



# hospice highlights

Hospice of Amador and Calaveras is a non-profit agency serving primarily Amador and Calaveras Counties

P: 209.223.5500 • F: 209.223.4964 • [www.hospiceofamador.org](http://www.hospiceofamador.org) • FALL 2011

## Special Thanks to Paul Cherry

This fall marks the end of an extremely uplifting relationship between Paul Cherry, current Board President, and Hospice of Amador & Calaveras. After more than nine years of dedicated service, Paul's tenure as a board member is coming to an end and we will miss him very much! Paul's contribution has included sitting on our board for nine years while acting as President of the Board for the past four years. He has provided spiritual care to patients and families and has been a strong employee advocate and a guiding light to the organization overall. We wish Paul the very best and thank him deeply for his contribution to Hospice of Amador & Calaveras. During Paul's tenure as Board President, Hospice of Amador & Calaveras has experienced tremendous growth and is today serving more patients and families than ever before. Thank you Paul for everything you have done to help make Hospice of Amador & Calaveras the tremendous community asset it is today!



## Griefbusters Busy as New School Year Begins



Our Griefbuster Team!

Our Hospice of Amador & Calaveras Griefbuster program has been growing steadily these past few months. Thanks to the Calaveras Community Foundation, Bank of Amador, and the Spinty Foundation for your support! As you may remember, we conducted training last April for adult volunteers who wish to work with children ages 3-17 as they move through the grieving process. A healthy grieving process is important for young people as they make their way through this very special threshold in their young lives. With the new school year just underway, we are currently supporting 21 students in both Amador & Calaveras counties. We expect this number may rise when the holidays near as emotions and memories may increase in frequency and intensity. If you know of a child or young adult experiencing grief due to the loss of a loved one, please call Ann or Tammy at 209-223-5500.

## A Thoughtful Donation

Tony Jackson provides IT services and support to Hospice of Amador & Calaveras. Recently Tony participated in a survey for Vocera Communications and was awarded a \$500 check through their participation raffle. Tony decided he wanted to pass that money on to a local non-profit. After talking with his girlfriend he discovered that her neighbor had recently received hospice services and that the family was very grateful. Tony decided to donate the \$500 to Hospice of Amador & Calaveras. Thank you Tony for your donation to Hospice! It's donations like this that allow us to continue meeting our mission of providing quality, end-of-life care to everyone who needs it, regardless of their ability to pay!



# FALL CALENDAR

Save the Dates

Mark Twain  
St. Joseph's  
Hospital  
Health Fair

Sat., Oct. 1st

## BINGO!!

Thurs., Oct. 20th

Sponsored by  
Immaculate Conception  
Men's Club  
of Sutter Creek



### Tree of Lights

Sat., Dec. 3rd

Angels Camp  
Thrift Store

Sun., Dec. 4th

Jackson  
Thrift Store

Children's  
Holiday Festival

Fri., Dec. 9th

Griefbusters - Amador



## Certified Pain Detectives

As hospice clinicians, managing our patient's pain is a big part of our job and one of the most important. From the moment we receive a referral to the first time we step into a patient's home we are trained to assess pain. Is our patient uncomfortable because of pain? Are they grimacing? What is their body language telling us? We read our patients' faces. Their faces and their body language tell a story before we ever begin to ask questions, but we ask a lot of questions.



*Pictured above (left to right): Dede Gabree, Karin Ericson, Janet Baechler, Mary Kriletich, Caela White, Maria Michell. Not pictured, Kimberly Kolafa*

If our patients are suffering, it is our job to work with compassion and kindness as we attempt to help manage their suffering. We do this by carefully assessing where the pain is located, what kind of pain it is, what medications the patient is currently taking. Then we research and implement the best possible solution to treat this pain always taking into consideration the desires of the patient. We take our lead from our patients and we treat a variety of pain including physical, mental and spiritual.

Nationwide, the average percent of hospice nurses who have earned certification in pain management by the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) is less than 15 percent. At Hospice of Amador & Calaveras over 70 percent of our nurses have earned the HPNA certification. We are trained pain detectives and we strive to be great at it because often times, it matters more than anything else.

## Tree of Lights

Please support your Hospice by participating in our annual Tree of Lights ceremony being held this year in early December at each of our Thrift Store locations.





## Hospice Thrift Thanks You for Your Support



Both of the Hospice Thrift Store's had terrific years last year. In Martel, sales and recycling combined to provide a 10.7% gain in revenue. A significant redesign of the clothing processing area made possible a \$37,000 increase in clothing sales, a 33% increase. At an average selling price of \$2.50, that means an additional 14,000 pieces of clothing were processed through the sorting area, for an estimated total of over 56,000 pieces! That's a lot of clothing!

In Angels Camp our sales this year are running approximately 50% greater than last year and we are continuing to grow! Thank you so much for your continued support of our two stores. The revenue from these stores helps support our mission of providing quality, end-of-life care to everyone who needs it, regardless of their ability to pay.

### Fall Message from Dan Riordan, Director:

*Someone sent this to me recently and I thought "Fall Newsletter!" I hope you enjoy it!*



MAX COOTS

### *A Harvest of People*

Let us give thanks for a bounty of people:

For generous friends, with smiles as bright as their blossoms.

For feisty friends as tart as apples;

For continuous friends who, like scallions and cucumbers,  
keep reminding us that we've had them.

For crotchety friends, as sour as rhubarb and as indestructible;

For handsome friends, who are as gorgeous as eggplants  
and as elegant as a row of corn; and the others  
as plain as potatoes and as good for you.

For friends as unpretentious as cabbages, as subtle as summer  
squash, as persistent as parsley, as endless as zucchini, and who,  
like parsnips, can be counted on to see you through the winter.

For old friends, nodding like sunflowers in the evening-time.

For young friends, who wind around like tendrils and hold us.

We give thanks for friends now gone,  
like gardens past that have been harvested,  
but who fed us in their times that we might live.



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Have you seen this truck?

We now offer pick-up service  
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# BINGO

In Sutter Creek - Thursday, October 20th

Please join us for an evening at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall on Spanish Street in Sutter Creek. The Lasagna Dinner will be served from 5- 5:45 PM - \$5. BINGO will begin at 6:15 PM

\$10/1st pack of Bingo Cards (10 games) \$5/each additional pack

\$150 prize to winner of "Cover All" game

\$80 prizes to each winner of all other games/9 total



## Recycling Program

During the last 13 weeks of FY10-11 recycling revenue was just over \$10,000. So far during the first 2 months of this new fiscal year the revenue is approximately \$8,000. The recycling program not only increases revenue but lessens the impact on the landfill.

Nearly 22 tons of waste material was diverted from the land fill from March 7th, the date the program was implemented, to July 31. Please continue to support our recycling efforts by making your donations to Hospice.



Executive Director

Dan Riordan

Board of Directors

Paul Cherry, Board Chair

Wayne Garibaldi • Sally Kornegay

Deon Tadlock, MD • Ken Nakamura

Melissa Cuevas, RN • Toni Linde

Jude Redkey