



# Hospice News

Volume XL, Issue 1, Winter 2025  
Craven County Hospice

*Your Hometown Hospice for over 40 Years*

## *A Meaningful Valentine's Day Gesture*

On Valentine's Day, AARP's Cupid Crew campaign, Wish of a Lifetime spread kindness to our patients ensuring they felt connected and valued through personalized decorated cards and roses.



Wish of a Lifetime

## *Cupid Crew*

From **AARP**



## *Farewell to Vice Chairman of the Craven County Hospice Foundation*

As we say goodbye to Whit Morgan in his role as Vice Chairman of the CCHD Foundation, we know that his contributions will never be forgotten. On behalf of the Board of Directors we extend our gratitude to Whit for his twenty years of service, leadership, and friendship. His legacy is one of profound kindness, and he will always have a place in our hearts.



*"There is incredible value in being of service to others." -Elizabeth Berg*

## Introducing...



Meet Dell Nolen, the newest member of the Craven County Hospice team as a Registered Nurse. Dell, her husband, and their teenage daughter made the move from the Southwest to New Bern in August 2022, and they're excited to call this vibrant community home. As a mother of six and a grandmother to four, Dell understands the value of family and the importance of compassionate care. Before becoming a registered nurse, Dell spent 20 years in social work, where she developed a deep appreciation for helping others. After going back to school to earn her nursing degree, she found her passion in hospice care, where she can truly make a difference in people's lives. After working a decade in RN Case Management for Medicare Advantage, she's thrilled to return to the Hospice environment and work alongside her dedicated colleagues at Craven County Hospice. When she's not at work, you can find Dell and her family enjoying the beautiful local beaches or kayaking, and

soaking in the natural beauty around them. She also has a big heart for teens, and volunteers weekly as a coordinator for TCBS, where she connects with young people and supports them in their journeys. Dell is excited to be part of the Craven County community, where she hopes to bring comfort and care to those in need.

## Caregiver Support Group

### CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP FOR END OF LIFE LOVED ONES

*Nancy Becker, BSW BS*

2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 10:30-11:45 A.M.



51 SHORELINE DRIVE  
NEW BERN, NC 28562



NBECKER@CRAVENCOUNTYNC.GOV



252-636-4930



## Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with a purpose



The luck of the Irish met the spirit of giving as the Health Department came together to support a cause close to our hearts – hospice care. On March 14th, we gathered for a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser that blended celebration with compassion with proceeds going to the Craven County Health Department Foundation.

### *Wish List*

We are always looking for twin XL sheets to fit hospital beds that are used by our patients. Other important items needed are baby monitors (new or used) that can be placed in the homes of patients to always have contact with their caregivers. Craven County Hospice gratefully accepts monetary donations. These charitable gifts let us serve those patients unable to pay for such things as respite aides, which are not covered by the Medicare Hospice Benefit. If you would like to make a donation, please contact us (252)-636-4930.

## Doctor's Day

March 30 was National Doctor's Day. Thank you to all the doctors out there for all that you do to heal, comfort, and give hope to so many lives. We would especially like to thank Doctors, Robert Fisher and Jennifer Aron. Your commitment does not go unnoticed and your work is truly appreciated by all of us at Craven County Hospice.



Dr. Robert Fisher, Medical Director



Dr. Jennifer Aron, Asst. Medical Director

## National Social Workers Month

March is National Social Workers Month, a time to honor the vital role social workers play in our communities. Our Social Workers, Nancy Becker and Lorri Wetherington, provide essential support to patients and their families, focusing on emotional, social, and psychological well-being during end-of-life challenges. They help families with difficult emotions, improve communication, and reduce stress. Nancy and Lorrie guide families through Medicare benefits, ensuring patients receive the care they need without financial worries as well as help them navigate advance care planning. This involves discussing and documenting the patient's wishes including their preferences for medical treatment, pain management, and other decisions related to their care. These conversations can be difficult. As advocates they ensure patients' voices are heard and respected. Their work eases the burden on families and provides valuable support during tough times.



Pictured left to right: Nancy Becker & Lorri Wetherington

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." -Mahatma Gandhi*

## *National Funeral Director Recognition Day*

March 11 was National Funeral Director Recognition Day—a day to honor the dedicated professionals who consider the every need of families during the most challenging times in their lives with compassion. We are thrilled to announce that Funeral Director, Victor Dove has joined the Craven County Health Department Foundation as a new member of the Board of Directors. With his experience and leadership, we are confident his new role will be vital to our mission. We look forward to working with Victor for many years to come!

## *Hospice Myths & Facts*

**Myth: Patients can only receive hospice for six months; therefore enrollment should be delayed as long as possible.**

Fact: Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance pay for hospice care as long as the individual meets the medical criteria. This may result in receiving hospice care six months or longer.

