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Date: 11/24/2016 9:08:41 AM
Subject: Happy Thanks for Giving Day

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Happy Thanks for Giving Day • November 24, 2016 • Issue #968

EDITOR'S PEN

Gary Barg, Editor-in-Chief

Happy Thanks for Giving Day

I think there has never been a more aptly named holiday for family caregivers than Thanks Giving. Oh, I know that there are traditional theories behind the holiday, the Pilgrims, turkey, stuffing and all that. But I am taken with the fact that the name of the holiday details everything I think about caregivers: Thanks for Giving so much for your loved ones, friends and community. [...more](#)

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FEATURED ARTICLE

Early Detection of Alzheimer's Disease

By Kristine Dwyer, Staff Writer

Dementia itself is not a disease, but rather a set of symptoms that accompany specific diseases. Dementia is a general term for the loss of memory, language and recognition that is severe enough to interfere with everyday life. Researchers believe dementia may be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors. Some diseases that cause dementia are irreversible and include Huntington's disease, Pick's disease, Parkinson's disease, Lewy body dementia, multi-infarct dementia and Alzheimer's disease (AD), the most common form of dementia, accounting for 60-70 percent of the diagnosed cases. [...more](#)

GUEST ARTICLE

Soaring Through a Family Meeting

By Jean Wise

Bess' Alzheimer's disease has progressed to late stage. She lives with her husband, Don, in a small town. They have four adult children, three of whom live several hours away and one who lives across the country, who are anxious and unsure of what to do as their mother continues to decline. It is time for a family meeting, but where do they start? [...more](#)

CARETIPS

Keeping Well In Winter

Keep warm

- Wear several thin layers of clothes rather than one thick layer
 - In the coldest weather, wear bed socks and a hat, as well as thermal nightwear
 - Choose clothes made with wool, cotton or fleecy materials [...more](#)
-

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CAREVERSE

You See An Old Man

By Ann Schrag

You see an old man
Drooling in his wheelchair.
I see a man who could make almost anything
With scrap metal from the junk pile.

You see an old man
Who speaks only when spoken to.
I see a man who told exciting stories
Of his encounters with grizzly bears and getting lost in the mountains.

You see an old man
Whose speech is garbled and confused.
I see a man who sang hymn after hymn by memory
To keep himself awake while driving through the night.

You see an old man
Who can't remember his wife's name.
I see a man who prayed for all of his children and grandchildren
By name, every day.

You see an old man
Whose life no longer makes sense.
I see a man whom I can't imagine life without
Because he's always been there.

You see an old man.
I see a man I love, my Dad.

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