



Connections



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It's Taste of the Town Time!

The 23rd annual Hospice Taste of the Town fundraiser will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 16, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Showplace in High Point showcasing 60 local restaurants, caterers, and beverage vendors. This year's theme is "Every Day's a Gift."

Giving the gift of comfort and experience has been the goal of Hospice of the Piedmont for the past 30 years.

Involvement in Hospice Taste of the Town helps ensure that patients and families in Guilford, Randolph, Davidson and Forsyth counties receive quality care, regardless of ability to pay.

"Hospice of the Piedmont helps hundreds of local families during very trying circumstances. High Point Bank appreciates this opportunity to contribute to their work through sponsorship of Taste of the Town," comments Mark Williamson, President of High Point Bank -- Hospice Taste of the Town's Grand Chef Sponsor.

Another way to contribute is through volunteering. It takes more than 300 volunteers to make Hospice Taste of the Town operate smoothly. A variety of volunteer opportunities are still available. Visit www.hospicetaste.com for a volunteer application or call the volunteer office at 889.8446 for more information.



Lastly, Hospice Taste of the Town would not be the special event it is without the participants. Between sampling good food and listening to the music of Timeless, event goers enjoy a fun night while supporting Hospice of the Piedmont. And, don't forget the silent auction with more than 150 items to bid on, including two Apple iPad 2s, furniture and accessories, special

handmade items, and a variety of gift certificates.

Whether by sponsoring, volunteering or participating in the event, Hospice of the Piedmont appreciates your gifts and support. Make your plans now to bring your family and friends to the best tasting event in town! Purchase your tickets in advance at any High Point Bank in High Point, Greensboro and Kernersville or by going online to www.hospicetaste.com. Tickets will also be available at the door the evening of the event, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Special Thanks to these participants

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| A.P. Personal Chef Service | Liberty Steakhouse & Brewery |
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by Leslie Kalinowski,
President and CEO

You've probably read or heard this prediction: The number of Americans over the age of 65 will double by the year 2025. Most of us in the Baby Boomer group will be senior citizens by then, and more likely in greater need of health care.

Few things in life combine the best quality with the best value, but hospice care is one of them. The services provided by Hospice of the Piedmont – whether in patient homes, in facilities or at our own Hospice Home – are the gold standard for end of life care, but also cost effective for patients and those paying the bills. The support of our community has helped make this care available to those who have needed it for the past 30 years, and hopefully for generations to come.

Our Hospice Home at High Point has served our community for the past five years, caring for close to 1,500 patients and their families during that time. In July, Hospice of the Piedmont applied to the State of North Carolina to add four additional beds (patient rooms) to our inpatient facility. I especially appreciate and thank the hundreds of individuals who wrote letters of support for our Certificate of Need application.

Last year, Hospice Home was at 104% of capacity and maintained a waiting list of 5-10 patients each day for general in-patient beds. The



added rooms will allow us to care for more individuals who need special care in the final weeks of life. The Board of Directors of Hospice of the Piedmont wants to make certain that every family needing our services is

appropriately served, and to ensure that the legacy of caring continues.

The theme of our 23rd annual Hospice Taste of the Town this summer is Every Day's a Gift. I salute the courage of our caregivers and families and the commitment of our staff toward making the most of every day that remains for our patients. It's a reminder to all of us to appreciate every day, at whatever point in our lives.

Leslie Kalinowski

Two Honored with Rawleigh Awards

Two special supporters and former Board chairs were honored posthumously at Hospice of the Piedmont's 30th Anniversary Dinner in April. Dr. E. Roy Epperson and John Yowell were both awarded Hospice of the Piedmont's highest honor, the James Thomas Rawleigh Award.

Dr. Epperson is a former Board chair, and was a Board member and chair of the Finance Committee at the time of his sudden death in January 2010. Dr. Epperson was also a strong supporter and served as chair of the Hospice Taste of the Town steering committee a few years ago.

Mr. Yowell was a Board member

and immediate past chair of the Hospice Board when he passed away unexpectedly earlier this year. He was passionate supporter of Hospice care as well as the Taste of the Town fundraiser, for which he and his wife Audrey served as honorary co-chairs two years ago.

This Rawleigh Award is named for one of the agency's founding Board members, Tom Rawleigh, and recognizes distinguished service to Hospice and commitment to the agency. This award has only been given to six other individuals over the past 30 years: Kitty T. Boone, Dr. Vance Davis, Louise Foster, RN, Tom Rawleigh, Donna H. Turner, and Jack Williams.



Volunteers Make a Difference

Hospice of the Piedmont welcomes 15 new volunteers who completed patient/family training classes in the spring. This class included a special volunteer named Sampson, Hospice's first pet visitation dog.

"Extraordinary volunteers are a very special part of the hospice team. Our services are enhanced by the work they do for the agency and our patients and families," says Volunteer Coordinator Kim Kaufmann.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, call the Hospice office at 336.889.8446. The fall volunteer training session runs September 8-29

and meets each Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Hospice office. A wide variety of opportunities are available – direct and indirect patient/family care, office support, special projects, transportation and children's programs.

