

Pillar *for* Hospice

News from Spartanburg Regional Hospice



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Community Organizations Make a Tremendous Difference



Spartanburg Regional Hospice boasts a wonderful staff of caregivers, social workers and chaplains, and we are blessed to be part of an award-winning healthcare system.

The contribution of community partners is vital to the work of providing holistic end-of-life care.

One of the aspects of my work that I enjoy the most is seeing the ways our community supports Spartanburg Regional Hospice.

Generous donors give to the Hospice Special Needs Fund, supporting assistance for patients facing financial hardship, bereavement programs and events for those dealing with a new loss, massage therapy for patients who may benefit from a relaxing touch and more. The fund also provides special gifts, such as hand-held wooden crosses and outdoor swings at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home. Volunteers give of their time and energy to visit with patients, assist families and support the work of hospice associates. Community organizations partner with our agency on extraordinary projects that have a tremendous impact on patients and families during what is likely some of their darkest days.

In this issue of *Pillar for Hospice*, we spotlight several of the groups that have adopted the mission of our hospice program: The Lady Slipper Garden Club, which has been hard at work on a beautification project at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home; the Piedmont Piecers Quilting Guild, whose members play a key role in our Memory Bears workshop; the Southern Legends Motorcycle Club, whose annual fundraiser benefits the Special Needs Fund; and a group of churches that partner to provide snacks for families and guests at the hospice home.

Spartanburg Regional Hospice boasts a wonderful staff of caregivers, social workers and chaplains, and we are blessed to be part of an award-winning healthcare system. But the contribution of community partners is vital to the work of providing holistic end-of-life care. These groups and individuals bring unique talents and perspectives while demonstrating their compassion for others in need. Patients and families benefit from this connection, and they are grateful for it. We are grateful, too.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Ross". The script is fluid and cursive.

Kim Ross
Director
Spartanburg Regional Hospice & Palliative Care



OPIOIDS: The Good, Bad and In Between

By Garrett Snipes, MD



Opioids – the topic is real. We really don't seem to be able to get away from it these days, and for good reason.

The misuse of this class of medications (narcotics) has become widespread, leading to a great deal of misery – unnecessary deaths, wasted lives and broken families. Whether we call it a crisis or an epidemic, it is not my purpose to minimize the problem or to discuss the many causes of the dilemma.

In some folks, and particularly those with advanced or serious illness or at end of life, opioids are invaluable to relieve unneeded and unwanted suffering.

In the case of people approaching death (even if months away), opioids can be absolutely necessary. Two situations come to mind – cancer pain and shortness of breath.

Although the management of cancer pain best involves blending of non-drug and medication components, opioids remain the gold standard for relief. Shortness of breath in the face of end-stage heart or lung disease, advanced cancer or many other conditions, is miserable, and small doses of opioids, used carefully, can serve to relieve that misery quite well. This use of opioids for breathlessness and air hunger is

surprising to many people, since most think of opioids as strictly for pain.

Much research substantiates that these medications can be used safely, without harming patients or leading to misuse. Palliative care providers prescribe this class of medications multiple times a day.

As you consider the many challenging problems associated with opioid misuse, please remember the following statement: With careful risk assessment and prescribing, setting of boundaries, coaching and monitoring of our patients, we can safely and ethically prescribe opioids for our palliative care and hospice patients, and also fulfill the prime directives of medical practice: cure sometimes, relieve often and comfort always.

The misuse of this class of medications has become widespread, leading to a great deal of misery, unnecessary deaths, wasted lives and broken families.

Community Partners Provide Special Level of Support

The Upstate is known for having a giving spirit. Examples of philanthropy, volunteerism and civic pride can be seen all around.

Spartanburg Regional Hospice patients and families benefit from this commitment to helping others and strengthening our

community. Individuals and organizations dedicate talent, funding and hard work to all sorts of projects. Their efforts provide a very special kind of support for those served by the hospice program. And they demonstrate to families going through a difficult time that

their neighbors care about them.

Support from our community partners is vital to Spartanburg Regional Hospice's mission of providing holistic, compassionate, end-of-life care. Here is a look at four organizations that are making a difference.

