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December 5th, 2023

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Hospice Provider News

[FAIRHOPE places umbrellas around area for people to use or borrow](#)

Lancaster (OH) Eagle Gazette

December 3, 2023

Lancaster, OH—FAIRHOPE Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. has placed umbrellas around Fairfield County to use and borrow as part of its thank you to the community for the November Celebration of Hospice and Palliative

Care Month. “We are grateful to be part of such an extraordinary community that always supports us,” said Kristin Glasure, FAIRHOPE President/CEO.

Palliative Care Provider News

[CAPC Palliative Care Provider Directory](#)

Press Release, 12/4/23

Finding palliative care services should be easy and convenient, not only for patients living with a serious illness, and their families, but also for their medical teams. CAPC’s national Palliative Care Provider Directory provides a quick and easy way for patients, families, and referring clinicians to locate and contact palliative care programs in their area.

Clinical News

[A woman’s hospice death leads to a police standoff at an Orange home](#)

KBMT-TV (Beaumont, TX)

December 2, 2023

Orange, TX—SWAT responded to a standoff at a house in Orange after a husband didn’t want his wife’s body be taken away. Around 7 p.m. a call was made about a woman in hospice passing away, according to Orange Police Sergeant Isaac T. Henry III. Soon after a hospice nurse called saying the husband made suicidal and threatening comments to people because he was upset that his wife had passed away, Henry told 12News crew at the scene. When Orange police responded there was a short standoff². The husband eventually came out of the house and is now going to have a mental evaluation, according to Henry.

[Why Doctors and Pharmacists Are in Revolt](#)

New York Times

December 3, 2023

... And doctors are not the only health professionals who are unionizing or protesting in greater numbers. Health care workers, many of them nurses, held eight major work stoppages last year—the most in a decade—and are on pace to match or exceed that number this year. This fall, dozens of nonunion pharmacists at CVS and Walgreens stores called in sick or walked off the job to protest understaffing, many for a full day or more.

[Never Visit a Dying Person](#)

By Virginia A. Simpson, PhD

Next Avenue

December 1, 2023

Before a fit of disgust at my callousness takes over, I’m going to tell you what I mean when I say, Never visit a dying person. After a young woman named Beyhan died, her friends put together her words and published a small book called “Beyhan’s Journey.” Beyhan said, I could always tell when someone was visiting a dying person. She meant that because they no longer saw her as the person she still was, they treated her differently. The message is this: Visit the person, not their disease, diagnosis or prognosis.

[Editor’s Note: The author has worked with dying and grieving people for more than 38 years. She’s the author of “The Space Between: A Memoir of Mother-Daughter Love at the End of Life.”]

[Light-a-Life Tree Lighting for Hospice Buffalo](#)

WKBW-TV (Buffalo, NY)

December 2, 2023

Buffalo, NY—Hospice and Palliative Care Buffalo hosted its 35th annual Light-a-Life Memorial Tree Lighting

Ceremony. This is a longstanding tradition that provides an opportunity to remember loved ones who were cared for by Hospice and Palliative Care Buffalo.

[Savannah Hospice honors loved ones for the holidays](#)

WTGS-TV (Savannah, GA)

December 3, 2023

Savannah, GA—Hospice Savannah hosted their 32nd annual Tree of Light Memorial Ceremony on Sunday. The memorial honored the memory of loved ones during the holiday season.

[It's OK to Never 'Get Over' Your Grief](#)

By Mikolaj Slawkowski-Rode, MA, PhD

New York Times

December 3, 2023

Over the past century, traditional mourning practices have fallen out of favor in the West. Black is now usually worn only to a funeral, and not always then. But traditional mourning practices were designed to do just that: to preserve a place for the dead among the living, to help mourners carry the weight of their grief not by getting over it but by maintaining their relationship with the deceased (as metaphysically suspect as that might sound to modern ears). Today we are encouraged to step out from the shadow loss casts over our lives and return to happiness. ... This approach to grief and mourning might seem to be a good thing, like picking yourself up after a fall. It is arguably less morbid, with its emphasis on "getting closure" and "moving on" in a process whose goal is "healing." But I fear the benefits do not outweigh the costs. ...

[Editor's Note: The author is an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Warsaw and a research fellow at Blackfriars Hall at the University of Oxford. He is the editor of "The Meaning of Mourning: Perspectives on Death, Loss, and Grief."]

