

Canyon Creek CHRONICLE

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DIABETES PREVENTION: FOUR STEPS ON THE ROAD TO HEALTH

November is Diabetes Awareness Month

The old adage is true that every journey begins with a single step. On the road to improving your health, small lifestyle changes can lead to dramatic results, especially for people at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

“It’s never too late to make lifestyle changes and reduce your risk of developing Type 2 diabetes,” says Dr. Valerie Espinosa, an endocrinologist with Texas Diabetes and Endocrinology.

Diabetes comes in two forms: Type 1, which mainly affects children and is not currently preventable, and Type 2, which is usually diagnosed later in life and is often preventable. Most people who develop Type 2 diabetes go through a phase called pre-diabetes in which their blood sugar is slightly elevated. But some simple steps can help people with pre-diabetes avoid the progression to Type 2 diabetes.

Step 1: Get More Physical Activity.

Exercise can help people to lose weight, lower blood sugar, and boost the body’s sensitivity to insulin, which helps the body regulate sugar.

“While aerobic exercise is important for overall good health,” says Dr. Espinosa, “resistance training to build up muscle mass is especially important for someone with pre-diabetes.”

Step 2: Eat More Vegetables, Beans, Nuts, Whole Grains.

Adding more fiber and whole grains to your diet can reduce your risk of progressing from pre-diabetes to Type 2 diabetes.

When shopping for breads, pasta products, and cereals, look for the words “whole grain” on the label. Aim for making at least half of the grains you eat whole grains.

Step 3: Lose a Few Pounds.

Small weight loss goals can have remarkable results

in lowering blood glucose levels in people with pre-diabetes. A weight loss of five to seven percent in someone who is overweight can significantly improve their health.

“Someone who is 200-pounds and overweight can set a goal to lose 10 pounds,” says Dr. Espinosa.

Step 4: Make Healthier Choices.

Eliminate the temptation to eat foods that you know will raise your blood sugar level, like cookies, potato chips, and sugary drinks, by making healthier choices in the grocery store.

“If you don’t have potato chips at home, you won’t be tempted to eat them,” says Dr. Espinosa.

According to the American Diabetes Association’s 2011 statistics, a whopping 79 million adults have pre-diabetes. Small, healthy steps can help keep people with pre-diabetes from joining the 25.8 million adults in the United States who have full-blown Type 2 diabetes. Both pre-diabetes and diabetes can be diagnosed with a simple blood test.



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NOVEMBER EVENTS *at the Wildflower Center*

Submitted by Saralee Tiede

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS NOVEMBER 1-30

Winning photography from the Wildflower Center/Texas Highways photo contest in the McDermott Learning Center.

NATURAL PATTERNS THROUGH DECEMBER 8

Colorful nature paintings by Billy Hassell and exquisite painted metal wildflowers by Charles Allen in the McDermott Learning Center.

WILDFLOWER DAYS™ POSTER NOVEMBER 9 & 10

The official 2014 wildflower print for sale at The Store.

CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY, NOVEMBER 28



More information at www.wildflower.org

Give Us the Bird.



Shown: Citrus cranberry turkey roasted on a Kamado Joe.

Let's talk turkey. Roasting a turkey in a Kamado Joe grill is just as easy as using your oven. The difference is that turkeys that come out of our grills are incredibly juicy with a mouth-watering charcoal flavor.

Here's why. Ovens are made of metal and they're very efficient at pulling the moisture from food. On the other hand, Kamado Joe grills have a thick ceramic shell that locks in the moisture and natural oils of the turkey and keeps it where it belongs—in the turkey.

Our grills also use 100% natural lump charcoal. It's made from hardwoods like oak and it's the only heat source that infuses true charcoal flavor.

We've made it easy for you. We posted our own grill-tested recipe with simple cooking instructions, so you can serve a turkey they'll be thanking you for all year long.

