

Press Release

Caregiver's Forum To Air in April - Parkinson's Awareness Month

PHILADELPHIA, PA (April 7, 2006) The ***Caregiver's Forum***, a 30-minute special and series of one-minute tips will begin airing on CN8, the Comcast Network, on Channel 8 the week of April 10, 2006.

Caregiver's Forum is an invaluable resource (both broadcast and web site) for caregivers of all types. In keeping with the national focus during April, Parkinson's Awareness Month, the first ***Caregiver's Forum*** special will focus on Parkinson's disease and will air at noon on April 15 and April 22, 2006. In addition, one-minute tips on care for Parkinson patients will run four times a week, from April through June during regular CN8 programming. Look for the tips during *Seeking Solutions with Suzanne*, *It's Your Call with Lynn Doyle* and the Channel 8 Evening News.

The Parkinson's segment of ***Caregiver's Forum***, airing in April, is the first in a series of specials planned on diseases and conditions that challenge today's caregivers. According to the ***National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA)*** family care giving is the act of assisting someone you care about, who is chronically ill or disabled and unable to care for him/herself

Written and produced by Melodee Mercer, ***Caregiver's Forum***, was developed with the assistance of Ms. Mercer's mother, the late Mrs. Perri Mercer, who survived her disease for 15 years. The inaugural session of ***Caregiver's Forum*** evolved from the Mercers' experience dealing with the demands of caregiving in a fast-paced society. Ms. Mercer, a seasoned caregiver with a professional background in radio and television began devising systems and strategies designed to maintain her mother's quality of life, ease the constraints of care giving while fully employed and make life easier for both patient and caregiver.

The Mercers lived most of their lives in Philadelphia; Ms. Mercer is now a resident of Bucks County. Much of the inaugural Caregivers Forum series was taped at the Penn Movement Disorder Center in Philadelphia.

Ms Mercer's book, ***Surviving and Thriving as a Caregiver***, is scheduled for publication in June. For more information visit www.CaregiversForum.net. The website will also give information about the Philadelphia Walk for Parkinson's April 22, and Parkinson's Unity Walk on April 29 in NYC.

CN8, the Comcast network, airs on the East Coast from Maine to Maryland on Channel 8. Press inquiries please call: 215-504-1900.
