

### **HOW DO I TAKE CARE OF MYSELF?**

After placing your loved one in Memory Care, your job as a family caregiver doesn't end. It now simply shifts. The 24/7, physical care of your loved one no longer burdens you, but you're now the historian for them. That makes you an important part of our American House caregiving team. Not only do you need to care for yourself to benefit your loved one, but more importantly for you.

It's necessary to take a break, spend time with friends and just be. This ensures that your well-being is top of mind. A few ways in which you can care for

yourself include seeking support from others, taking care of your health so you can be there for your loved one, accepting offers of help from others and, most importantly, giving yourself credit for what you're doing.

You're doing an incredible job navigating a process that none of us have control over. Remember, we're all in this together. If you're having difficulty caring for yourself, please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of our team to help you through tough times!



**DEMENTIA** is an overall term for a particular group of symptoms. Dementia symptoms include:

Trouble with memory, language and problem-solving

Difficulty concentrating

Struggling to understand and express thoughts

Other symptoms are confusion, poor judgment and acting impulsively, among others. Dementia symptoms are the result of changes in the brain.

**ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE** is one cause of dementia symptoms. The brain changes of Alzheimer's disease include:

The excessive accumulation of the protein fragment beta-amyloid and of an abnormal form of the protein tau

Inflammation of the brain and decreased ability of the brain to use glucose, its main fuel

When imaging studies, cerebrospinal fluid analysis or other tests show that the brain changes are caused by Alzheimer's disease, individuals are said to have dementia due to Alzheimer's disease.



### American House Jenison

8001 Cottonwood Dr Jenison | MI | 49428 616.432.2112

American House.com

#### **QUICK LINKS**

ALZ.org
alzheimers.gov
alzfdn.org
nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers-and-dementia

# LIVING®WELL

MEMORY CARE EDITION.

JENISON SANDALWOOD OCTOBER 2025

# **HIDING OR HOARDING THINGS**

A person with dementia may hide or hoard things as a way of having some control of their situation. They may also feel a need to stockpile items.

Residents may hide common objects in a variety of areas, including their wheelchair seat, under their blanket, in their closet or drawers, or in someone else's room. Your loved one may become upset when confronted with missing items. But it's important to note there may be truth in what the person is saying and you don't want to dismiss it because they have dementia.

What you can do to help includes keeping items in places where the resident is used to them being. If the resident is taking food items, explain the possibilities of establishing a safe, sealed container to take and keep acceptable food items in. Approach the person calmly and in a private setting to retrieve "lost" items. You may also want to consider providing an excess of some objects that provide a particular satisfaction—such as washcloths, socks and handkerchiefs.

### LOW TOLERANCE FOR CONTACT

A low acceptance for physical contact can manifest in various ways and is a result of the changes dementia causes in the brain's ability to process sensory information.

When a resident becomes uncomfortable, they may avert their eyes from contact or turn and walk away from a staff member who may be trying to interact with them. A change in a resident's body posture, such as folded arms, rigid torso, furrowed brow or pursed lips are clear signals the resident is uncomfortable.

It's best to use an even-voice and calm approach when speaking with the resident. Slow speech and movements during invitations and greetings should also be used. And it's important to subtly model your own facial expressions or postures to help and encourage

the resident to relax. By observing positive interactions, you can repeat your successful interactions with your loved one.



## **OCTOBER 2025 EVENTS**

- The Green Band Performance
- Family Brunch: Neon Glow Party
- Butch Grenell Performance
- Kendra DV Performance
- Bus Rides

