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Ending the Family Feud • November 3, 2016 • Issue #962

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

"The More You Know"

"As the 2016 holiday season approaches, many of us will be traveling to spend time with families. For long distance caregivers this represents an unprecedented opportunity to find out how your loved ones are really doing. So many times all focus is on the ill parent that your caregiving parent's needs can go undetected until it is much too late. I have always joked that caregivers are a sneaky bunch, and I say that in the most loving way. In my weekly phone calls with my mom before I moved back to South Florida in 1994, she made it seem as if there were absolutely no problems to be had at home. After my first night back, I knew that nothing could be further from the truth. But she was a true caregiver, making sure that her kids living out of town didn't worry so much. ... [more](#)

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FEATURED ARTICLE

OCD in Elderly for Caregivers

By Cheryl Ellis, Staff Writer

Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is defined in part by the Merck Manual as “anxiety provoking thoughts and urges.” While the publication (a staple in the medical field for years) notes that symptoms are not often prominent in the elderly, caregivers may disagree. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

Ending the Family Feud

By Kurt Kazanowski

Joan, Steve and Ross are siblings who are dealing with the death of their mother. Her death ended up leaving their father, Matt, living at home alone. The loss of their mother and the grieving they were going through left the family emotionally raw. The kids are now concerned about their father living safely at home alone. Matt has mild dementia as he enters his 86th year. The house is a two-story home with Matt’s bedroom on the second floor. A fall is a possibility as he has experienced falls in the past. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

Nine Ways to Get Someone to Eat

By Jennifer B. Buckley

A common nutritional problem that can affect care recipients in poor health is cachexia-anorexia and it especially involves those in advanced stages of Alzheimer’s, Cancer and AIDS. Cachexia-anorexia is a syndrome in which progressive and involuntary weight loss occurs. The people with this disorder are “wasting-away” from the lack of vitamins and nutrients and as a caregiver; this can be a difficult and frustrating event to witness. [...more](#)

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CAREVERSESES

The Alzheimer Fairy

By Steven Stoker

I'm certain there's a Fairy
A true Alzheimer's gnome
That has crept into our household
And sabotaged our home.

She's the evil one that empties
All the contents of your drawers
Making little stacks of clothing
In the midst of all the floors.

She's the one who hides my car keys,
My glasses and my money
In places so creative
They'd surprise the Easter Bunny.

Last week when I was missing
Every knife and fork and spoon
I searched for hours before
I found them hidden in your room.

[...more](#)

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