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It's not just about the trees



Volunteer Jean Crawford hand writes names of loved ones on ornaments for Festival of Trees



It's true. Festival of Trees is the largest annual fundraiser in support of CarePartners Mountain Area Hospice. In fact, over \$78,000 has already been raised by the middle of December this year. The designer-decorated trees which were on display at Biltmore Square Mall have now been delivered to their sponsors throughout the area.

But a lot more than money is raised through Festival of Trees. Spirits are raised, too.

You may be someone who looks forward to each year's Memorial Orna-

ment—collecting them in memory of your father. You may be one who receives an ornament from a friend, bringing you a beautiful remembrance of your wife who passed away this summer. You may make a special trip each year to look at the Memorial Trees, finding the name of your loved one.

Perhaps you are visiting a loved one at Solace when a volunteer comes in with a little tree. The tree has been decorated by children in a local school, admired at the Festival, and now brought over to brighten the room. And how it brightens your spirits as well!

Festival Facts

- Number of years Festival of Trees has occurred in support of Hospice: 22
- Number of hours worked by volunteers for this year's Festival: Over 10,000
- Number of trees on display this year: 43
- Amount raised through tree sponsorships: \$21,750
- Number of designers who donated time and creativity to decorate trees: More than 50 individuals
- Number of little trees decorated by area school children for patients and families at CarePartners Hospice and CarePartners Thoms: Over 250
- Number of donations to memorial ornament fund: Over 870
- Number of persons honored or memorialized with Memorial Ornaments: More than 1300
- Total amount raised by mid-December: Over \$78,000

Milestones is a publication of
CarePartners Foundation

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CarePartners Foundation is a tax-
exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Financial information about
CarePartners Foundation may be
obtained by writing to us. If you wish
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please write to us.

What is Milestones?

We have created Milestones as a way to let you know how your support of CarePartners Foundation is making a difference in our community. Post-acute care in our mountains continues to improve and expand through the people, places and programs of CarePartners Health Services. Your gifts make this happen.

CarePartners Foundation Distributes Over \$700,000 in 2005

In 2005 we have distributed many grants, large and small, to support the work of CarePartners Health Services and other closely allied community agencies. A few examples are cited below.

- In addition to opening our new inpatient hospice building, CarePartners Foundation provided \$250,000 for CarePartners Mountain Area Hospice's operating budget. This funding comes largely from the many thousands of memorial gifts received by CarePartners Foundation. Memorial gifts and other donations designated to Mountain Area Hospice are used only for Hospice services.
- Last year 257 days of care in CarePartners MountainCARE Adult Day Services were provided for those who would not otherwise be able to afford the daily fees. This is funded through CarePartners Foundation's MountainCARE Scholarship Endowment Fund.
- A much-needed Geriatric Care Management program has been launched with \$50,000 start-up funding from CarePartners Foundation. (See article next page)

A view of the stained glass window in the chapel of the new John F. Keever, Jr. Solace Center, which opened on our main campus in July. Donations to this project from individuals, foundations, and corporations have been used to create a hospice facility that is being looked to as a model environment for hospice care.



What do you want for your birthday?



Dr. Kathy Volatile, above, asked for gifts to be given to Hospice in honor of her 50th birthday.

When Kathy Volatile was planning her 50th Birthday Party, she had a vision of combining a beautiful, fun-filled evening with family and friends with something that might have a long term positive affect in the community. The party invitation read, “in lieu of gifts, donations may be made to Mountain Area Hospice.”

Hospice will always be dear to Dr. Volatile: the person she most would have liked to have with her for her special birthday, her father, Robert Edwards, died in the Atlanta Area Hospice in February 2000.

After “chasing the cure” for his aggressive muscle cancer all around the country for 3 years, he was finally told by multiple medical experts that there were no more treatment options. Several months later, with the cancer widespread and with his wife of 52 years being physically and emotionally depleted, the decision was made for him to move to Hospice.

“The Hospice Experience was very freeing for Dad, family and friends,” Dr. Volatile reflects. “Dad loved people and Hospice encouraged his steady parade of visitors. All comers were welcome, including Dad’s beloved Sheltie, Abby. The volunteers even helped him orchestrate a Super Bowl Party in his room.

“I will never forget the wonderful staff and volunteers at Hospice, experts at extending the joy of living as long as possible while helping all of us face the reality of death without fear.”

Dr. Volatile hopes that in some small way, she raised awareness of the wonderful facility that we have here in Asheville.

CarePartners Health Services Highlight Geriatric Care Management

“If you’re here to ask me a bunch of questions, I want you to leave now!” yells 98-year-old Betty as Lisa Laney-Kendrick enters her apartment. “I don’t want you here unless you’re going to find someone to help me with housework.”

Betty clearly needs assistance with more than just housework. She is having memory problems which cause her to miss doctors appointments. She is having trouble keeping track of her medications. She is still driving though her driving skills are impaired.

Lisa understands from the beginning that Betty needs but does not want “help.” She looks for creative ways to build rapport.

Having noticed a picture of a Himalayan cat in Betty’s apartment, Lisa decides at her next visit to bring a toy kitten that purrs and meows when petted. It turns out that

the picture is of Betty’s dear cat that she had to give up when she moved into her retirement center. Lisa has found a way to connect, and now Betty allows Lisa to help her in many ways.

Lisa knows that coordinating care for the elderly is a complicated and sensitive job. As Director of Geriatric Care Management, she brings over 15 years of experience as a medical social worker.

Lisa met Betty seven months ago, and since then has helped her in many ways, such as:

- ◆ Lisa has accompanied Betty to the Emergency Room and driven her home.
- ◆ She coordinates all physician appointments and arranges for transportation.
- ◆ Lisa escorted Betty to the Low Vision Center for an evaluation. Betty now has devices to help her read and do needle-work.
- ◆ She coordinates all Betty’s in-home care for grocery shopping and for transportation to appointments.
- ◆ Lisa keeps Betty’s son, who lives out of



Want to learn more about Geriatric Care Management? Call Lisa Laney-Kendrick at 828-273-9567 x 2302 for more information about options for care management for yourself or someone you love.

town, informed via e-mail.

- ◆ Betty and Lisa shopped together for medical equipment to make Betty’s bathroom safer.
- ◆ Lisa orders Betty’s prescription refills when necessary.



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CarePartners Foundation and
CarePartners Mountain Area
Hospice Foundation:
828-277-4815

Volunteer Coordinator:
828-274-9567 x 4261

Hospice Treasures Resale
Store: 828-670-5638

Email:
foundation@carepartners.org

If you would like to speak with someone about Hospice and Palliative Care services, please call the Hospice administrative office: 828-255-0321

Ask Scott... about contributing to CarePartners Foundation

Q: I want to include Hospice in my will. What's the best way to do this?

A: When you list your beneficiaries, include CarePartners Foundation to be used for Hospice. Please give me a call at 828-277-6159 if you'd like to discuss your bequest, or just to let us know that you are including CarePartners Foundation in your will.

Q: How can I make a gift to CarePartners Foundation today?

A: You can send a check or money order. You make a donation by credit card on our secure website, www.carepartnersfoundation.org, or by calling the office. Or if you're in the area, stop by our offices. We'd love to see you!

Q: What about giving stock?

A: You can give a gift of appreciated stock: just call your broker to initiate the transaction, and then call our office. Why call us? Your broker cannot tell us who a stock

transfer is from, or if the donor wants the funds to be designated for a specific purpose. Please let us know your intentions so we can use your gift as you wish.

Do you have questions for Scott Buchanan, Executive Director of CarePartners Foundation? Call 828-274-6159 to find your answers!