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Beware The Condo Casanovas • July 7, 2016 • Issue #932

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

Condo Casanovas and (gasp) Senior Sex

Late in the audience Q and A session at a recent Fearless Caregiver Conference, a gentleman stood up and asked if we knew which group presently has the fastest growth rate of HIV in the United States. The audience gasped when he related it was actually women 60 years of age and over. [...more](#)

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FEATURED ARTICLE

When Is It Time to Look for a Care Facility?

By Janet Ferree, MA

A difficult question? Certainly; and for most of us who have been caring for a disabled and/or sick loved one, an emotional and unsettling one to consider. I am not referring to people in their final stages of life or who suffer from conditions that spark uncontrollable actions. I am writing for those whose loved one continues to live indefinitely with no assistance from machines or other specialized medical care. In such a situation, there can come a time when living at home becomes unsafe, especially when the primary caregiver (usually a spouse or parent) is aging and has physical and/or medical limitations of his or her own. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

When Your Caregiving Days Are Over

By Joyce Aleshire

I am a facilitator of a Cancer Caregiver Support Group in Ohio. We have monthly meetings at two different facilities in two different counties on the second Tuesday and second Wednesday of the month.

In the course of our meetings, several topics surface. One that got my attention most recently was: How a caregiver moves on once their caregiving days are done. [...more](#)

CARETIPS

Building Your Care Team

By Kristine Dwyer, LSW, Staff Writer

Life was significantly changing in the home of Helen's parents. Her father's tremors had increased and his falls had become more frequent in recent weeks. He also had difficulty sleeping and caring for his personal needs. His Parkinson's disease was noticeably taking its toll on Helen's mother as well. She was weary from a lack of sleep and unable to fully care for her husband's needs anymore. Her own health was in jeopardy as she faced high blood pressure and she had injured her back while attempting to lift her husband after a fall. Suddenly, Helen found herself providing care to both of her parents! ...
[more](#)

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CAREVERSES

After the Accident

By Austin Wallace

She rolls along
to some internal music we can't hear.

On sidewalks
glass shards crunch and pop beneath her tires.

Two vertebrae are broken
but her flexible smile contracts, expands,
a rubber band stretched tight.

Up the ramp we follow this new person
who has borrowed a familiar voice:
"one chai tea, please."

The barista's busy eyes glaze.
"WE'LL BRING YOUR ORDER RIGHT OUT TO YOU,"
she says at our foreigner.

We squirm like new parents,
all eyes on her disobedient fingers,
tea sloshing on a napkin
as she talks of TV shows, poetry.

For an hour we admire her onyx eyes,
her sun-kissed shoulders;
then we must return to jobs, lives and loves.

We watch as she rolls away,
out of our helpless hands
into partitioned dreams.

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