



OUR MISSION

Enriching seniors' lives through advocacy, diverse programming, and wellness and nutrition opportunities.

SENIOR CENTER

Located in the Driggs City Center at 60 S. Main in Driggs, Idaho. Hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

LUNCH

Served at noon Mondays through Fridays.

HOW TO REACH US

- (208) 354-6973
- swot@tetonseniors.com
- P.O. Box 871, Driggs, ID 83422



Valley Talk

SEPTEMBER 2025

Never been to the Senior Center? Here's your chance. As part of National Senior Center Month, we have an open house planned for you to ...

GET TO KNOW SWOT

Seniors West of the Tetons fosters creativity, connections, purpose and resiliency. Our programs combat loneliness and isolation, promote vitality and wellness, provide resources for stability and independence, and offer experiences that create joy. Here's what is planned for the open house ...



FITNESS

Check out two of our fitness classes designed to let you know what they entail. On Sept. 26 at 9:30 a.m. is Fit and Fall Proof, aimed to improve strength, mobility and balance. That same day at 10:45 a.m. Drumming lets you keep the beat in an aerobic way.



Stay for lunch and see what all the fuss is about. At noon, we'll serve a French dip sandwich with au jus, potato chips made in house, a garden salad and a brownie. The meal is free to those who are new to the Senior Center.



at bingo.
At 1 p.m., we'll play five rounds of bingo. There are prizes and plenty of laughter. Bingo is just one of the games we offer to keep you entertained. We also have sessions for bridge and mahiong.

Try your luck



Join our community of seniors.

Yes, we have a ton of fitness programs and social activities. Yes, we offer tasty meals five days a week. But for many, it's the sense of community and camaderie that keeps people coming back.

ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE

When: 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 26

Activities: A Fit and Fall Proof exercise class and a drumming aerobic exercise, a free lunch for those new to SWOT, five games of bingo with prizes

Learn about: Home-delivered meals, medical equipment rental, other programs and services **Win:** Enter a free raffle for SWOT memorabilia and donated items.

PHOTOS BY LINDA SWOPE | SWOPE'S MOUNTAIN PHOTOGRAPHY





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Home-delivered meals are available by contacting:

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership, (208) 522-5391

the SWOT team

CHAIR CHAT

Thank you for believing in SWOT



ALLIE MOLLENKOF executive director WE ARE OVERWHELMED with gratitude for the incredible generosity our community showed during this year's Tin Cup Challenge. Your support not only warms our hearts but also keeps our doors open, our kitchen running and our programs thriving at Seniors West of the Tetons.

Because of you, we can continue to offer nourishing meals, engaging activities and a welcoming space where seniors can connect, learn and feel at home - every single day.

As Helen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

This year's Tin
Cup Challenge was
a powerful reminder
of what can happen
when people unite for a common

purpose.

Your generosity ensures we can meet the daily needs of our seniors.

Your generosity ensures we can meet the daily needs of our seniors – from a hot cup of coffee in the morning to a community event in the evening.

Thank you for believing in our work and for standing with us.

We are honored to be part of a community that rallies together to ensure our seniors have the resources, care and

connections they deserve.

YOU CAN HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IF YOU LOVE THE SERVICES that Seniors West of the Tetons provides, consider making a donation or offering to volunteer.



MAKE A DONATION

Driggs, ID 83422

Online Go to www. tetonseniors.org/donate By mail Send us a check at P.O. Box 871,



DONATE MONTHLY

Become a Shining Star by signing up to give monthly at tetonseniors. org/donate. Monthly donations help us maintain a steady revenue stream.



BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Volunteers staff the front desk, assist in the kitchen, deliver meals and much more. Email programs@tetonseniors. com to learn more.

WE'RE CALLING YOU TO JOIN US IN MUSIC AND DANCING

A special celebration of music and dance with local and regional musicians and one of the Northwest's finest dance callers is set for 6 p.m. Sept. 19 on the Driggs City Plaza.



Ben Winship

The Yellow Dog Stringband - Ben Winship,

Thomas Sneed, Rick McCracken and Sallie Sublet - will accompany Dave Daley, a crack fiddler from Boise. Rab Cummings, a dance caller from Bozeman, Mont., will lead seniors in contra dancing for the first hour. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Seniors West of the Tetons and the Downtown Driggs Association has organized this free event.