Lady Slipper Garden Club



Mary Helen Smith describes the 36-member Lady Slipper Garden Club as “a working garden club.” So in addition to learning more about plants for their own enjoyment, the club seeks ways to educate the community and to contribute to beautification projects at schools, nonprofits and public spaces.

These women don't mind getting their hands dirty. Club members have been hard at work recently at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home, where they are planting a garden that will be the centerpiece of a major landscaping project behind the facility.

“For patients in the hospice home, or those with a loved one in hospice, this is a tough time in their lives. We hope that patients and family members will find it comforting to get outside and enjoy sitting in the garden and being

surrounded by nature,” said Smith, who serves with Jan Goldstein as co-chair of the committee coordinating the club's efforts.

The garden and landscaping project has been several years in the works and will help fulfill the vision planners had in mind when the hospice home was designed more than a decade ago. Located near Asheville Highway, the facility was constructed on a piece of property with wooded surroundings – including a trail owned and maintained by the Spartanburg Area Conservancy. But grading for the site required the clearing of a good many trees, and plans called for the development and expansion of beautification efforts over time.

“It's exciting to see this really begin to come together,” said Kim Ross, director of Spartanburg Regional Hospice and Palliative Care. Ross

continued, "We want patients, families and staff members to experience and benefit from the peacefulness and beauty of nature. We're so grateful for the Lady Slipper Garden Club and other partners who are making these improvements possible."

Local horticulture and design experts Kevin Parris and Stewart Winslow were consulted on the project.

Once completed, the new garden will feature nearly 200 new native plants and shrubs, with attractive colors on display throughout the year. The club has funded the purchase of the majority of the plants, and some have been transplanted from the yard of well-known local gardener Pat Burton.

Smith says the garden is a work in progress, but she is pleased with how things are taking shape.

"I think it's fabulous. And as the plants age, they will continue to do better and should have a big show that hopefully will be beautiful and calming for patients and their families," she said.



Once completed, the new garden will feature nearly 200 new native plants and shrubs, with attractive colors on display throughout the year.

Piedmont Piecers Quilting Guild



On a Thursday evening in May, families gathered at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice offices for a special hands-on workshop, creating a tangible item that brings an emotional association with a loved one who has passed. They were making Memory Bears and pillows using special articles of clothing that their family member had worn.

Members of the Piedmont Piecers Quilting Guild provided their sewing expertise.

"This is a nice thing to do for the community," said group member Eileen Andreassen, who feels a personal connection to Spartanburg Regional Hospice. Her husband, Ed, was a hospice patient who passed away in 2011. Helping with the Memory Bear program "is a way for me to give back."

Andreassen, who retired from Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System in 2015, said she took up quilting when Ed got sick, and she discovered a community "of the most giving people I have ever known."

Service is a big part of what the Piedmont Piecers are all about: They

have created and donated zippered bags for middle school and high school girls to carry personal hygiene products, Quilts of Valor for active duty service members and veterans, drawstring bags and "lovies" for the Hope Center for Children and more.

Participants in the Memory Bear Workshop provide a memorable article of clothing to the quilting volunteers several weeks before the event. The quilters prepare the bear or pillow for the family to personalize at the workshop. Families and loved ones arrive to find their bear or pillow ready for personal touches.

Various stations are set up throughout the building for families to move through to add colorful buttons, ribbons and other embellishments. At one station, a special message can be written and placed inside the bear or pillow before it is finally sewn together.

Spartanburg Regional Hospice volunteers and associates work alongside the quilters to assist families in final touches while sharing and remembering their loved one.

Piedmont Piecers Quilting Guild (cont.)

"We provide a safe environment for families, children in particular, to express their feelings associated with their loss," said Christi Foster, bereavement manager.

The family of Phillip Warren, who died in 2018 at age 45, brought several of his favorite pieces of clothing, including Clemson T-shirts that became pillow coverings for sons Zach and Kyle.

"I just remember going to games with him and how much he enjoyed it," Kyle said.

Andreassen understands how meaningful the bears and pillows can be for families. After Ed's passing, her niece took several items of his clothing to have a teddy bear made for Eileen and each of her two grandchildren.

"I love it – every time I see it, I think of him," she said.



