool or an amusement park. Your family may still be talking about that epic trip 30 minutes up the highway years from now!
6. **Extend the family fun:** People often save family visits for the holidays. But, if your extended family has space to host you, consider building a trip around visiting them. Wherever they live, they probably aren't far from an interesting historic site, cultural experience or dining scene. Worried about imposing? They may be thrilled to show off their hometown and their everyday lives. Just be sure to be flexible about dates so you don't throw them off schedule. (source: capitalone.com)

JULY 2023 ACTIVITY CALENDAR				
Daily Activities				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 Monday Morning Bridge 9:30 Chair Yoga 12:30 Monday Afternoon Bridge 2:00 Chair Yoga 5:00 Monday Night Bingo 5:30 Zumba	9:45 Carolina Line Dancers 10:00 Acrylic Painting 1:00 Chair Volleyball	9:00 The Sewing Circle 9:30 Chair Yoga 10:00 Zumba Gold 11:00 Piedmont Rook 12:30 Knit Pickers 1:00 Beginning Line Dancing 2:00 Chair Yoga 2:00 Euchre	9:30 Chair Volleyball 1:00 Basic Spanish 1:00 Thursday Bridge 1:00 Mexican Train Dominoes	11:00 Zumba Gold
Special/Monthly Activities				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4 Independence Day Center Closed	5	6	7 Center closes at 12:00 pm
10	11	12	13	14 "Smart Phone Class" 10AM Center closes at 12:00 pm
17	18	19	20	21 Center closes at 12:00 pm
24	25 "Veteran's Coffee & Chat" 10AM "Living Wills/Power of Attorney" Virtual Meeting, 2:30PM	26	27	28 Center closes at 12:00 pm