

Spring/Summer 2010

2009 Holiday Fashion Show & Luncheon



Food, Fashion and Shopping filled the afternoon at the Annual Holiday Fashion Show & Luncheon benefiting Hospice of the Upstate. On December 2, 2009 eighteen beautiful ladies modeled fashions from Blake & Brady's Boutique, Diane Young's Salon & Boutique, and The Perfect Dress - all local Anderson shops. And we couldn't fail to note the handsome men escorting our models - they were finely dressed and generously gave of their time to support Hospice of the Upstate. One lucky winner bought a raffle ticket for \$2 and went home with a necklace of double strand cultured pearls valued at \$300. Over 200 people from the community filled the ballroom and browsed the holiday vendors, creating an atmosphere of fun, excitement and making the event a resounding success. Make sure to check the Hospice of the Upstate website for next year's show, already being planned!



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Mission Statement

Hospice of the Upstate provides compassionate, quality care to terminally ill patients and their families, while offering leadership and community education for end-of-life.

HOSPICE OF THE UPSTATE, INC.

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Letter from the CEO

I recently had the privilege of spending the morning with one of our hospice home care nurses. The experience reinforced my appreciation of the work done by our staff. On this particular day, we visited a patient in a rural section of our service area. This patient lives alone in a small house that is crowded with his personal belongings and in need of repair. We walked through high grass to get to the patient's back door and the nurse did her assessment in the very crowded kitchen because that was the only space available; we both stood while the patient sat in the only chair in the small room. In hearing the patient's story, I could see that he had made some poor life choices that probably led to his declining condition. I was struck by the nurse's patience and empathy toward this man who was isolated both physically and emotionally. As we drove away from his home and talked about the visit, I thought about the various situations encountered by the hospice home care staff. As this patient approaches death possibly at home rather than the Rainey Hospice House, a nurse will go out to this rural area, maybe in the middle of the night to attend to him. I am convinced that he will be treated with tender loving care and his care will be no different from that given to the next patient we visited who had her daughter at her bedside, caring for her every need.



Pam Melbourne

Visiting with this nurse was a good reminder of the essence of hospice care; joining a patient and family on a journey and supporting them through that journey with acceptance and respect. It is providing dignity in sometimes undignified surroundings and holding someone's hand when there may not be another hand to hold. I can see why so many of our patients and families feel that they have been touched by Hospice Angels.

Pam Melbourne
CEO

On the Horizon

Annual Chili Luncheon

Thursday, March 18th / 11:30am – 1:00pm / Boulevard Baptist Church

Make your plans now to stop by the Annual Chili Luncheon sponsored by S.A.G.E.S (Survivors After Grief Ever Serving). The menu includes chili, slaw, cornbread, homemade dessert, and drink for \$6.00 per plate with a cake auction beginning at 12noon. Tickets can be purchased at the door or pre-ordered by calling Sunny Wells at 864.224.3358. Takeouts are available. Call 225-8673 between 9-11 am on the morning of the event to have orders ready when you arrive. S.A.G.E.S uses all proceeds to benefit Hospice of the Upstate.

Dancing with the Heroes

Friday, April 16th / 6:00pm / Anderson Civic Center

If you like Dancing with the Stars, you don't want to miss "Dancing for Our Heroes" on April 16th sponsored by The Greater Anderson Rotary. Kathy Little, Hospice of the Upstate's V.P. of Outreach & Education, will be paired with a professional dancer representing Hospice of the Upstate and competing against five other dancers and charities. If interested or in attending or supporting this event, call 864.328.1966. All Kathy's proceeds will benefit Hospice of the Upstate. We appreciate being considered a hero in our community! Good Luck Kathy!

Butterfly Release

Sunday, May 16th / 2:00pm / Sadler Center & Meditation Gardens

Mark your calendar for our second annual Butterfly & Dove Release – a unique opportunity to honor loved ones by reserving a butterfly or dove in their name. Butterflies herald the gladness of spring and signify the renewal of life (See Insert).

Reserve your Butterfly or Dove Online Now at www.hospicehouse.net

Eagle Scouts Create Gardens for Hospice Families

Thomas McAllister was visiting his beloved grandfather at the Rainey Hospice House when the idea for his Eagle Scout Leadership Project came to him. After the death of his grandfather, Charles Kenneth “Red” Jackson, Thomas and his mother, Kathleen Jackson McAllister, continued to think about a project that would honor his grandfather. They approached Carol Kreson, VP of Development at Hospice of the Upstate, and began to plan a new garden surrounding the flagpole on our grounds.



Thomas McAllistar

Thomas raised considerable donations through friends and family to fund the project, and organized his fellow Scouts and Scoutmasters from Troop #215 to assist. He worked with Mark Abercrombie of Garden Classics in Fountain Inn who has designed the new gardens at Hospice of the Upstate. Once planning was complete, the project included a first step of removing concrete pads and older shrubs and trees.