Churches Band Together to Provide Snacks, Kindness

At a hospice facility in Asheville where Gary Luther's father received end-of-life care last year, family members were treated to cake and biscuits in the morning. Luther learned that a local church had brought the food as a gesture of support and kindness.

"I thought it was so neat – we didn't have to go out to look for something to eat," he recalled.

Luther went to Kelly Hall, the volunteer manager with Spartanburg Regional Hospice, to find out if there was a similar outreach to support families at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home. She welcomed his interest in serving families in this unique way. Many times, families are torn about leaving the bedside of their loved, even for a few minutes. Providing food and snacks could keep them from needing to leave.

"So I decided I was going to see if I could get people to volunteer," Luther said.

His efforts have yielded impressive results. Members of his church, Lake Bowen Baptist, and several other churches in the area take turns providing snacks at the hospice home. The

offerings vary – doughnuts and pastries, crackers and fresh fruit, pizza – but seven days a week, there's an offering in the hospice home kitchen for family members.

Churches partnering with Luther and his friends at Lake Bowen Baptist include Cudd Memorial Baptist, Westminster Presbyterian, Bethany Baptist, Inman Church of God, First Free Will Baptist Church of Inman, and Maranatha Free Church of Jesus Christ.

Luther was moved by the care provided at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home, and he made the decision to become a hospice volunteer. He attended specialized training that allows him to have more one-on-one interaction with hospice patients and families.

"Gary just has a good way with people – an engaging personality and a giving spirit," Hall said. "His contributions go beyond the food and snacks he brings each week."

Still, the church groups' contributions truly make a difference for families, said hospice home nurse manager Tammy Abernathy.



"Family members can be under a great deal of stress and might not even realize they are hungry. Or they just don't want to leave their loved one while they go out for a bite to eat. So having food provided here really helps – and it reminds them how much people in our community care about what they are going through," she said.

Southern Legends Motorcycle Club



The roar of motorcycle engines is almost deafening as the riders set out single file from the Shrine Club on Fernwood-Glendale Road. They travel backroads through eastern Spartanburg County and portions of Cherokee and Union counties before making their return several hours later.

This ride has become an annual event for the Southern Legends Motorcycle Club – and it raises money for Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Special Needs Fund.

"We just really believe in what they do," said club treasurer Sandy Bass. "We have heard nothing but good things about not only how patients are treated, but how family members are treated by the hospice program."

Bass said the group has gained a couple new members in the past year who said the ride to support Spartanburg Regional Hospice motivated them to join.

Club members invite friends, other motorcycle enthusiasts and even car drivers to take part. Tickets are \$25 per rider and include a T-shirt designed especially for the event, a BBQ lunch and good company. There's a silent auction with various items all donated by businesses in the community. In more than a dozen years of putting on the ride, the Southern Legends have raised more than \$140,000.

The Hospice Special Needs Fund supports Spartanburg Regional Hospice patients and their families in a variety of ways. It helps qualifying patients with basic household supplies and groceries, as well as medications. Hospice staff members use the fund to help families celebrate special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries. The fund also provides for Thanksgiving and Easter meals that serve up to 12 family members and guests for each hospice patient.

Registration for the **2018 Southern Legends Ride for Hospice** will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 25. Riders will begin the 90-mile journey at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Gina Turcotte at **864-560-6725**.

"The Southern Legends are a really great group of people," Sinclair said. "They have raised quite a substantial amount of money over the years, and we are truly grateful for their commitment to helping others in need."

If you or your organization would be interested in partnering with Spartanburg Regional Hospice, contact Volunteer Manager Kelly Hall at 864-560-5636.

"The Southern Legends are a really great group of people, They have raised quite a substantial amount of money over the years, and we are truly grateful for their commitment to helping others in need."

***- Shelly Sinclair, Spartanburg Regional Foundation
director of philanthropy***





hope blooms

for HOSPICE

Luncheon Supports
Hospice Patients
and Families

For information about being a sponsor or a table host, or to purchase tickets, contact Gina Turcotte at 864-560-6725 or gturcotte@srhs.com.



More than 500 community members gathered on April 26 for the annual Hope Blooms for Hospice luncheon at the Spartanburg Marriott. They heard stories of hope and courage and gained perspectives on the work of Spartanburg Regional Hospice caregivers.

