

Speakers for the upcoming months are:

May: Cecilia Bridges, Buck Institute for Aging Research

June: Tim Geiseke, Transitional Care

July: Networking Meeting

Spotlight Speaker: **Nancy Proctor**
Memorial Hospice
707-568-1094, ext. 106
nancy.proctor@stjoe.org
www.stjosephhealth.org

Nancy explained that they are a medicare certified hospice, with three locations: Memorial Hospice in Santa Rosa, North County Hospice in Healdsburg, and Hospice of Petaluma. Services are available to anyone, regardless of age; do not have to be a DNR patient. Clients may keep their own physician, although they have five physicians on staff working with pain and symptom control that do make house calls. They also provide services for families. They offer grief support and grief groups. They are part of a community coalition providing support for emergencies and school crises.

Spotlight Speaker: **Lucy Andrews, Owner**
At Your Service Home Care
707-573-1003
lucy@avshomecare.net
www.avshomecare.net

At Your Service Home Care is a non-medical home care agency, which employs professional caregivers that are bonded, insured, and background checked. AYS is CAHSAH certified and has earned the Diamond Certified designation. As this is National Victim's Rights Week, Lucy chose to use her "speaker" time to focus on the topic of elder abuse.

Program Speaker: **Robin Hammond**
Deputy District Attorney

Robin has worked as the Deputy District Attorney, as the major fraud prosecutor, since 2008. Major fraud is defined as losses over \$50,000. Robin reported that 60% to 75% of all major fraud cases in Sonoma County are elder fraud cases (elder being defined as over 65 years of age). Only 1 in 14 cases are being reported. The three most common types of fraud reported are:

Fraud involving family members. Example would be recently widowed elderly woman who was always dependent on her husband, and unemployed son comes to live with mom, taking advantage. The percentage of these cases that are even reported are very low. Very difficult to prosecute. Losses in the hundreds of thousands.

Theft by caregivers. Typically more successful in prosecuting these cases.

Perpetrator is not a family member or caregiver, but possibly a contractor, plumber, etc.

Statute of limitations is four years from date of discovery for fraud; five years for crimes of violence.

Robin advises to report any suspected elder fraud the first time you suspect it. Please report to Adult Protective Services. Keep in touch with family members on a regular basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Cerri
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