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Dealing with a Difficult Diagnosis • March 22, 2016 • Issue #901

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

An Interview with Rona Barrett

Rona Barrett is a pioneering entertainment reporter, commentator and producer with a career spanning more than 30 years. Now as a nonprofit pioneer, she is the founder and CEO of the Rona Barrett Foundation- the catalyst behind Santa Ynez Valley's first affordable senior housing- the Golden Inn & Village.

Gary Barg: Rona, you have been a journalistic pioneer, and now you are pioneering innovative care for seniors in need. And both of those things are extremely important to me. What caused this shift in your career and your interest?

Rona Barrett: It really started when I began to see a number of Hollywood people who really were doing so many interesting things other than what they were doing on screen. [...more](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

An Interview with Rona Barrett

Playing Detective

Let's Dance

A Terminal Diagnosis Does Not Terminate Living

CareNotes

FEATURED ARTICLE

Playing Detective

By Jennifer Bradley, Staff Writer

The second-most common type of infection, a urinary tract infection (UTI), is responsible for approximately 8.3 million doctor visits each year, says the National Center for Health Statistics. A healthy number of those visits are from seniors and also repeat patients.

More commonly known as a bladder infection, a UTI can be life threatening to an elderly loved one if left untreated. It may lead to acute or chronic kidney infections, which can cause permanent damage or even kidney failure. A bladder infection is also a leading cause of a potentially life-threatening infection in the bloodstream called sepsis. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

Let's Dance

By Diane Shepherd

Let me tell you about someone really special - my Mother.

Mom had a terrible stroke last September that escalated her dementia into about Stage 6 Alzheimer's — complete with aphasia. After the stroke I brought her back to the home she and I have shared for the last 12 years, but of course this homecoming was different. This time Mom can't stay by herself or take care of herself any longer, so we have a sitter with her from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; then I take over. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

A Terminal Diagnosis Does Not Terminate Living Tips for Injecting Living into Dying

By Linda Campanella

When my father began our phone conversation with the words, "Are you sitting down?" I knew the news to follow would not be good; but I never in my wildest dreams imagined he would tell me my 73-year-old mother was terminally ill with metastatic lung cancer. I had not even begun to prepare myself for the day I would lose either one of my parents. A lucky gene pool had caused me to believe confidently that both would live well into their nineties. No such luck. ...

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CARENOTES

From Marie:

My grandmother refuses to go to her doctor no matter how many appointments I make her..She refuses to take bath,change clothes etc. Please tell me where to turn

She has accidents on herself and refuses to bathe even if I offer assistance. ...

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