

**Friday Review—2/19/21**

Happy Friday everyone! So, it’s been snowing for two days but only some areas have had to shovel. For the rest of us, the snow doesn’t seem to mount up. Good ol’ New England weather!

**Hooray and congratulations!**—It is always nice to share some happy news. And today we congratulate Teresa Chopoorian of The Mansion. Teresa is one of 19 women *nationwide* to be named to McKnight’s Women of Distinction Hall of Honor! The Hall of Honor recognizes “executive level professionals who have made a significant impact in the skilled nursing or senior living industries.” Congratulations Teresa! You can read more here: <https://www.mcknights.com/news/mcknights-unveils-2021-women-of-distinction-hall-of-honor-inductees/>

You can also read more on RIHCA’s Facebook page. Even better, you can like and share our Facebook post with your staff and friends. If you have not been to our Facebook page lately, check it out!

**Visitation—**As some states (including Rhode Island) loosen guidelines around visitation a CMS official says it may be too early to ease up. <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/health-law-and-business/nursing-homes-urged-to-stand-pat-as-states-move-to-expand-visits>

**Mandating visits**—However, a bill filed in the Georgia legislature would mandate visitation during a public health emergency. <https://www.theclaytontribune.com/index.php/local-news/bill-would-allow-person-family-visits-during-public-health-emergencies>

**Taking its toll**—Sadly, the death rates for nursing home staff were among the highest in 2020. <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/nursing-home-workers-had-one-of-the-deadliest-jobs-of-2020/>

**Finding the good**—In spite of all the tragedy, there is some good to come from the pandemic. This article cites 5 positive take-aways. <https://pagepro.mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?m=63330&i=691560&p=18>

**Federal proposal**--The US House is considering a proposal which would fund infection control and strike teams for nursing homes. <https://www.mcknights.com/news/450-million-for-infection-control-strike-teams-for-nursing-homes-in-house-bill-that-advances/>

**Numbers going down**—The number of COVID-19 cases in nursing homes is dropping. AHCA/NCAL says this is directly tied to vaccinations. <https://www.mcknights.com/news/clinical-news/vaccinations-tied-to-drop-in-nursing-home-infections-states-push-for-revised-role-in-pharmacy-allocations/>

**Good news for occupancy**?—As the number of vaccinations go up and the number of active COVID-19 cases goes down, the hope is that this will be good news for census.

<https://skillednursingnews.com/2021/02/with-covid-19-cases-plummeting-nursing-homes-may-have-seen-the-bottom-of-record-low-occupancy/?euid=a3545010f7&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=a7529f63ab>

**Get your rest!**—Not getting enough sleep could lead to dementia, or even early death. <https://consumer.healthday.com/2-16-too-little-sleep-could-raise-your-dementia-risk-2650480672.html>

Well, that’s it for another week! Can’t find a sports reference to report this week. If you are a baseball fan, pitchers and catchers report to spring training soon. Even if you are not a sports fan, that usually is a sign to most that spring is (eventually) on its way. At least try to hold on to that thought as the snow continues to fall.

Have a great weekend!