SWOT Photo Club debuts its first show

Seniors West of the Tetons is thrilled to announce the first exhibition of the SWOT Photography Club this month at the Senior Center.

The display opens with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 8 with the photographers.

The show is a celebration of creativity, community and the power of perspective. Anticipated to become an annual event, the exhibit highlights the best imagery captured by senior photographers over the past year. The exhibit features landscapes, portraits and moments that reflect a life wellseen.

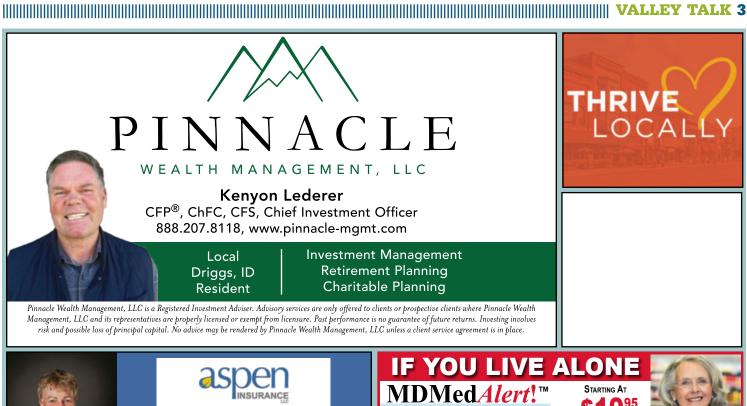
Join SWOT for a 10-mile bike ride

A leisurely 10-mile bike tour leaving from the Teton Reserve golf course clubhouse is scheduled for 10 a.m. Sept. 9.

Glen Hayes, who organized the route, describes it as stairstepping north and east on lightly traveled county roads for five miles, then west and south to complete a 10-mile loop. It includes a couple of gentle rolling hills. The route will accommodate any style bike, except skinny-tire road bikes. E-bikes are welcome.

The SWOT van will be at the midway point for an energy boost and support. Register at Tetonseniors.org.







elsie@aspeninsurance.net

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PROGRAMS & activities

WE'VE GOT a lot going on at the Senior Center. Here is your quide to our programs.

FITNESS



Fit & Fall Proof

9 and 10 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. Wear loose-fitting clothing and bring water with you. Free. Open to all.

This is an exercise program that focuses on improving strength, mobility and balance to reduce an older adult's risk of falling. Local volunteer leaders are trained to teach the class.

Drumming

10:15 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Wear loosefitting clothing; bring water. Free. Open to all.

Led by Lea Hardee and Cindie Brouwer this fun cardio routine set to music involves movement and beating an exercise ball with drumsticks. Also helps cognitive function through concentration and coordination.

Tai Chi

9 a.m. Wednesdays at the Senior Center. 9 a.m. Fridays in Driggs City Park, pending weather. Wear loose clothing; bring water. Suggested \$5 donation. Open to all.

This is a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner with deep breathing. Beginners welcome. Individual instruction after class. Led by Dan Keslar.

Yoga for a Better Life

9 a.m. Tuesdays. Wear loose clothing; bring water. Yoga mats and gear are provided. Suggested \$5 donation. Open to all.

This Hatha-based yoga practice is designed to increase flexibility while building strength and using your breath efficiently. It's led by instructor Connie Tyler.

ENRICHMENT



Death Cafe

1:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, with some exceptions. Free. Open to all.

A gathering to eat, drink and discuss the often taboo subject: Death. It is not a support group, but a directed discussion with the objective to increase awareness and help people make the most of their lives.

Tech Time

At noon the second Tuesday of each month. Free. Open to all.

This program will help you with any technology questions. Phil Mollenkof and Andy Harlan, friends of SWOT, are proficient with various technologies. These guys will help you master technology; just bring your device in question and fire away.

HEALTH

Teton Valley Health talk

One Wednesday a month at 11 a.m. Check calendar on Page 5 for date. Free. Open to all.

Teton Valley Health provides a monthly update of news and information. Come hear about the health services in our community and ask questions to learn more about the care available.

Blood Pressure Check

The second Wednesday at 11:45 a.m. Free.

Teton County Fire and Rescue EMTs will check your blood pressure.

Aging well

Free. Open to all.

A quarterly panel discussion with guest professionals on topics addressing aging.

SOCIAL



Bingo

Check the calendar. Free. Open to all.

We can't guarantee you'll win fun prizes but we can promise you'll have many laughs!

