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To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov
Date: 4/14/2016 9:44:15 AM
Subject: Nursing Home Visit Tips

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Nursing Home Visit Tips • April 14, 2016 • Issue #908

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

Playing Kvetch

kvetch \ KVECH

adjective:

1. To complain habitually.

noun:

1. A complaint. | 2. A habitual complainer.

Sometimes, I feel there is a great disconnect between what is heard from the healthcare community and what caregivers are telling me themselves. (Ok, maybe more than often, just sometimes.) I do admit to feeling like somewhat of a kvetcher when these moments strike. But someone's got to do it. ...more

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Visits Meaningful**

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FEATURED ARTICLE

Making Nursing Home Visits Meaningful

By Sandra Stimson

Oftentimes, as nursing home residents decline, they lose the ability to communicate. Sadly, this is a time when families stop visiting as often because they don't know what to say or how to make the visits meaningful for the family, as well as their loved one. Sometimes, just being present can be satisfying.

Here are some tips for the families.

1. Visit with your loved one in the facility sensory room. [...more](#)
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GUEST ARTICLE

Caring For An Elder From Far Away: Geriatric Care Managers

By Terry Weaver, M.P.S., A.C.C.

As an adult, balancing work and elder care can be a challenge whether your parent lives next door or out of state. Add children to this, and the situation becomes compounded. Legal, financial and long-term planning for elder care is crucial, and long distance caregivers need to prepare for travel and time off from work. Face the facts, most older adults want to stay right where they are. They do not want to relocate, even if it means being closer to family. If this is what the elder wishes, as the child, you must respect their wishes. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

5 Wheelchair Van Shopping Tips for Caregivers

By Susan Hawkins

If you're the caregiver for an individual who uses a wheelchair, owning a wheelchair accessible van is helpful and can be more affordable with these tips.

Family Caregiver

As the caregiver for a family member, you can choose a wheelchair van based

on the needs of the person in your care. Wheelchair vans come with rear entry access or side entry access, and one can sometimes work better than the other in certain situations. [...more](#)

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CAREVERSES

Cara Mia

By Frank Marsden

If by some miracle I could talk to you
I would have a million things to say
And yet I know you wouldn't hear a word of mine
Because you have gone so far away
By now you have crossed countless miles
Of mountains, land and sea
Our precious Lord has taken you
So far, far away from me

I talk often to your lovely portrait
From what I believe is the depths of my soul
When I've told you how much I still love you
I sense somehow that my heart has been broken
And never again will be whole
I am advised by many that life goes on
And I must admit that is true
But it offers me no comfort as
I cannot envision my life going on
If it means going on without you

I know you can tell from my first line
That my wishes are quite in vain
And I should be thinking the Lord
For freeing you from your bed of constant pain
And with his promise of eternal life

Our loving spirits will be entwined again

This poem was written for my mom, who has end-stage lung cancer

Enjoy more caregiver poems
or share one of your own

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