



NOVEMBER 2025



CARING TOGETHER

A PUBLICATION BY THE
ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE
TRI-STATE AREA



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THE MISSION OF THE ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE:

To empower those affected by Alzheimer's disease with resources for enhancing their quality of life through education and support.

MEMORIALS

James Arnett
Mary O'Farrell

Ronald Bright
Janice Robbins and Susan Robbins

Rick Buchanan
Jim, Sophia and Beatrice Cummings

Peggy Dukelow
Cathy and Mark Van Herpen

Austine Harris
Becky & Matt Duncan

Norman Jackson
Mary O'Farrell

Debra Johnson
Carington Bright

David Parsons
Vicki Orr

Gwendolyn Stout
Jeanee and Swede Lee

Jo Ann Pope
Bonnie Judd

John Price
Cathy and Mark Van Herpen
Reliance Mechanical

Margie Ruzicka
Don Dolezalek, Sr.

Bob Scott
Becky & Mack Duncan

Alta Taylor
Annell and Gary Langdon

Wesley Self
Liza McCubbin

Wanda Robinson
Karen and Stephen Johnson

Ann Renfro
Patricia Stephens

Nathan E. "Tricky" Jones Jr.
Ethel P. Jones

HONORARIUMS

Dr. Mark McCatty
The Staff at Texarkana
Denture and Implant Studio



PROJECT LIFESAVER

Bringing Loved Ones Home

Project Lifesaver is the premier search and rescue program operated internationally by public safety agencies, and is strategically designed for "at risk" individuals who are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering. The primary mission of Project Lifesaver is to provide timely response to save lives, and reduce potential injury for adults and children with the propensity to wander due to a cognitive condition.

HOW IT WORKS: CALL 911

If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies their local Project Lifesaver agency, by calling 911, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. The first responders will then use the client's individualized frequency to triangulate the position of the individual, in an effort to locate them & return them home safely.

Does your loved one qualify for Project Lifesaver?

- Not allowed to drive a vehicle
- Cannot live alone
- Must be supervised at all times

If your loved one meets the qualifications, contact the Alzheimer's Alliance to enroll:

 903-223-8021

4,543

RESCUED TO DATE INTERNATIONALLY

LOCATES
DAY OR NIGHT

AVERAGE RECOVERY TIME:

30 MINUTES



This program was partially funded by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA)

NOW FOR BOWIE, CASS AND MILLER COUNTIES

SUPPORT GROUPS:

- NOVEMBER 5TH
- DECEMBER 3RD

🕒 2:00 PM

mark your CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS HELD AT THE
ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE

📍 100 MEMORY LN.

MEMORY CAFE:

- NOVEMBER 15TH

🕒 10:00 AM

November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month



Alzheimer's is the most common type of dementia. Currently there are over 100 types of dementia.



The cause of Alzheimer's Disease is still unknown. Research, testing and clinical trials occur everyday to find the first person cured of this disease.



The disease process is different for every person battling with this disease. It is important to **educate yourself** for the journey ahead.



A new case of dementia arises somewhere in the world every 3 seconds.



In high income countries, only **20-50% of dementia** cases are recognized and documented in primary care.

We're looking for VOLUNTEERS!

If you or someone you know is looking for a volunteer opportunity in the
Our Place Day Respite Center, please contact us!





WHAT'S UP AT:



OUR PLACE



From heartwarming birthday celebrations to the beautiful sounds of live music filling our space, October has been a month to treasure at Our Place. Each day has brought moments of genuine joy and connection. Whether gathered around tables for friendly games of chicken foot, sharing in creative coloring activities, or moving together in lively group fun, the warmth and laughter have been abundant. These precious moments remind us why we do what we do—creating a space where memories are made and hearts are full.



After all these years...
YOU'RE
Sti **11**
THE ONE

twice as fine
TEXARKANA
WINE
FESTIVAL

MAY 2, 2026
SPRING LAKE PARK
11AM-6PM

Teepa Snow is an occupational therapist and dementia care specialist. Teepa is an advocate for those living with dementia, and has made it her personal mission to help families and professionals better understand how it feels to be living with the challenges and changes that accompany various forms of the condition, so that life can be lived fully and well.

Teepa specializes in education that allows families and caregivers to understand the symptoms of Alzheimer's and dementia, while adequately addressing their needs. Teepa's approaches recognize and reduce distress and fill the day with opportunities for meaningful interaction.

Below are QR codes to watch some of her educational videos and webinars.



When and How to Have Difficult Conversations



When Helping Doesn't Help



Empathy and Validation for Caregivers



Teepa Snow
MS, OTR/L, FAOTA

IN THE NEWS

New Oral Pill Shows Promise for Alzheimer's Prevention

Researchers have announced encouraging results from a clinical trial testing a new pill for people at high genetic risk of Alzheimer's disease.

Who Is This For?

About 15% of people with Alzheimer's carry two copies of a gene called APOE4. These individuals face the fastest disease progression and have the fewest treatment options available.

What Makes This Different?

The new medication, valiltramiprosate, is a daily pill that works differently than current treatments. Instead of removing plaques that have already formed in the brain, it prevents toxic proteins from clumping together in the first place. It's also safer than current infusion treatments, which can cause brain swelling and bleeding in high-risk patients.

The Results

The 78-week study included 325 participants with early Alzheimer's symptoms. Those treated during the earliest stages showed:

- Slower memory decline
- Less brain shrinkage
- Better preservation of daily functioning

Patients who were already at the mild dementia stage did not benefit as much from the treatment.

The Takeaway

Early intervention is key. This research reinforces that Alzheimer's treatment works best when started as early as possible. If approved, this pill could offer a safer, more convenient option for people at highest genetic risk.

The company is continuing discussions with regulators to bring this medication to patients who need it.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE WANTS TO GO “HOME”



When caring for someone with dementia, it's essential to approach their feelings and needs with understanding and compassion. Because they are dealing with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia, what they say does not always correlate with how they are feeling. Here are some ways to make your loved one feel at home when they don't feel at home.

Acknowledge how they are feeling in the moment

While correction might be one's first instinct, try first empathizing with how they are feeling. The simple truth is not often recommended with dementia because we are applying OUR code of ethics to THEIR damaged brains, which require and seek comfort to stay calm. Therapeutic Fibs are recommended as needed and shouldn't be looked as "sinful lies", but common sense logic, given the disease at play.

Avoid arguing whether or not they are already “home”

For someone with dementia, "home" can mean more than just where they live now. When they say they want to go home, they often mean a feeling of comfort and safety, not a specific place. This idea of home might bring up happy memories or represent a place where they felt relaxed. Sometimes, it might even be an imaginary place. It's usually best not to argue with them about where home is, but to listen and understand their feelings.

Reassure them of their safety

The desire to go home is a natural feeling that anyone might have in an unfamiliar place. It's important to reassure the person with kind words, and, if appropriate, gentle touches or handholding. Let them know they are safe. It can also help to remind them that they are still cared for, especially if they are in a different place than they used to be. They need to feel that they are valued and supported.

Try diverting the conversation

Keep a photograph album handy. This could be a physical book or photos on a tablet or smartphone. Sometimes looking at pictures from the past and being given the chance to reminisce, will ease the person's feelings of anxiety. Alternatively, you could try shifting the person's focus from home to something else: food, music, or other activities like going for a walk.

Assess what needs are not being met

Is your loved one cold? Are they too hot? Are they hungry? Is it too bright or too dark? Is your loved one thirsty or in any sort of pain? The cause of your loved one's anxiety or agitation could be from an unmet need. Ask yourself these questions to get to the root of the cause!