

Hospice Memorials

Bonnie Bates Sharpe

Mr. & Mrs. Terry McClure

Janet L. Wilson

Jean Beckley

Denise E. Boudreau

Donation to Hospice

Henry Stilley, Jr

Adele Hauck

Alton Lamm, Jr

United Way of Coastal

Carolina, Inc.

Grace A. Gumbrecht

Charles Sharpe

Patricia Kelly

Doris Maple

Donald Henshaw

Pamela Meredith

New Bern Historical Society

Foundation, Inc.

Halbert Baker

Faye Wehrhahn

Louise Vondran

Helena Parr

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lovvorn

Ruby Goodwin

Alice D. Woodard

Frederick and Betty Buck

Alice Buck

Walter Ives

Edwin Grushinski

Betty L. Fisher

Henry S. Holton

Broad Creek Christian

Church

Lynn Rosania

Jeanette Hunnings

Dr. and Dr. R. Moeller

Oscara Stevick

Helen A. Caraway

Jurene S. Anderson

Linda H. Jones

Lynette H. Spencer

Michael R. Limpach

Patricia C. Morris

Cathy Lane Banks

Helen G. Purvis

Betty Avery

Esther T. Dunn

Frances C. Haislip

Murray and Paula Gilgo

Todd and Melanie Spear

Cowell's Cleaners

John and Mary Jo Lichty

James Shafer

Iris Shafer

John Griffin

Eugenia E. Griffin

Ruth Ann Wodenshek

Mary Simonovich

Henry Hintze

Michael Garrett

Joseph Lehmann

Anne Lehmann

Lena Hardison

Benjamin and Patricia Potter

Rosemarie Sadler

Carolyn Fulcher

Wesmill Pond Estates HOA, Inc.

Ann Mason

Elizabeth Gregory

Toni Carr

Amy Heidt

The Insurance Center

Garey and Dianna Dunn

Richard and Deborah Davis

Barbara Price

Marie Sager

Robert Sager

Melvin O'Neal Garner

Jean Garner

Robert Lynch

Children and Families First

Janet and Norman Hunneyman

Roy Games

Glenda Hicks

Thomas J. Weiss

Catherine and John Powers

Timothy Shea

Rebecca Shea

Vera Bylund

Lorraine Wretne



Hospice News

Volume XXXIII, Issue 1 Spring 2013
Craven County Home Health-Hospice Agency

Quality Service in Craven County for Over 30 Years

Craven County Commissioners Approve In-Patient Hospice House



Craven County Health Department Hospice and CarolinaEast Medical Center have teamed up to help provide an unmet health care need. Tim Ludwig, CarolinaEast Vice President of Ancillary Services, Jill Thompson, CarolinaEast Foundation Executive Director, Scott Harrelson, Director of the Health Department and Beth Junak, RN, Director of Financial Affairs of Home Health-Hospice met with the commissioners and presented the proposal for an In-Patient Hospice House that would provide a facility for Hospice patients in crisis as well as residential beds.

There is no such facility at present within a 40 mile radius of New Bern and with the growing elderly population of New Bern there is definitely a need. A feasibility study by Keystone Planning Group showed that Craven County residents are older and less healthy compared to other counties in Eastern NC. The study also indicated that the facility would be viable from a financial standpoint for the county to operate. The need has been longstanding and not been acted on by private pay agencies to this point, therefore, the study suggested that no other agency was in the position to do so. The Health Department Hospice will now file for the state's Certificate of Need (CON) and a Memorandum of Understanding of the county, the Health Department and CarolinaEast will spell out the plan for the structure, operation and ownership. The N.C. Certificate of Needs Division will examine the application for the CON and consider it for approval, a process that may take months. Once the approval is in hand, CarolinaEast Foundation will begin raising the money to build the building and equip the facility. The finished building, fully equipped, will then be given to Craven County Health Department Hospice to operate. Craven County Health Department Hospice is excited about the opportunity to lead to county with an In-Patient and Residential Hospice and is ready for the challenge. "We have seen the need in Craven County for a long time," said Junak, "and we are especially excited to be able to provide our patients with this additional service. We thank the community and the Commissioners for putting their trust in our agency."

Relay for Life

Craven County Health Department Home Health -Hospice staff and employees will help the American Cancer Society celebrate a world with less cancer and more birthdays on April 26, 2013 by participating the Relay for Life of Craven County. Courtney Chenoweth, the captain of the team is currently recruiting participants to join the Relay for Life team.

Relay for Life is an overnight event that raises awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society by helping people stay well, get well, find cures and fight back. The event is a celebration of life for survivors, a memorial for loved ones lost, and a rally for the community to fight back against the disease. "Relay For Life is a wonderful means for us to memorialize our patients," said Mrs. Chenoweth. "It is fitting that we participate in this cause in their honor, and support the community." Team members will be accepting pledges and donations for walking the track through the night on April 26 at Grover C. Fields Middle School. The Health Department team will also be raffling a **Perception** tandem kayak that was provided by Great Outdoor Provision Company, 530 Greenville Blvd. SE, Greenville, NC. The tickets will be sold for \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20 and can be purchased from any team member or by calling the office. For more information on how to join or support the Craven County Health Department team, contact Courtney Chenoweth at 636-4930 or cchenoweth@cravencountync.gov.



