# Foot Notes October 2022

## Oregon Foot and Ankle Specialists K.G. Gauntt D.P.M.

#### **ATTENTION WOMEN OVER 40**

This is an important message for women over 40...whether that's you or someone in your life.

There are two extremely common genetic foot conditions in women over 40 we see every day. Most days we'll see this condition multiple times.

Amazingly, neither of them occurs because of an injury.

If they are left untreated...long-term pain and deformity can result

### The first is around the toe next to the big one (we call it the 2<sup>nd</sup> toe) and the ball of the foot.

Women will come in concerned about pain, mainly on the ball of the foot. It can feel like you're walking on a ball or something "bunched up." Sometimes there is swelling on the top of the foot near the  $2^{-1}$  toe.

The more pressure you put on the ball of the foot the greater the pain. Many women have to stop exercising because of it.

If left untreated the 2<sup>rd</sup> toe can become deformed and start moving toward the big toe. If this happens, surgery may be the only solution.

The most important thing to know is that getting this diagnosed and addressed as early as possible can avoid serious long-term consequences, and even surgery.

## The second condition occurs on the inside of the ankle into the arch of the foot.

Pain and swelling are the symptoms. This condition is often missed by Urgent Care Clinics and most Doctors who don't specialize in the foot and ankle.

Since this condition involves a MAJOR tendon, the longer it lasts the higher the chance of the arch collapsing.

There is an easy diagnostic test we can do in the office to determine if this condition exists. If so, treatment is started immediately to help avoid a serious problem.

Again, the sooner any foot or ankle pain is addressed, the greater the chance of avoiding surgery and long-term consequences.







## October and fall, a favorite time of year!!

### Ever wonder why fall leaves change color?

Nature is so fascinating! The main reason for the color change per the lack of daylight. Day and night are roughly equal in

is not the cooler weather, but sunlight or rather, the lack of daylight. Day and night are roughly equal in length on the autumnal equinox in late September, but afterward, nights are growing longer and days shorter.

As summer fades into fall, the days start getting shorter and there is less sunlight. This is a signal for the leaf to prepare for winter and to stop making chlorophyll. Once this happens, the green color starts to fade and the reds, oranges, and yellows become visible.

Because the green color was "masking" other color pigments, we start to see the yellows and reds showing through and you see leaves change colors! **Beautiful!!!!** 

#### Tuna Pasta Salad

Recipe Corner

- 16 oz. rotini/shell/macaroni pasta, cooked al dente, drained and rinsed
- 1 (12 oz.) can albacore white **tuna** in water, drained
- 2 **celery** ribs, diced
- 1/2 medium red onion, diced
- 2 cups frozen **peas**
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon **fresh dill**
- 1/2 tablespoon sugar
- Salt and pepper to taste
  - 1. Cook the pasta according to package directions until al dente. Drain and set aside.
  - 2. Warm up the peas by adding 2 tablespoons of water to a microwave-safe bowl and microwave for 1-2 minutes. Drain any excess liquid.
  - 3. Add tuna, celery, red onion, peas, and pasta to a large mixing bowl.
  - 4. Add in mayonnaise, lemon juice, thyme, sugar and salt and pepper to taste.
  - 5. Stir gently to combine and mix well.
  - $6. \quad \text{Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes and serve chilled}.$