The event netted more than \$102,000 to support Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Special Needs Fund.

Kimberely Brown, weekend anchor and reporter at WSPA 7News, served as emcee, and the luncheon included two featured speakers. Kelly Clark, whose husband, Tim, passed away in 2017 at the age of 44 at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home, shared her family's story.

And hospice chaplain Katie Harbin talked about the many ways the Spartanburg Regional Hospice team strives to provide holistic, compassionate end-of-life care for patients, as well as support for families both before and after a loved one died.



Thank You to Our 2018 Hope Blooms for Hospice Sponsors

DIAMOND

- Marsha and Jimmy Gibbs

GOLD

- John and Isabel Barber
- JM Smith Foundation
- Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System

SILVER

- Bonnie and Darwin Simpson

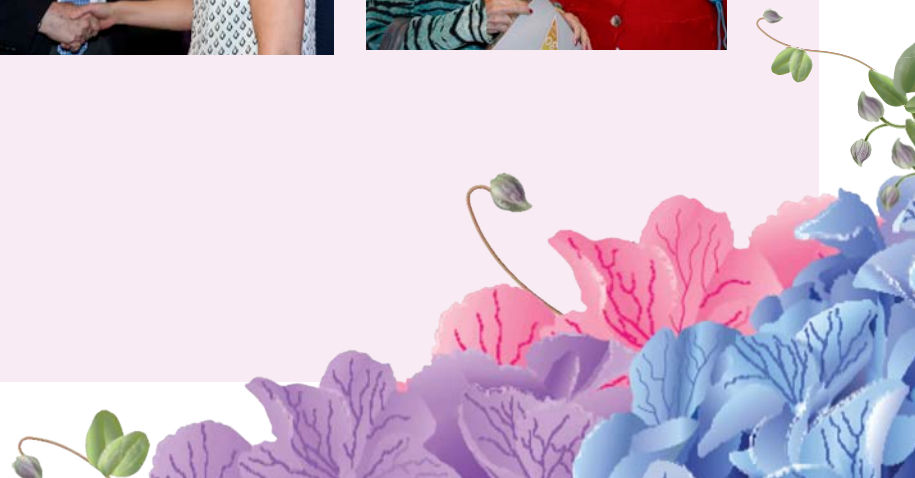
BRONZE

- The Arkwright Foundation (In memory of Bob Hayes)
- Jeff, Jan and Sam Barker
- Burts, Turner and Rhodes Law Firm (In Memory of Noel Turner)
- Anita and Archie Butler
- Comfort Keepers
- Denny's
- Enterprise
- GPN Architecture

- Dorothy and Julian Josey, MD
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Michael Kohler, Jr.
- Spartanburg Regional Hospice and Palliative Care Medicine Physicians
- Spartanburg Regional Senior Health Physicians
- White Oak Management

CONTRIBUTING

- Roebuck Greenhouses, Inc.



There is no preparation, no “how-to” guide to check out of the library for what Kelly Clark is going through.

In July 2017, Kelly's husband, Tim passed away. He was only 44.

Kelly is raising their two children, Jorja and Jayme, on her own now. There's nothing predictable about helping them navigate their grief.

“Nowhere does it say that one day you'll need to hold your child while he's crying and tomorrow will be laughing because he remembered something funny about his dad,” she said.

And there are things that were “never a big deal but now are looming over you” – like a trip to the beach she and the children are planning. “It's unnerving to think that I'll be the sole adult, making that long drive and handling everything.”

Tim Clark had battled sarcoma in 2014, and his prognosis seemed good. He'd had regular scans – even one as late as March 2017 – that showed no signs of cancer. But one day during the summer, he began to cough up blood. Doctors discovered that the cancer had spread to his lungs.

Tim lived only 15 more days. He spent his final week at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home.



Kelly Clark with hospice chaplain Katie Harbin at Hope Blooms for Hospice

ups-and-downs, but for the most part, the children have been doing well, Kelly said. Jorja largely stays occupied with friends and school activities, and Jayme enjoys healthy conversations about his father.

WHERE GRACE COMES IN

A MOTHER TALKS ABOUT LIFE AFTER LOSS



As for her own grieving process, Kelly said that raising children provides a focus. “You've got to keep grounded,” she said. She also stays busy with work, running Rhino Linings, the business she and Tim started two decades ago.