Pictured front row, left to right: Teresa Bennett, Peggy Nance, Ruth LaFon, Linda Massie, Diane Purgason (with Sampson, pet visitation dog). Back row, left to right: Deborah Skinner, Nastasia Gladney, Beth Poage, Debbie Trees, Ailene Taylor, DonElla Carter, Lenora Sparks, Bessie Rivers, Charlotte Jackson. Not pictured: Frances Talmadge.



Do you know someone who spends time providing physical, emotional, or practical support to a family member or friend? Many caregivers feel alone, helpless, confused, unprepared, tired, and unable to provide for the needs of their family member or friend. Often, people caring for another need help and do not know how to ask for it.

How to Support Someone Caring for Another

Ask the caregiver how they are doing.

Let them know you respect their privacy, but care about them and want to offer support and a listening ear.

Reach out to caregivers with a touch, a hug, or other physical expression or support.

Supportive human contact is important and can be very meaningful to someone who is giving important care and experiencing the many losses that accompany being a caregiver. (However, it is always important to check to make sure they are okay being touched.)

Spend time with the person who is seriously ill.

Family caregivers are often the only link the care receiver has with the outside world. Offering to spend time with the person can be a gift to both the patient and the caregiver. Bring a book or newspaper to read aloud, a game to play, photos to share, or just a friendly ear for conversation.

Offer specific help.

Saying “call me if you need me” is vague and may not appear to be a sincere offer of help. Often caregivers do not want to be a bother or may not feel they have the time to make a call, as it is one more thing for them to do. Be specific, ask the caregiver if you can go shopping, run an errand, make a phone call, cook a meal, or sit with the person who is ill. By offering to do something specific, you are communicating that you are really willing to help the caregiver.

Tell the caregiver it is okay to take a break from the caregiving role.

You can let them know that it is okay to take time to renew themselves; they deserve it and need to care for themselves in order to continue providing care. Routine breaks are much like putting fuel in a car so it will continue to run.

Online Offerings

Visit our website at www.hospice-careconnection.org for more information about:

- News & upcoming events
 - E-News sign-up
- Volunteer opportunities
 - Online donations
 - Services & programs



Find us on Facebook

If you frequent Facebook, check out our page at www.facebook.com/hospiceofthepiedmont for up-to-date information about end-of-life care, our agency, its programs, staff and volunteers. Click “Like” and follow us!

Hospice of the Piedmont Wish List

For patients

- New and used baby monitors
- New extra long twin sheets
- Cotton hospital gowns (or gowns that open in the back)
- Nutritional supplements (such as Ensure, Boost)
- Single serving soft food items
- Shaving cream, razors, mouthwash, deodorant, and cuticle sticks

For Hospice Home at High Point

- Non-perishable, individually-wrapped snacks for the family kitchen
- Flatware and dishes for the family kitchen
- Hand sanitizer

For the Grief Counseling Center

- Small boxes of tissues
- Spiral-style journals

Celebrating 30 Years

Hospice of the Piedmont marks its 30th anniversary this year.

Dr. Vance Davis, the first president of the agency, still serves as a patient/family volunteer. The following history is excerpted from his remarks at the 30th Anniversary Dinner on April 26, 2011:

"In the course of history, an idea occasionally comes along so profound and so compelling that the truth of it cannot be ignored or denied. Hospice is one of those ideas...

In the 1970s Hospice practitioners were talking about palliative or comfort care as a way of taking care of certain individuals for whom curative care seemed inappropriate, namely those who have limited life expectancy.

As a concept, Hospice was deceptively simple for those of us who began to hear the word in the late 70s: total care of the total person in his or her total environment, which included the family. That total care had to be under the direction of medical professionals and was best delivered by a team of individuals.

So it took time to explain first and foremost, Hospice affirms life. Its focus is on providing individuals with limited life expectancy services that enhance the quality of life for as long as life lasts. With this framework in mind, a few kindred spirits started asking in 1979 'Why can't we start a Hospice in High Point?'

By early November 1979 the eager 'dozen' organized themselves as a Steering Committee...I felt privileged to be a part of that group and to serve as its chair. For the Nov. 5 meeting, I made myself a note to share with the group: 'To start a Hospice requires patience (at least two years' worth), strong commitment, wide professional support, sound financial backing, an ecumenical spirit, and an awful lot of plain, hard work on the part of scores of people.' Little did we know that these words were actually understated.

The Steering Committee met frequently, sometimes weekly. Along with many other things, we needed to define our area of service, devise organizational structures and bylaws, engage in community education, seek the support of religious leaders, and of course, we had to address the matters of funding. How much was Hospice going to cost and

where was the money coming from? ...Our first official treasurer's report of June 9, 1980, indicated a balance of \$35. The fact was starkly sobering.

Community outreach seemed to pay dividends. Dr. Steve Uhlin was particularly helpful in cultivating the medical community. Carolyn Greene agreed to chair a Certificate of Need Committee. Donald Boone took care of legal matters, including a charter from the state under the name Hospice of High Point, Inc. On Sept., 29, 1980, the Steering Committee morphed into an 18 member interim Board of Directors.

