

ENGLANDER EXPLORES MUSIC'S HEALING POWER

By Joan Englander

Music is a friend to the lonely, the ill, and the dying. Author and educator Joan Englander will demonstrate her work as the featured speaker for Hospice volunteers and those on the Hospice panel, Penny McMannus and Margaret Nesbitt. Englander will present the blessing of music at the bedside, with true stories illustrating the lessons learned from elders in need of care.

For 28 years, Englander has had a private practice in therapeutic music in hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and private homes in the Ojai Valley and in Santa Barbara.

Englander also facilitates groups for elders over the age of 80. She conducts discussion groups in self-esteem, aging, psychology, and spirituality, and teaches creative communication, songwriting, storytelling, Chinese chair exercise, and dance.

Some years ago Englander was the principal singer, songwriter for the television series "Use It or Lose It," and the Tri-Counties Project for the Aging and for the International Institute for Transpersonal Studies. She also led devotional singing for thousands of people in South India. Last year she offered musical storytelling for a Multi-Faith Dialogue on "Gratitude and Forgiveness" at La Casa de Maria in Montecito. Currently, Englander continues to create musical celebrations in churches, synagogues, healing, and meditation centers.

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