Along the way, Kelly has become an advocate for Spartanburg Regional Hospice. She was a featured speaker at the 2018 Hope Blooms for Hospice luncheon, which raises money for Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Special Needs Fund.

In her presentation, she recounted her family's experience at the hospice home. She said the facility was accommodating to Tim's many visitors in a way that wouldn't have been possible in the Clarks' home. “They were able to drive right up at any time to brighten his day,” she said. “Lifelong friends and family were able to stay the night with him.”

She described the hospice care team as an “angel army.”

It took strength for Kelly to share her story with an audience of more than 500 people, most of them strangers. And it takes strength to make it through each day. Still, Kelly says there are times when she feels overwhelmed.

Her advice to anyone going through a similar transition would be to pray and to extend yourself a lot of grace.

“People love to tell you how strong you are and that things are going to be OK. Sometimes you question it,” Clark said. “But at the end of the day, maybe it's been a good day. Or maybe it hasn't. That's where grace comes in.”

Clark said she appreciates that Spartanburg Regional Hospice continues to offer support through its bereavement program.

“Phone calls, cards invites and even referrals – all come with being welcomed into the hospice family.”

For information on Spartanburg Regional Hospice bereavement services, contact Beth Cutshall at 864-560-3856.

Harakas Thrives on Board Service, Giving Back

Members of Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Division board follow diverse paths to serve. Some joined the board after a friend or family member was served by Spartanburg Regional Hospice. Others work in a health-related profession that gives them insights into the work of hospice.

For Chris Harakas, the introduction to hospice came through a unique fundraising event he took part in – a charity ride put on by a motorcycle club.

"The guys talked about different organizations we could support and voted for Spartanburg Regional Hospice," Harakas recalled. "So many people were touched by hospice."

The club was called the Roughnecks. It disbanded several years ago, but some of its members went on to help found the Southern Legends Motorcycle Club and have continued to put on annual ride to support Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Special Needs Fund. In 12 years, the charity event has raised more than \$140,000 to benefit hospice patients and their families. Harakas sold his motorcycle a few years ago, but he continues to help out with the event.

He has also remained active as a member of the Hospice Division board.

"One word that comes to mind when I think of Chris is 'enthusiasm,'" said Spartanburg Regional Hospice Director Kim Ross. "He's one of those board members who is really engaged and eager to help. He has supported fundraising efforts for hospice for over 10 years. He has volunteered to deliver meals at Thanksgiving and Easter, and he always provides positive and encouraging input."

Harakas's appreciation for Spartanburg Regional Hospice grew when his mother, Liz, became a patient during the last days of her life. It was a stressful time, Harakas said, but the hospice home provided a sense of calm for the family.

"It's the atmosphere and the way they explain things and talk to you," he said. "I'm just very impressed with what they do."

Liz Harakas was passionate about beautification of public spaces in the community, and she took the lead in organizing the placement of hanging baskets in the City of Spartanburg's downtown. In honor of his mother's legacy, the Harakas family has purchased hanging baskets, created by Roebuck Greenhouses to match the ones downtown, each spring to hang in the arbor behind the hospice home.

"Our hospice home was developed as a place where beautiful natural surroundings make visitors feel welcome and comforted," Ross said. "The hanging baskets add a special feature to the arbor during the spring and summer, and we are grateful for the Harakas family's contribution."



"One word that comes to mind when I think of Chris is 'enthusiasm,'" said Spartanburg Regional Hospice Director Kim Ross. "He's one of those board members who is really engaged and eager to help."

Harakas and his wife, Donna, have two grown children and two grandchildren. He is the owner of a Horace Mann Insurance Co. agency.

In addition to his role with the Hospice Division Board, Harakas serves on Spartanburg Regional Foundation's investment committee.

He recently participated in the Regional Fellows Leadership Program, which gives community leaders an in-depth look at the workings of the healthcare system and the medical profession.

"That was one of the best things I've ever done," he said, adding that he was particularly impressed by advances in technology in the treatment of heart patients and cancer patients. "I never knew Spartanburg Regional could do so much – I was amazed."

Learn more about Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Division at <https://regionalfoundation.com/divisions/hospice-division/>.