The interim Board in turn morphed into a formal Board of Directors at the first Annual Meeting held March 9, 1981, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. It is this date that marks our official beginning. The Board reviewed at that annual meeting a timetable for the next 15 months which projected among other events the admission of the first home care patient.... The Certificate of Need was submitted in September, the first volunteer training session began in October, and a successful fund raising campaign that fall resulted in over \$24,500 for start-up operations.

By 1982 Hospice at High Point was indeed on a roll. The Certificate of Need was approved early in the year by the State Department of Human Resources, and Kitty Boone was lured from the American Cancer Society in May 1982 to become the agency's first Executive Director. Her leadership had an immediate impact when the United Way of Greater High Point accepted Hospice as a member agency. That acceptance was important not only for the financial support that the United Way provided, but also for the statement it made regarding the positive status Hospice had achieved in the wider community.

With office space secured in the renovated Holt McPherson



Dr. Vance Davis

Center and with the hiring of a Home Care Coordinator in June, some final things on the to-do list were nearing completion. The day that seemingly would never come was dawning. Hospice at High Point admitted its first patient...on Sept. 3, 1982. It is impossible to describe the significance of that day for those who had the dream of it three years before.

There are 29 more years of Hospice history, but I leave the rest of the story to others to tell. I will only repeat something I said at the installation of the first Board in September 1980. 'We will succeed. We will succeed because you are people who care.' Hospice has always consisted of people with heart, people who care about people, people who care about life. That is where Hospice starts – with people of heart. It has been my experience in life that people with heart find ways to use their heads to employ their hands in a manner consistent with the highest impulses of their God-given humanity. That, my friends, is at the center of what happened here."



Members of the original Board gathering again for the 30th Anniversary Dinner: (from left) Dr. Vance Davis, Louise Foster, Dr. Steve Uhlin and Judge Donald Boone.

MEMORIALS

February 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011

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Nina Borow and family, Leah, Aaron, and Ronald, Williamsport Hospital Ultrasound and Cat Scan Dept., and Muncy Valley Hospital Radiology Dept.

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Bruce G. Nitsche

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Pauline Holt Arrison

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Mr. and Mrs. John R. White

“He was well cared for and his soul was nourished and for this we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.”

- a patient’s family

Robert Klein

Central Carolina Radio Controlled Modelers

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- a patient’s family

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February 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011

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This newsletter lists all memorials and honorariums received between February 1 and May 31, 2011. All gifts received after that date will be acknowledged in our next newsletter. We strive to make certain that all contributions are acknowledged correctly; please notify Hospice of the Piedmont at 336.889.8446 if a correction needs to be made. Thank you for your continued support.

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Keith and Lynn Oakley
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Sherri Westmoreland

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Calendar of Events

Aug. 16

23rd annual Hospice Taste of the Town fundraiser from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Showplace in downtown High Point

September 6

Grief Counseling Center's Fall Support Groups begin
Remembering My Child, Sudden & Traumatic Loss, Death of a Spouse or Life Partner, Death of a Parent, Sibling or Close Friend, and Kids Path Bear Essentials of Grief - call 889.8446 to register or for more information

September 8-29

Training for new patient/family volunteers each Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Hospice office

November

National Hospice/Palliative Care Month

Nov. 6

Hospice Sabbath

Nov. 11

Veterans Day, Hospice "We Honor Veterans" recognition

Nov. 15

Hope for the Holidays workshop

Dec. 31

Order deadline for Hospice Brick Tribute Walkway

Call 889.8446 for additional information or visit the Hospice of the Piedmont website at www.hospice-careconnection.org for updates.

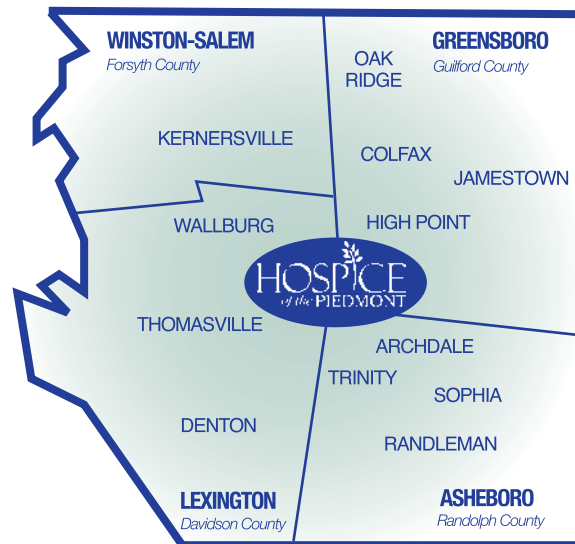
Mission Statement

Hospice of the Piedmont is an organized, not-for-profit program that, upon informed choice, provides palliative care, health care, and supportive services to patients, their families and significant others in both home and facility-based settings. Physical, social, spiritual, and emotional care is provided during the last stages of illness, during the dying process, and during bereavement by a medically-directed interdisciplinary team. Hospice of the Piedmont serves patients from portions of four counties: Guilford, Forsyth, Randolph, and Davidson.

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