Kamado Joe "Citrus Cranberry Turkey" Recipe:
KamadoJoe.com/recipes/turkey2010.html



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TENNIS TIPS

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Fernando Velasco



How To Execute The Forehand Lob

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit the forehand groundstroke, the two-handed backhand, the one-handed backhand, the forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley, the overhead “smash”, the forehand service return, the backhand service return, the forehand high volley approach shot, the two handed high volley approach shot and the one-handed high volley approach shot.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute the Forehand Lob. This shot is used when a player is forced to retrieve a ball that is hit deep and the opponent is either charging to the net or staying far back. The player hitting the lob is looking for “air time” to regain balance and court space. This ball should be hit high enough so the players at the net cannot reach and “slam” the ball down, or force the opponent at the base line to retrieve back. In the illustrations, Carmen Manzur, Member of the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Back Swing: When Carmen is forced deep into the

court and realizes that she has to hit a defensive lob, she pivots to the right and gets her racket back early. Notice that the head of the racket is low and her left arm is up in front to keep her balance. Her eyes are focused on the path of the ball and her weight is in her right foot.

Step 2: The Point of Contact: Carmen is now ready to hit the ball. Her eyes are now on the point of contact and the face of the racket is tilted at a 45 degree angle to create height and depth on her lob. Her goal is to keep her head still and not start looking up to her opponent or to the other side of the court.

Step 3: The Follow Through: The success of a deep lob is the follow through. Carmen’s wrist is still “laid back” and her shoulder is lifting the racket above her head. Her right arm is still in front of her in order to allow maximum balance.

Step 4: The Shuffle Back: Once Carmen finishes the stroke, her goal is to either move forward toward the net top to hit an overhead, or to paddle back to the middle of the court to drive the next ball back to the opponent.

Look in the next Newsletter for: How to execute “The Two-Handed Backhand Lob”

Reaching Your Neighbors

and so many others...

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- Kids Stuff -

Section for Kids with news, puzzles, games and more!



You've been looking forward to Thanksgiving dinner all year — turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. Mmm-mmm! But after you finish that second helping of turkey with gravy, you start to feel a little sleepy.

As your Uncle George starts to explain why eating turkey makes people so tired, you suddenly feel like curling up in front of the TV and napping until next Thanksgiving. But is gobbling up all that turkey really to blame?

THE USUAL SUSPECT: L-TRYPTOPHAN

Not exactly. Here's why: Turkey meat contains a lot of an amino acid called L-tryptophan (say: el-trip-teh-fan). Amino acids are the "building blocks" for the proteins that make up our muscles and other important parts of our bodies. (L-tryptophan is just one kind of amino acid — there are many different kinds of amino acids in the foods we eat.)

When we eat foods that contain L-tryptophan, this amino acid travels in the blood from the digestive system and later enters the brain. The brain then changes the L-tryptophan into another chemical called serotonin (say: sare-uh-toh-nin). Serotonin calms us down and helps us sleep.

But scientists now know that L-tryptophan can really only make a person tired right away if it is eaten or taken by itself without any amino acids. And the protein in turkey contains plenty of other amino acids!

BLAME IT ON BLOOD FLOW

Most scientists think that there's a different reason why eating a special meal might make you drowsy. Eating a big Thanksgiving dinner causes increased blood flow to the stomach (needed to help digest the meal) and less blood flow to the brain.

AVOIDING DROWSINESS

So just how do you avoid that sleepy feeling on Turkey Day?

- Eat small, healthy meals (try to limit junk foods) throughout the day before you sit down for your big meal — don't starve yourself in anticipation of the feast to come.
- Have small portions of foods that are part of your Thanksgiving meal (including whatever veggies are on the table).
- Drink water and take breaks while you are eating to see how full you've become.
- Stop eating once you're full — there will always be leftovers tomorrow.
- Finally, take a walk outside afterward to digest your meal. This will make you feel better than crashing on the couch.

Follow these tips and have a Happy Thanksgiving — gobble, gobble!

REVIEWED BY: Steven Dowshen, MD

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This information was provided by KidsHealth, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this one, visit www.KidsHealth.org or www.TeensHealth.org. ©1995-2006. The Nemours Foundation



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