

Note in a Tin Can

In the mission of Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, we understand the value of sharing. We must share our professional skills and our compassion with our residents and their families. We necessarily share with one another the personal and corporate lifting required for fulfillment of our jobs and the encouragement that makes us a team successfully reaching our objectives. Sharing, then, is vital to our success.

Years ago, near a seldom-used trail in the Amargosa Desert in California, there stood a rundown hut. Nearby was a well, the only source of water for miles around. Attached to the pump was a tin baking powder can with a message inside, written in pencil on a sheet of brown wrapping paper. This was the message:

This pump is all right as of June 1932. I put a new sucker washer into it and it ought to last five years. But the washer dries out and the pump has got to be primed. Under the white rock I buried a bottle of water, out of the sun and cork end up. There's enough water in it to prime this pump but not if you drink some first. Pour in about $\frac{1}{4}$ and let her soak to wet the leather. Then pour in the rest medium fast and pump like hell. You'll git water. The well never has ran dry. Have faith.

When you git watered up, fill the bottle and put it back like you found it for the next feller.

SIGNED: *Desert Pete*

P.S. Don't go drinking the water first! Prime the pump with it and you'll git all you can hold. And next time you pray, remember that God is like the pump. He has to be primed. I've given my last dime away a dozen times to prime the pump of my prayers, and I've fed my last beans to a stranger while saying Amen. It never failed yet to git me an answer. You got to git your heart fixed to give before you can be give to.

And that, dear friends, is a sermon within itself.

--Beecher Hunter