

March 25, 2004

Hello all,

Annie had a good week. Two separate outings that were **not** to Marion Joy Rehab. She was so excited – dinner one evening at Connie's Pizza and another at Chili's. She is slowly working up to Charlie Trotter's.

Annie kept smiling, taking everything in around her – including seeing the smoking section. She told her sister:

"You know I didn't quit smoking. It's embedded in my brain." I still tell her she quit previously and she just shakes her head. Saturday was a beautiful, sunny Spring day here so Annie and her mother and sister went to the park. Annie wanted to walk so she pushed the wheelchair instead of sitting in it. She walked for a full 25 minutes. That is really progress. Every Saturday morning, Annie's sister's friend, Jay, reads Barron's to her. She tells him symbols when he mentions stocks and then says a specific stock should be trading higher or lower. Especially has opinions on Red Hat (she must own that one).

Short term memory is the same – there really isn't one. I am still her "new" friend Linda. And she doesn't remember from one day to the next when I was there. Her in home therapy will begin next month if all goes as planned and I will let you all know how she progresses. But she is a happy person and still likes to lie on the couch and just hang out. But if you suggest doing anything she is ready and willing to do it (especially with a little encouragement). Elly sent watercolors her children had made for Annie and that really made her smile. They are now on the wall in the kitchen so she can see them. Ronnie (Annie's sister) and I are still working on getting the laptop ready for Annie.

Annie will be sending more thank you notes this weekend as I finally picked up names and addresses from my banker (who has been keeping track of deposits for the family). I will not see Annie for the next 2 weekends as I will not be in the city. But will email you following my next visit. Continue to say your prayers. There is so much hope and possibility for her.

Linda