Good Dog!

Therapy Dog and Her Handler Bond With Patients



Rose is a good dog. She sits and stays when she's told. She's friendly and gentle. And she's beloved by patients, guests and staff at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home.

Rose is a certified therapy dog. Her owner and handler, Jo Ann McMillan, volunteers with Rose each Monday at the hospice home.



"I enjoy the connection with people and seeing a patient smile," said McMillan.

And Rose has a way of making people smile. On a morning in June, she visited with two

patients who each seemed to enjoy her company. A woman whose daughter invited McMillan and Rose into the room smiled as the British golden retriever licked her hand.

Another patient was by himself in a room and seemed to appreciate having company – from Rose and McMillan. He commented on Rose's polite behavior. "You're a good one," he said. The visit led to a conversation about the man's family and his career, including his service during World War II. He joked and shared stories with McMillan.

Rose is one of six therapy dogs who visit the hospice home. Each dog has undergone special training and received certification through an approved agency. Training includes mastery of basic commands as well as experience interacting with people in a wheelchair. Dogs are tested to see how they react to loud noises and sudden movements.

The dogs' handlers must go through volunteer training with the healthcare system, said Kelly Hall, hospice volunteer manager.

Hall said volunteer training sessions take place several times throughout the year, and applications are accepted any time. Altogether, there are roughly 90 volunteers with Spartanburg Regional Hospice.

"The therapy dog program is a valuable extension of the volunteer program," Hall said. "The atmosphere at the hospice home brightens when any of the dogs are in the building." She noted that it's not only patients who benefit from their presence – family members and hospice staff appreciate visits from the therapy dogs, as well.

"Absolutely – I think there's a connection between dogs and people who love dogs. Some patients who haven't responded to human touch will respond to touching a dog."

– Louis Stiles, RN

Louis Stiles, RN, enjoys seeing the animals come to the hospice home, and he believes they make a difference for some patients. "Absolutely – I think there's a connection between dogs and people who love dogs," he said. "Some patients who haven't responded to human touch will respond to touching a dog."

For McMillan, volunteering with Rose connects her back to the early days of her career in health care, when she was nurse in Greenwood, S.C. "I think I was a good bedside nurse," she said. "And I love caring for patients."

Spartanburg Regional Hospice is special to McMillan. In the 1990s, she became the first executive director of Spartanburg

Regional Foundation. She worked closely with hospice staff, volunteers and donors in the creation of the Foundation's Hospice Division, which supports fundraising efforts to benefit patients and families.



McMillan and her husband, Marion, contributed to the campaign to raise money for the construction of the

Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home. She believes it is a special place and she has enjoyed having the opportunity to work with staff members at the facility.

"Everybody comes over to see Rose, and they're just the kindest people in the world," she said. "They are just like family."

To become a volunteer with Spartanburg Regional Hospice, contact Kelly Hall at 864-560-5636.

Patient-Nurse Relationship Comes Full Circle

Paige Biggs describes it as “a testament to how life is a full circle.” A family friend who worked in labor and delivery at Spartanburg General Hospital when Biggs was a newborn became a patient in Spartanburg Regional Hospice years later – and Biggs served as her nurse.

“When I got the daily email that we were admitting Gaye Fowler to hospice and that she was assigned to me, I stopped in my tracks and said out loud, ‘This can’t be the same Gaye Fowler,’” Biggs said. “But I knew it was ... I felt it.”

Starting in the 1960s, Fowler had been a regular customer at the beauty shop Biggs’ grandmother, Doris Bennett, owned in the Cannons Campground community. Biggs’ mother, Diane, worked in the shop after school. Married just after she finished high school, she had Paige when she was 19 years old.

“She was scared,” Biggs said. In those days fathers and other visitors were generally not allowed into the delivery rooms. So Fowler, who was the head labor and delivery nurse, stopped by to offer congratulations and encouragement. “Mrs. Fowler said, ‘Now, honey, it’s gonna be alright,’” Biggs’ said her mom told her. “She even taped a pink bow in my hair.”

Growing up, Biggs spent a lot of time around the beauty shop. “I remember Mrs. Fowler coming into the shop,” she said.