Coffee Klatsch

10:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Free. Open to all.

Coffee or tea and conversation. Snack while you chat.

Bridge

1 p.m. Tuesdays. Free. Open to all.

Bridge is a trick-taking card game using a standard 52-card deck.

Mahiong

1 p.m. Wednesdays. Free. Open to all.

Mahjong is a tile-based game that was developed in the 19th century in China.

SWOT Photo Club

5:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month. Free. Open to all.

Come learn and share.

Knitting Circle

9 a.m. the first and third Fridays of the month.

Teton Arts and SWOT offer an opportunity to gather, converse and knit at the Senior Center.

Senior art

Check calendar for activities \$5 suggested donation. Limited.

Offers opportunities to explore your creativity.

Quilting club

3 p.m. the second Monday of the month. Open to all.

The Get "Sew" Connected club offers a way to share ideas and advice. Bring hand work and curiosity.



FALL PREVENTION

is the focus of Sept. 22 during Fall Prevention Week. A special session at 9:45 a.m. between the Fit and Fall Proof balance and exercise classes will provide vital information.

MONDAY

LABOR DAY

The Senior Center is closed.

• Fit and Fall Proof,

• SENIOR ART, 1 p.m..

Clay sculptures. Go to

tinyurl.com/seniorarts.

CONNECTED, 3 p.m.

9 and 10 a.m.

• GET "SEW"

TUESDAY

- Yoga, CANCELED.
- Drumming, 10:15 a.m.

Yoga, CANCELED.

SWOT BOOMER

See Page 3.

• Tech Time, noon

Yoga, 9 a.m.

• Bridge, 1 p.m.

Yoga, 9 a.m.

Bridge, 1 p.m.

Drumming, 10:15 a.m.

BIKE RIDE, 10 a.m.

at Tetonseniors.org.

Drumming, 10:15 a.m.

Drumming, 10:15 a.m.

10-mile course. Register

• Bridge, 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Tai Chi, 9 a.m.
- Coffee, 10:30 a.m.
- Mahjong, 1 p.m.

THURSDAY

 Fit and Fall Proof. 9 and 10 a.m.

FRIDAY

 TETON VALLEY **FARMERS MARKET,**

9 a.m.-1 p.m. SWOT burritos for sale.

- Knitting Circle, 9 a.m.
- Drumming, 10:15 a.m.

• Tai Chi, 9 a.m.

• TARGHEE CHAIR-**LIFT,** 9:30 a.m. See box below for info.

• Coffee, 10:30 a.m.

- Blood-pressure checks, 11:45 a.m.
- Mahjong, 1 p.m.
- PHOTO CLUB. 5:30 p.m.

• Fit and Fall Proof. 9 and 10 a.m.

- **SHINING STAR** LUNCH, noon. Free lunch for monthly donors. Sign up to join. See Page 2.
- Death Cafe, 1:30 p.m.

 TETON VALLEY **FARMERS MARKET,**

9 a.m.-1 p.m. SWOT burritos for sale.

Drumming, 10:15 a.m.

Quilting club meets. **PHOTO CLUB EXHIBIT**

• Fit and Fall Proof,

Fit and Fall Proof,

• FALL PREVENTION.

9:45 a.m. Learn how

to avoid falls and how

to recover at a special

session between the

exercise and balance

9 & 10 a.m.

classes.

9 & 10 a.m.

RECEPTION, 5-7

• Bridge, 1 p.m.

- Tai Chi, 9 a.m.
- Coffee, 10:30 a.m.
- ROCK CLIMBING CLASS, 11 a.m. Learn to climb at the Rock Gym. Limited. Free. Equipment and gear provided. Register at Tetonseniors.org.
- Mahjong, 1 p.m.

• Tai Chi, 9 a.m.

• Coffee, 10:30 a.m.

• ROCK CLIMBING,

11 a.m. Register at

Tetonseniors.org.

HEALTH TALK, 11

a.m. "Keeping Bones

Strong" with PT and

Orthopedic teams.

Mahjong, 1 p.m.

TETON VALLEY

- Fit and Fall Proof, 9 and 10 a.m.
- LIBRARY INFO TABLE, noon
- PAWS VISIT. 15 S. 1750 East, Driggs, 1:30 p.m. Meet the animals and learn about adoption. Register at Tetonseniors.org.

