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To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov

Date: 8/11/2016 9:07:53 AM

Subject: Help, My Parent Refuses to Wear a Medical Alert Device

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Help, My Parent Refuses to Wear a Medical Alert Device • August 11, 2016 • Issue #942

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

The Caregiver Test

Dear Gary, "I have an elderly mother who lives in assisted living, but I visit her at least twice weekly to take her to appointments, the hair salon, eat out, etc. I am amazed at those featured in your newsletter, on your Web site and in your magazine who sacrifice SO much. I don't think I could do that. Then I started wondering, is this a 'dirty little secret'? If it hasn't been discussed, I think it should be. [...more](#)

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FEATURED ARTICLE

Caregiving Issues Facing the Multi-Generational Family

By Helen Hunter, ACSW, CMSW

There are many family situations today where you can find three, four or even five generations living under one roof. While the circumstances that result in multi-generational living vary from financial to health-related to simple family closeness, those who live in these types of households deal with many issues. Serving as the main caregiver for an older relative, dealing with grandchildren and having one of their own children living back at home after several years on his/her own can be a challenge for the best of families. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

What to Do if your Parent Refuses to Wear a Medical Alert Device

by Susie Slack

One out of three Americans over the age of 65 will experience a fall. Falls are the leading cause of injuries, including fatal ones, for people in the 65-and-above age group. Medical alert systems were introduced over 30 years ago as a way for people to summon help with a push-button device worn around the neck. When the button was pushed, an alert went out to a call center operator through a base-station that's hooked up to the home phone line. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

Spotting Problems at the Wheel

Here are some signs that an older person may be having problems driving

- drifting out of lane
- getting lost in familiar places
- having trouble moving the foot between the gas and the brake pedals, or confusing the two.

[...more](#)

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CAREVERSES

AGREE

By Darlene Totten

“Learning never ceases” is what she would say to me and other important words of wisdom that she lived by for 91 years. “Nothing is forever” is another important “gem” to quote. Then one day she looked at me and with a slight smile and said isn't it a good thing “you only have to die once?” I agreed.

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