When Fowler was admitted to the hospice program this spring, she received clearance “to tell my mom and grandma that she was now my patient,” Biggs said. “They feel both sad and happy that we have been reunited after all these years.”

Fowler, who had cancer and Alzheimer’s disease, passed away in June. During her illness, Biggs made visits to her home twice a week and was “very accessible” when questions or concerns arose, said Fowler’s daughter, Donna Mabry, in May.



Paige Biggs' baby photo

Mabry said her mom stayed in good shape over the years, taking four-mile walks as recently as last fall. The transition to hospice – realizing that treatment was not making things better – was difficult. But learning that Biggs, a friend of the family, would be providing care, “That was huge for me,” said Mabry.

Mabry, who has three brothers – Jeff, Scott and Mitchell – said she recalls visiting the old beauty shop as a child. And her family has attended Cannons Campground United Methodist Church with Biggs’ grandmother for years. She and Biggs enjoy talking about old times and family connections when they see one another.

Biggs has been a nurse for 28 years and has worked with hospice patients for 13 of those years. Known for professionalism and compassion, she clearly takes pride in her work. “I appreciate that we are able to keep a person cared for at home so they don’t have to go to the ER or their doctor’s office for symptom control,” she said.

It has been particularly special for her to make the connection with Fowler and her family – to provide care for a friend who was there for Biggs at the time of her birth. “It means a lot,” she said.



If you or someone you know may benefit from a hospice referral, call 864-560-CARE.

Brighten Up a Patient's Room by Donating Colorful Pillowcases

Hospital beds are often necessary for the care and comfort of hospice patients who are still living at home. But these beds can seem out of place, even a little industrial, in a home environment.



A pillowcase with a colorful design is a simple item that can create a warmer and more personal aesthetic.

So for the past several years, Spartanburg Regional Hospice has been accepting donations of pillowcases. Care team members take the pillowcases to homes and nursing home rooms to brighten the space.

"A large home can easily become reduced to a small living space for a bedridden patient. I enjoy helping families bring color and joy to the patient's surroundings. It sounds small, but a cheerful pillowcase can make a difference," said Nicole Chaney, certified nurse assistant.

You can support this special effort by bringing new, packaged pillowcases to Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home, located at 686 Jeff Davis Drive, Spartanburg. Drop off your contribution at the front desk.

Dance Recital, Tree of Memory Leaf Memorialize Beloved Dance Teacher Who Passed Away at Hospice Home

Marion Feinstein, known affectionately in the community as Miss Marion, began teaching dance in 1946. Over the decades, her work enriched the lives of countless children and families.

She passed away in 2017 at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home.

Feinstein's daughter, Lori Axelrod, now operates Miss Marion's School of Dance. In March, she hosted a recital to honor her mother, bring together current and former students to raise money for Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Special Needs Fund. Donations totaled more than \$3,000.

Dance performances ranged from jazz to ballet to hip-hop and were followed by a dove balloon release in Feinstein's memory.

"It was a perfect event," said Spartanburg Regional Hospice Director Kim Ross. "Miss Marion was such a beloved person in our community. The recital was a great way to recognize her legacy, and we are certainly grateful for the funds that were raised to support hospice patients and their families."

Feinstein's family also placed a leaf in her honor on the Tree of Memory in the lobby of Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home. The engraved leaf identifies her with the name she was best-known by: Miss Marion.



The Tree of Memory is a meaningful way to memorialize a special individual while supporting others in need. For a donation of \$1,250, a leaf engraved with a customized message or name is placed on the tree. Call Gina Turcotte at 864-560-6725 for information about the Tree of Memory and other opportunities to support Spartanburg Regional Hospice.



Dates to Remember - 2018

Grief support groups provide a safe and supportive environment to talk about thoughts and feelings, and to find support.

Grief Support

Support groups meet for four weeks at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home. Registration is required. Call **864-560-3856**. The next session will meet on Thursdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. beginning September 6.

Services of Remembrance

A time to remember our loved ones
September 25: 6 p.m.

Hospice Office
1530 Drayton Rd, Spartanburg

Call Beth Cutshall at **864-560-3856**
for information about these programs.

For hospice referral information, please call 864-560-CARE

Spartanburg Regional Foundation:

PO Box 2624
Spartanburg, SC 29304
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