• FARMERS MARKET,

- 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Knitting Circle, 9 a.m.
- Drumming, 10:15 a.m.
- CONTRA DANCE at Driggs City Plaza, 6 p.m. Seniors dance to caller's instructions for first hour. See Page 3.

- Fit and Fall Proof, 9 and 10 a.m.
- MEDICARE CHAT, noon

 FARMERS MARKET, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

SWOT OPEN HOUSE, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Come try:

- Fit & Fall Proof exercise, 9:30 a.m.
- Drumming, 10:45 a.m.
- Free lunch for firsttimers, noon
- Bingo, 1 p.m.

RIDE THE LIFT

Grand Targhee Resort has donated a number of free chairlift rides for those 60 and over. Meet at the resort activity center at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 10. Register at Tetonseniors.org.

TOUR PAWS

Join SWOT for a tour of the PAWS facility at 15 S. 1750 East in Driggs at 1:30 p.m. Sept 18. Learn about the animals and pet them. Pup cups and kitty treats provided. Register at Tetonseniors.org.

• Fit and Fall Proof, 9 & 10 a.m.

follow the SWOT van to view Greater Sandhill Cranes, then enjoy hot cider and banana bread afterward. Register at Tetonseniors.org.

SANDHILL CRANE

TOUR, 7 a.m. Ride or

- Yoga, 9 a.m.
- Drumming, 10:15 a.m.
- Bridge, 1 p.m.

LUNCH is served from noon to 1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Menus are subject to change.



TAKEOUT MEALS Cost is \$1 more for disposable containers. No extra charge with reusable containers, which we sell for \$8.

WEDNESDAY

Indian chickpea curry



MONDAY

LABOR DAY

The Senior Center is closed

TUESDAY

Marsha's crab cakes Side salad Roasted red pepper aioli Cream of tomato basil guos

Seven-laver bar

Jasmine rice Sweet potato lentil soup

Mixed fruit and nuts



THURSDAY

Chicken Margherita chicken breast, basil pesto, mozzarella and orzo pasta Minestrone soup

BIRTHDAY CAKE

FRIDAY

Deviled egg salad croissant Provolone cheese Housemade chips Garden salad Vanilla pudding

Swedish meatballs Mashed potatoes Lingonberry jelly Roasted green beans Yellow pea soup Rice pudding

REUBEN TUESDAY

Reuben sandwich Housemade potato chips Garden salad

Zucchini, tomatoes and fresh basil White rice Cream of asparagus

Oven-roasted salmon

goup Cookie White artichoke spinach lasagna Side Salad Italian wedding

guos Focaccia bread Grapes

Pork fried rice Garden salad Vanilla coconut pudding

Hawaiian pineapple

shrimp sliders

MEATLOAF MONDAY

Meatloaf Mashed potatoes Brown gravy Buttered peas and carrots Garden salad

Teriyaki chicken tacos Asian slaw with red chile aioli Fried rice Asian broccoli beef

guos Oranges Fortune cookie Grilled pork chop Oven-roasted potatoes Gravv Mixed vegetables Garden salad Cookie

Thai sweet chile shrimp stir-fry with broccoli, red pepper, watercress and basil

White rice Coconut curry cauliflower soup Tomato avocado spinach sandwich on oat wheat ciabatta bun Vegetable slaw Garden salad

Diced peaches

Layered pork carnitas enchiladas Green enchilada sauce Refried beans Spanish rice Salsa bar Red chile stew

Side salad Lemon oregano aioli Garden vegetable soup Mixed fruit

Pedro's fish tacos -

beer-battered cod,

Grilled zucchini pancakes

Baked tilapia with lemon caper tartar sauce Wild rice Roasted asparagus Garden salad Grapes

Chicken pear walnut and gorgonzola salad Rice wine vinaigrette Vegetable chowder Dinner roll

Cookie

French dip with au jus on a hoagie roll Housemade potato chips Garden salad Brownie

Sloppy Joes with cheese and green onions Three-bean salad Cream of mushroom soup

Sliced melon

Churros

shredded cabbage and chipotle aioli Refried beans Spanish rice Salsa bar Green chile chicken soup



CRANES AND SWEET TREATS

Join SWOT on a tour to see Greater Sandhill Cranes at 7 a.m. Sept. 30 and enjoy freshbaked banana bread and hot cider afterward. Ride the SWOT van or follow along. Sign up at Tetonseniors.org.