Craven County
Health Department
Home Health Hospice Agency
PO Drawer 12610
2818 Neuse Blvd



Hospice is a coordinated palliative and supportive care (physical, psychological, social and spiritual) for dying persons and their families. Services are provided in the home by an interdisciplinary team of professionals and volunteers. Bereavement care is available to the family.



SLOW COOKER CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4 large carrots, peeled and cut into matchstick pieces | 4 cups water |
| 10 baby red potatoes, quartered | 1 (4 pound) corned beef brisket with spice packet |
| 1 onion, peeled and cut into bite-sized pieces | 6 ounces beer |
| | 1/2 head cabbage, coarsely chopped |



DIRECTIONS:

- Place the carrots, potatoes, and onion into the bottom of a slow cooker, pour in the water, and place the brisket on top of the vegetables. Pour the beer over the brisket. Sprinkle on the spices from the packet, cover, and set the cooker on High.
- Cook the brisket for about 8 hours. An hour before serving, stir in the cabbage and cook for 1 more hour.

Craven County Hospice would like to print a Hospice Recipe Cookbook that everyone could enjoy. If interested in sending in your recipe, please mail to: Craven County Home Health-Hospice, PO Drawer 12610, New Bern, NC 28561 or e-mail your recipe along with a picture to: jwhitley@cravencountync.gov

A Decade of Giving

Spring Breakfast Marks 10th Year

This year marks the tenth anniversary of our annual Spring Breakfast Fundraiser. We have seen the generosity of our community and support of our agency grow exponentially in the past 10 years. The first Spring Breakfast was held in 2004 at the New Bern Golf and Country Club and served approximately 120 people. By the Spring of 2012, there were 30 table sponsors, and over 250 people were served who raised \$15,000.00 for the Craven County Health Department Foundation.

We are looking forward to the annual event in May with high hopes of raising the bar with the biggest and best event yet, but first we want to thank you for a decade of support. The support and generosity of this community allows for the excellent patient care that Craven County Health Department Hospice gives. Through your donations, we are able to provide Respite for the caregivers, medical equipment and services that are not provided for through Medicare, and service to those patients that have no insurance, or whose insurance does not cover the expense of Hospice adequately. Today with medical coverage going down and costs increasing, we need you more than ever. Thank you for your loyalty and generosity.

Looking Forward...



Relay for Life of Craven County. The Craven County Home Health-Hospice staff is sponsoring a Health Department Team with participants from all areas of the Health Department. On April 26, 2013 the team will be camping out and walking the track to raise money and awareness for the American Cancer Society. A tandem kayak provided by the Great Outdoor Provision Co. will be raffled off on Saturday April 27 at the event .

Spring Breakfast– May 15, 2013. NC History Center from 8am to 9am. All proceeds will go to the Craven County Health Department Foundation to assist Hospice patients. Call Joan Whitley at 636-4930 for information on being a sponsor or making a donation.



Twenty years ago, I drove a cab for a living.

One time I arrived in the middle of the night for a pick up at a building that was dark except for a single light in a ground floor window. Under these circumstances, many drivers would just honk once or twice, wait a minute, then drive away. But I had seen too many impoverished people who depended on taxis as their only means of transportation. Unless a situation smelled of danger, I always went to the door. This passenger might be someone who needs my assistance, I reasoned to myself. So I walked to the door and knocked. "Just a minute," answered a frail, elderly voice.

I could hear something being dragged across the floor. After a long pause, the door opened. A small woman in her 80's stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940s movie. By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets. There were no clocks on the walls, no knickknacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

"Would you carry my bag out to the car?" she said. I took the suitcase to the cab, then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb. She kept thanking me for my kindness.

"It's nothing," I told her. "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother treated."

"Oh, you're such a good boy," she said. When we got in the cab, she gave me an address, then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?" "It's not the shortest way," I answered quickly. "Oh, I don't mind," she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice." I looked in the rear view mirror. Her eyes were glistening. "I don't have any family left," she continued. "The doctor says I don't have very long."

I quietly reached over and shut off the meter. "What route would you like me to take?" I asked. For the next two hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator. We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds. She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl. Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now."

We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, like a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico. Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move. They must have been expecting her. I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair.

"How much do I owe you?" she asked, reaching into her purse. "Nothing," I said. "You have to make a living," she answered. "There are other passengers." Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me tightly. "You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you."

I squeezed her hand, then walked into the dim morning light. Behind me, a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life.

I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly, lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once, then driven away?

On a quick review, *I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life.* We're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware—beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

Your Donations

When you make a memorial gift or donation to CCHD Hospice you are ultimately helping patients and families receive compassionate care when they need it most. These donations go towards supplies, medications and medical equipment that are not otherwise covered. Thank you for choosing Craven County Health Department Home Health-Hospice.

Please make the check payable to CCHD– Foundation. And mail to:

Craven County Health Department Home Health-Hospice
PO Drawer 12610
New Bern, NC 28561