M&A News

[Three historic California hospices to merge](#)

McKnight's Home Care Daily

December 4, 2023

A blockbuster merger of three long-standing providers will create the largest independent nonprofit hospice network in northern California. By the Bay Health, Mission Hospice & Home Care and Hope Hospice, three providers with deep roots in their communities, disclosed the deal in a statement Friday.

[Hospice 36-month rule work-around not worth the risk, financial experts warn](#)

McKnight's Home Care Daily

December 4, 2023

Though the recently enacted 36-month rule presents another obstacle for hospice transactions, mergers and acquisitions experts encouraged buyers to play by the rules rather than push the boundaries of the new regulation. This so-called 36-month rule, which requires re-enrollment for providers that undergo a change in majority ownership within 36 months of initial Medicare certification, now covers hospice as part of the 2023 home health final rule. It had previously only applied to home health facilities.

Post-Acute Care News

[State's regulators under fire for not imposing 'meaningful' punishment on operators](#)

McKnight's Senior Living

December 4, 2023

If provider punishments in Maine ramp up in the near future, operators won't need to look far for the catalyst.

A *ProPublica* investigation into what it calls the failures of the state's oversight agencies is creating a lot of heat in and around the sector. ... In partnership with *The Maine Monitor*, *ProPublica's Local Reporting Network* shined a spotlight on the state's health department for citing dozens of resident rights violations and hundreds of other deficiencies between 2020 and 2022 but imposing only the "lowest intervention possible, even for some of the most serious abuse and neglect incidents." ... Long-term care advocates said that a lack of regulatory enforcement essentially encourages bad behavior. Industry representatives called for increasing nursing hours and requiring on-site medical directors in assisted living rather than imposing sanctions.

[NAHC offers guidance, prevention strategies for home care workplace violence](#)

McKnight's Home Care Daily

December 4, 2023

Providers and their caregivers need to take actions to protect themselves against workplace violence, a group of experts said in a webinar sponsored by the National Association for Home Care & Hospice. "We may not be able to 100% prevent violence for safety concerns in the home setting," Candyce Slusher, owner of senior care consulting firm Slusher Consulting, said during the Wednesday webinar. "So we'll do what we can to recognize those things ahead of time and try to protect our staff, but they also need to know how to protect themselves and feel comfortable coming to you when there's issues."

[Nurse-led geriatric primary care model offers care benefits for seniors](#)

McKnight's Long Term Care News

December 4, 2023

A new study found that integrating Geriatric Interdisciplinary Team Training-Primary Care (GITT-PC) can improve primary care for older adults. Essentially, GITT-PC trains healthcare workers to function as a team while integrating geriatric care into primary care settings. It can focus on using nurses instead of doctors. Overall, the model aims to change practices by leveraging Medicare reimbursement billable codes for Annual Wellness Visit (AWV), Chronic Care Management (CCM), Advance Care Planning (ACP) and Dementia services. The study was published Friday in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.

[NY latest to adopt LGBTQ+ Bill of Rights for long-term care residents](#)

McKnight's Senior Living

December 4, 2023

New York has become the latest state to adopt legislation establishing a bill of rights for LGBTQ+ residents in other long-term care facilities. S 1783A / A 372 prohibits assisted living communities and other long-term care facilities and their staffs from discriminating against residents on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or HIV status.

Non-print News

['Between Life & Death: Terri Schiavo's Story' Official Trailer](#)

MSNBC.com

November 22, 2023

Sunday, December 3rd, MSNBC Films presents "Between Life & Death," an NBC News Studios production. The documentary retraces the tragic story of Terri Schiavo from the 1990s and early 2000s, going beyond the headlines of the national debate over her life that reverberates in today's culture wars. Watch "Between Life & Death: Terri Schiavo's Story," Sunday, December 3rd at 10pm ET on MSNBC and streaming on Peacock.

[Editor's Note: To watch the one-minute trailer for this 90-minute documentary, click [here](#). There is no pdf associated with this item.]

End-of-life clinicians are trying to shift Hollywood's depiction of death

Death is often depicted in TV and movies, but some clinicians say not very accurately. They're trying to shift the way Hollywood represents it.

NPR

December 3, 2023

YESHA RASCOE, HOST: We're used to seeing death on TV and in the movies, but some clinicians who work with people at the end of life say the most common depictions aren't representative of what happens in the real world. They're trying to shift the stories we tell about death to help people cope better.

[Editor's Note: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded a similar effort 20 years ago called "Last Acts."]

[Editor's Note: To listen to the 4-minute report, click [here](#).]