6 VALLEY TALK



HERE ARE THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS for a few of the activities available at Seniors West of the Tetons. Numbers are the latest month available.

MEALS SERVED IN 2025

10,045

AT THE CENTER: 7,827 HOME-DELIVERED: 2,218 **MEALS SERVED IN JULY**

1,513

AT THE CENTER: 1,178 HOME-DELIVERED: 335

PROGRAMS IN JULY

683

GAMES: BRIDGE & MAHJONG IN JULY

109

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

115

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN ...

These residents with ties to Teton Valley passed away recently:

Linda Cracraft Bennie Green







Celebrate our Hestern History during Fair week:

Open Class entries, Teton Valley
Heritage Days, 4-H and FFA Animal
Shows, Livestock Auction, Stock
Dog Demo, 20th Annual Horse Pull,
Figure 8 and Lawnmower Races,
Dinner & Barn Dance, Tractor Show,
and Free Entry all week to the Teton
Valley Museum.

SCAN 195 MORE INFORMATION

Live music: July 3rd & August 6th www.tetoncountyidaho.gov/fairgrounds





activities from the past few

weeks.

classic times

Seniors West of the Tetons made its annual trip to a rehearsal of the Grand Teton Music Festival in Wilson. It included the opportunity to hear a world premiere performance.





aging well with nutrition

Seniors West of the Tetons hosted its third "Aging Well in Teton Valley" panel discussion last month with a focus on nutrition. Panelists Lisa Carlson, far left, an RN and dietitian, and Dr. Robert Crouch, both of Teton Valley Heath, were joined by Hilary Frenette, a nurse from St. John's Health, to talk about the importance of a diet with lean proteins, appropriate portion sizes, staying hydrated and avoiding malnutrition that can lead to more and longer hospitalizations. Board Member and Physical Therapist Margaret Bennett, above right, led the discussion and explained how your physiological reserve becomes weaker as you age and makes it harder to recover from stress and illness. A proper diet can help.



boat ride fun

SWOT took its annual boat ride on Jenny Lake and learned about the Grand Tetons geology and more.

we screamed

SWOT served ice cream across the valley this summer with events in Alta, Driggs, Tetonia and Victor, shown below. Board Chair Lynne Browning and Operations Director Stacey Nail serve scoops to Carmen Springer-Davis.





learning the Charleston

Thank you, Patty Seymour, for teaching the beginner mahjong classes last month. Seniors are not too old to learn new tricks.

FUN&GAMES

Your senior center word search

ART BINGO	S W	F P	l Q	T U	N I	E	S T	S I	G N	V G	Н	l F
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SWOT sudoku

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7						3		

TO THIS MONTH'S PUZZLES CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 11



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Seniors West of the Tetons is grateful for the outpouring of community contributions we received this year during the Tin Cup Challenge. Here is a list of our donors:



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Tin Cup Challenge 2025

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Seniors West of the Tetons also wishes to thank our many **ANONYMOUS DONORS!**

Our apologies for any errors or omissions. Email Carol Lichti at carol@tetonseniors.com with any corrections.

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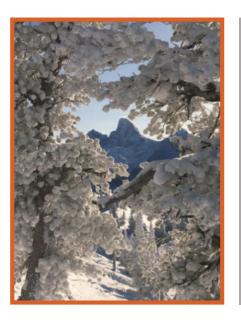
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5	2	7	8	4	9	6	3	1
8	4	6	3	1	7	5	2	9
9	1	3	5	6	2	7	8	4
6	3	5	1	7	4	8	9	2
1	9	2	6	8	3	4	7	5
7	8	4	2	9	5	3	1	6



SWOT VIEW

PHOTO OF THE MONTH BY **DAVE WICHMANN**

SWOT Photo Club Member Dave Wichmann's photo of the Grand Teton in a snow frame will be among the photos in the club's show this month at SWOT. A reception is set for 5 p.m. Sept. 8.



TRY TO REACH NEW HEIGHTS

At SWOT, you're never too old to learn. Here's your chance to try rock climbing at two special classes on Sept. 17 and 24 to learn with Jen Piperno, at right, at the Rock Climbing Gym. Be like Cindy Dender, SWOT board member, shown on the left trying it out. It's limited, but free. Equipment and gear provided. Register at Tetonseniors.org.



12 VALLEY TALK

>> WE'RE LIVING THE HIGH LIFE IN TETON VALLEY! «

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