- Bob Lacy Performance
- Trick or Treating

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	0-4-1-			2025		LOCATION KEY	
		3000	October 2025			AMN All Manors FIT F AUD Auditorium GAZ C BW Beechwood LIB L	Library TLG The Lodge Maplewood
		BIRTHDAYS		Ol	O2 YOM KIPPUR	03	04
				6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Chair Stretches 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 1:30p BINGO! 4:00p Dinner 5:30p Unwind Wednesday	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Morning Moves 11:00a Lunch 1:00p Art Class 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Snack Shack	6:00a	6:00a Breakfast 8:30a Morning Moves 11:00a Lunch 1:30p Create and Meditate 2:30p Coffee and Conversation 4:00p Dinner 7 5:30p Ice cream social
05		06	07	08	09	10	II
8:30a S 11:00a <b>L</b> 12:30p A 1:30p E 2:30p C 4:00p D	Breakfast Sit and Stretch Lunch Art Studio Bible Study & Worship Music Get some SUNday! Dinner Ice Cream SUNDAY :)	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Word of the day- Learn a new Language! 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 2:30p Yack N' Snack 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Movie Monday	6:00a Breakfast 8:00a Hair Salon Day - Daina 9:00a Chair Yoga 10:00a Would you rather 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Hymn Sing 2:30p Smoothie Bar 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Back in time Tuesday, Era	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Chair Stretches 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 1:30p BINGO! 4:00p Dinner 5:30p Unwind Wednesday	6:00a <b>Breakfast</b> 9:00a Morning Moves 11:00a <b>Lunch</b> 1:00p Art Class 4:00p <i>Dinner</i> 6:00p Snack Shack	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Sharing Circle 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Word of the day! 1:00p Butch Grenell Performance BW 2:30p Foodie Friday 4:00p Dinner	6:00a Breakfast 8:30a Morning Moves 11:00a Lunch 1:30p Create and Meditate 2:30p Coffee and Conversation 4:00p Dinner 5:30p Ice cream social
12		13 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY	14	15	16	17	18
8:30a S 11:00a <b>I</b> 12:30p A 1:30p E 2:30p C	Breakfast Sit and Stretch Lunch Art Studio Bible Study & Worship Music Get some SUNday! Dinner Ice Cream SUNDAY :)	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Word of the day- Learn a new Language! 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 2:30p Yack N' Snack 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Movie Monday	6:00a Breakfast 8:00a Hair Salon Day - Daina 9:00a Chair Yoga 10:00a Would you rather 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Hymn Sing 2:30p Smoothie Bar 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Back in time Tuesday, Era	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Chair Stretches 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 1:30p BINGO! 4:00p Dinner 5:30p Unwind Wednesday	6:00a <b>Breakfast</b> 9:00a Morning Moves 11:00a <b>Lunch</b> 1:00p Art Class 4:00p <i>Dinner</i> 6:00p Snack Shack	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Sharing Circle 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Word of the day! 1:00p Kendra DV Performance & Birthday Bash 2:30p Foodie Friday 4:00p Dinner	6:00a Breakfast 8:30a Morning Moves 11:00a Lunch 1:30p Create and Meditate 2:30p Coffee and Conversation 4:00p Dinner 7 5:30p Ice cream social
19		20	21 DIWALI	22	23	24	25
8:30a S 11:00a <b>L</b> 12:30p A 1:30p E 2:30p C	Breakfast Sit and Stretch Lunch Art Studio Bible Study & Worship Music Get some SUNday! Dinner Ice Cream SUNDAY :)	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Word of the day- Learn a new Language! 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 2:30p Yack N' Snack 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Movie Monday	6:00a Breakfast 8:00a Hair Salon Day - Daina 9:00a Chair Yoga 10:00a Would you rather 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Hymn Sing 2:30p Smoothie Bar 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Back in time Tuesday, Era	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Chair Stretches 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 1:30p BINGO! 4:00p Dinner 5:30p Unwind Wednesday	6:00a <b>Breakfast</b> 9:00a Morning Moves 11:00a <b>Lunch</b> 1:00p Art Class 4:00p <i>Dinner</i> 6:00p Snack Shack	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Sharing Circle 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Word of the day! 1:00p Bob Lacy Performance & Happy Hour 2:30p Foodie Friday 4:00p Dinner	6:00a Breakfast 8:30a Morning Moves 11:00a Lunch 1:30p Create and Meditate 2:30p Coffee and Conversation 4:00p Dinner 7 5:30p Ice cream social
26		27	28	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN	
8:30a S 11:00a <b>L</b> 12:30p A 1:30p E 2:30p C	Breakfast Sit and Stretch Lunch Art Studio Bible Study & Worship Music Get some SUNday! Dinner Ice Cream SUNDAY :)	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Word of the day- Learn a new Language! 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 2:30p Yack N' Snack 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Movie Monday	6:00a Breakfast 8:00a Hair Salon Day - Daina 9:00a Chair Yoga 10:00a Would you rather 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Hymn Sing 2:30p Smoothie Bar 4:00p Dinner 6:00p Back in time Tuesday, Era	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Chair Stretches 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Manicures 1:30p BINGO! 4:00p Dinner 5:30p Unwind Wednesday	6:00a <b>Breakfast</b> 9:00a Morning Moves 11:00a <b>Lunch</b> 1:00p Art Class 4:00p <i>Dinner</i> 6:00p Snack Shack	6:00a Breakfast 9:00a Balloon Ball 10:00a Sharing Circle 11:00a Lunch 12:30p Word of the day! 2:30p Trick or Treating! 2:30p Foodie Friday 4:00p Dinner	

All activities subject to change.

Jenison Sandalwood