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More Flies with Honey... • April 27, 2017 • Issue #1010

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

More Flies with Honey...

Four flights, 3 hours of driving and a bit chillier weather than this south Floridian is used to, but the trip was more than worth the effort. Last week, I spent the day with a large group of enthusiastic Oshkoshians at the first annual Oshkosh Fearless Caregiver Conference, and as usual I am truly grateful for all I learned from the attendees. Special thanks to Beth Culp and her amazing team at the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Winnebago County. [...more](#)

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FEATURED ARTICLE

When Stroke Happens

By Jennifer Bradley, Staff Writer

Strokes, or “brain attacks,” disable Americans more than any other disease. With an interruption of blood to the brain, a stroke may have similar symptoms; but as everyone’s brain is different, so are the effects of each person’s stroke.

There is no rhyme or reason to the severity of strokes or to the recovery a person may need to undergo. Stroke damage can affect a loved one’s entire body and cause a wide range of disabilities, from mild to severe. Paralysis, difficulty thinking and speaking, as well as a multitude of emotional issues are just some of the challenges a caregiver can expect to see a loved one experience post-stroke. [...more](#)

GUEST 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. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

After Caregiving: Picking Up The Pieces

By Brenda Race

As a caregiver, we totally commit ourselves to caring for another person who no longer functions as they once did in the normal scheme of life. We move in with them or move them to us. We give up our jobs, our own independence, and very often our family and friends. We become so involved with the care of that person out of love that we ourselves are removed from normal day to day living.

Our entire life revolves around comforting and making our loved one feel loved. We protect them at all costs. In a very real sense we have given our life for another.... not out of obligation but out of LOVE! The ultimate test of LOVE for another! Then one day we wake up and our commitment has been released to a far greater LOVE in a place of no more pain or suffering! We grieve and then the process of finding our way back into the world begins anew. [...more](#)

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CAREVERSES

Beyond the Horizon

By Arthur N. Gottlieb, MSW, CSA

With senses intact and spring of step
With time yet to fall and recover
No thought for limitations still unconceived
Thinking they are just stubborn or stupid
The error of the righteously imposed upon
Unwittingly repeating the sins that befell us
Our maturity tardily arrives
When acting no longer
As though we were still children
Seeing them for who and what they are
With all of their vulnerabilities
A call for reformation
While witnessing their starry twilight
Now possessed by resistance
Our denial and fear
For the sake of our miserable egos
We demand competency
And are marked by our intolerance
It is we who trespass upon them
Their veneer now frayed and torn
We fear the world will spy
Our feverish flight
Away from them

And now from ourselves
The discontentment of youth
Fueled our exodus
As the sand slowly falls
In silent desperation
Our tenuous foothold
That they may be themselves in our eyes
Even if no longer in their own
If the past still looms
Remember God's forgiveness
The issue no longer between you and them
But between you and your faith
The sacrifice now defined
To bear and be born
Through courage and love
Without even knowing for sure
What we are being called to do
Or why we are being called to do it
It is not yet for us to know
The answer awaits
Beyond the horizon

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