**Myth: Hospice provides 24 hour care.**

Fact: Hospice care is based upon intermittent visits from a Registered Nurse, Certified Nursing Assistant, Social Worker, Chaplain, and Volunteer. On call is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for support and care. Hospice can help the family arrange 24 hour care by a private duty provider if necessary.

**Myth: Families have to pay for hospice care.**

Fact: Hospice care is covered by Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurances. Craven County Hospice does not turn down any patient regardless of their ability to pay.

**Myth: Hospice is just for the patient.**

Fact: Hospice provides comfort care to patients, as well as respite and emotional support to family members. The quality of life of the patient, family members, and caregivers is our highest priority. Bereavement support is offered for at least a year following the death of a loved one.

**Myth: Hospice means giving up control over your care.**

Fact: Patients and Families retain control over their care and can make decisions about their care plan including when to start or stop Hospice.

**Myth: Hospice is only for the elderly.**

Fact: Hospice care is for anyone facing a life-limiting illness, regardless of age, and can benefit people of all ages, including children.

## *Become a Hospice Volunteer*

Craven County volunteers receive 12 hours of training and a network of support. Discover the joy of being a Hospice Volunteer through sharing a laugh, holding a hand, lending an ear, or touching a heart. For information about upcoming training sessions, email [stephanie.leonard@cravencountync.gov](mailto:stephanie.leonard@cravencountync.gov).

### *Become a Craven County Hospice*

# *Volunteer*



**Next Training Session**  
**May 15 & 16 10:00a.m.-4:00 p.m.**  
**2818 Neuse Blvd.**  
**New Bern, NC 28562**

### **Volunteers provide**

- ✓ *Companionship*
- ✓ *Caregiver relief & support*
- ✓ *Bereavement support*
- ✓ *Office/Administrative duties*

### **Reasons to volunteer**

- ✓ *Make a meaningful impact*
- ✓ *Personal fulfillment*
- ✓ *Skill development*
- ✓ *Give back to the community*

### **Contact Stephanie today!**

 (252)-636-4930

 [cravencountyhospice.com](http://cravencountyhospice.com)

 2818 Neuse Blvd,  
New Bern, NC 28562



## Upcoming 2025 CCHD Foundation Annual Fundraiser

The Craven County Health Department Foundation and Craven County Hospice are excited to announce our Annual Spring Breakfast Fundraiser, taking place at the Riverfront Convention Center on May 14, 2025. This special event raises funds to support Craven County Hospice in covering services that aren't reimbursed by Medicare, including our Respite Care program. Respite Care provides invaluable support to caregivers, offering a much-needed break to relax or attend to personal errands.

The concept of the Spring Breakfast Fundraiser is simple yet impactful. Members of our community sponsor a table and invite 8 to 10 guests to join them. Guests enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet while the table sponsors serve beverages to their guests. In appreciation of the service, guests "tip" their servers, and these generous tips become tax-deductible donations to Craven County Hospice.

If you'd like to contribute by sponsoring a table, please give us a call at (252) 636-4930. For online donations, visit our website at [www.cravencountyhospice.com/donations](http://www.cravencountyhospice.com/donations). Alternatively, if you prefer to donate by mail, please make your check payable to the Craven County Health Department Foundation and send it to P.O. Box 12610 New Bern, NC 28561.

We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Fundraiser and appreciate your support! Pictured below are photos from over the years.



## Hospice Memorials

Thank you for your donations in Memory Of :

**Douglas Bishoff**

Ward & Smith  
Natalie O'Bradovich  
Sylvia Clyburn  
Edward Knox Proctor  
Kelly Chapman  
Darlene Pryor

**Harold Covington**

Edward Knox Proctor  
Ward & Smith

**Hazel Hawks**

Elayne Hawks  
Tammy Hawks  
Timmy Hawks  
Bonnie Sue Foy  
Rita Hagerty  
Lillie Ipock  
Kimberly Ipock

**Marie Henry**

Melvin "Tom" Henry  
Barbara Cobb  
Kimberly Gearhart  
Wesley Shirley  
Robert Seay  
Jodi Craig  
Mary Dwyer

**Sharon Howerton**

Ally Roberts

**Joan Ihly**

Linda LeDrew

**Carol Jones**

Angela Tassone

**William "Buddy" Jones**

Faith Movers Temple  
Baptist Church

**Joan Miller**

Karen Bowen

**Charles Olson**

Eileen Olson

**Edward Van Stephenson**

Sherrri Winslow  
Carlton & Carolyn Carr  
Patricia Minschew

**John Skinner**

Jessica Skinner

**James E. Thompson**

Maureen Thompson

**Mary Warren**

William Warren

**Alicia Williams**

Jayne Demers

**General Donations**

First Presbyterian Church  
Kathryn Findley  
Katherine B. Clagett  
Charitable Trust

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