Today, the garden is filled with fothergilla, itea, mophead and oak leaf hydrangeas, native azaleas, illicium, daphne, and camellias. Over 350 daffodil bulbs are planted throughout the garden. Topsoil, mulch, pine straw, soil conditioner, fertilizer and daffodil bulbs were generously donated by local nurseries and garden centers. The project consisted of over 250 hours of labor.

A beautiful arbor made of cedar logs was built, and two benches are placed in the arbor, creating a peaceful place for respite and reflection. Thomas and his fellow Scouts also cleared the trail that leads from the garden to our Chapel in the Woods.

Thomas wanted to give something back to Hospice of the Upstate for the excellent care they provided for his grandfather and family at a most difficult time. The garden and the trail will provide a beautiful setting for family and friends of patients as well as staff to enjoy the outdoors. Thomas dedicated his project to the glory of God and in memory of his grandfather.

The project was completed on November 10, 2009, and after passing his Scoutmaster’s Conference and his Board of Review, Thomas was found worthy to be awarded Eagle Scout, the highest award to be earned in Boy Scouts. Of all boys who enter the Scouting program, approximately 2 out of every 100 boys ever achieve this rank. The Eagle Court of Honor will be held on March 28, 2010 when Thomas will be awarded his Eagle rank.

Thomas is a sophomore at T. L. Hanna High School where he is a member of the tennis team and is a member of Christ Reformed Church. He is the son of Kathleen Jackson McAllister of Anderson and Ed McAllister of Washington, DC.

Annie Tribble - She's a Coach, Counselor & Volunteer

Annie Tribble, now volunteering in the Bereavement Offices, didn’t have much time to spare before retirement. Great mentors and her love for sports led her career path as a women’s college basketball coach.

Ms. Tribble loved playing basketball at Anderson High School and graduated in 1950. Two months later, after going away to college, she was back in Anderson – something just wasn’t right. The next eleven years were busy with her husband and two children. As she cared for her family, a desire for a college education never faded. When the time was right, Annie showed her “No Fear” personality by enrolling in Anderson College and trying out for the basketball team.

From there, doors began to open. As a player she was asked to be the coach’s student assistant, gaining valuable experience and financial assistance for school.

Annie graduated from Anderson College in 1963 and worked at the Recreation Department until Hanna High School called with an offer she couldn’t refuse – Temporary P.E. Teacher. Loving the job, she knew she needed to finish her 4-year degree.

Anderson College heard of the great job Annie was doing and asked her to fill a coaching position through the end of the semester. As time passed, Anderson College valued her leadership and challenged her to revive the women’s basketball team. With persistence and a determined attitude, Annie not only took on the challenge but did it while finishing a Bachelor’s in English and a Master’s in Guidance & Counseling from Clemson University. Ms. Tribble says, “Out on the court you are coaching sports but behind the scenes the students are looking for guidance. I hope I was able to offer that.” Annie did more than revive the Anderson College women’s basketball team; she led them on to win the national championships for three years in a row.

Her success was shining and in 1976 Clemson University recruited her to start a women’s basketball team. Annie coached at Clemson for eleven years and then stayed on for six more years as an academic advisor. Her total coaching career lasted over 20 years... “with a late start”, she likes to add. Ms. Tribble is a true example that following your passion leads to happiness. Now as a volunteer at Hospice of the Upstate, she has a passion to give back as we helped care for her mother.



Annie Tribble

Keeping Loved Ones Close



Memory Bears created for loved ones.

Volunteers Connie Bennett, Dot Bismack, and Joan Bruenning did what so many women do throughout the holidays. They spent a lot of time ensuring that Christmas was special for others. Not only for their own family and friends, but for people they don't even know. These three women and Volunteer Pam Lloyd, are gifted seamstresses who lend their talents to Hospice of the Upstate by creating Memory Bears for families whose loved one has died in our care.

Memory Bears are sewn from the fabric of 'favorite' garments, and are a very tangible reminder of a loved one. This Christmas, our volunteers made ten Memory Bears for the family of our patient, Lynn Cash, so that each grandchild, great-niece and 'almost grandchild' would receive one.

Joan Bruenning happened to be volunteering as a Hospice Ambassador greeting guests, when Ms. Cash's daughter, Missy Dickson, brought her mother's garments to be sewn into bears. She had her twin boys with her, Avery and Danyel, age two. Joan said, "As I was creating two of the memory bears from Ms. Cash's favorite bathrobe, I knew they'd be going to those beautiful twin boys."

Our heartfelt thanks to Connie, Dot, Joan, and Pam for the very special gift they offer to our Bereaved. "I love creating the Memory Bears for families," says Connie. "It gives them something of their loved one they can hug and hold."

This edition of Hospice Highlights can be viewed online at www.hospicehouse.net.
Comments and questions should be directed to Allison Moody, Marketing Coordinator at amoody@hospicehouse.net or call 864-328-1947

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A Different Kind of Hope

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