



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 • SUMMER 2011

14th Annual Art on the Lawn Fundraiser Held in Murphys Community Park

Thank you for your outstanding support at this year's 14th Annual Art on the Lawn fundraiser which was held at the Murphys Park with approximately 170 folks attending. This was the first year Hospice of Amador & Calaveras ever held the event in Calaveras County and we were thrilled by the turnout and the generous spirit which raised just over \$23,000 for Hospice. Hospice has been providing end-of-life care to patients and families in Calaveras County ever since its inception almost 30 years ago. Each year more and more patients and families from Calaveras rely on Hospice for care and support during this extraordinary time. The Art on the Lawn fundraiser is the largest of the year and enables Hospice to meet its mission of providing end-of-life care to everyone who needs it, regardless of their ability to pay.

The fundraiser represented a significant effort to demonstrate Hospice's commitment to the Calaveras community and to meet and connect with more and more folks in Calaveras County. "In Amador County, we are very lucky to have developed a large base of loyal supporters over the years, and we need to develop and nurture those same types of relationships in Calaveras County. Hosting the event at the Murphys Park is one way we are engaging in that important outreach," said Dan Riordan, Executive Director. "We are hoping to alternate the location of this very special event between Amador and Calaveras County!"

The champagne and local wine flowed and the fine food offered by the Murphys Hotel was outstanding. Live music was provided by Herb Boxhorn and Klaudia Promessi. Local artists from Calaveras and Amador Counties supported the event with their donations of original artwork ranging from visual arts to ceramics, welded lawn art, photography, rich textiles and more! "The support provided by the local artists is what make this event so special", said Ann Metherd from Hospice. "There was really something for everyone!"



1



4



2



3

Photo Key: #1. – Alfresco Dinner for 8 – donated by Wild Women of Wingdam earned \$1100.00 in our live auction #2 – Sandra & Brad Peterson of Murphys #3 – Penny West, Calaveras Art Consultant & Wayne Garibaldi, HOAC Board Member #4 – Art –“Tin Man” created by Sutter Creek artist, John Mottoros

Summer CALENDAR

Save the Dates

158th Annual Plasse's Resort Auction

Saturday,
August 20 - 11 am

Benefitting Hospice of
Amador & Calaveras &
Sutter Amador Hospital

Labor Day

Monday, Sept. 5

Annual Labor of Love Fundraiser.

You'll receive a written
invitation to help support
the important work of
hospice. It's easy - just
return our mailer with
your donation!

Volunteer!

Contact us today

Angels Thrift Store -
736-4830

Jackson Thrift Store -
223-4762

Clinical Office -
Ann Metherd - 223-5500



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

Volunteer Appreciation Dinners in Amador and Calaveras

The number of Hospice of Amador & Calaveras volunteers has grown so large that we decided to hold two Volunteer Appreciation Dinners this year. The rationale behind having the two separate dinners was so we could give our volunteers more than one night/location to choose from, keep the event somewhat small and intimate, and frankly, because there just aren't many buildings in Amador or Calaveras County large enough to hold our entire Hospice family.

At the dinners we celebrated all of our volunteers; Thrift Store, Family Support, Griefbusters, Office and Fundraising assistants, and more.

The first dinner was held on April 15th at the First Congregational Church in Murphys. We had about 40 volunteers in attendance. The second dinner was held on Friday, April 29th at the American Legion Hall in Jackson with about 150 volunteers in attendance.

Everyone present enjoyed an evening of great food, outstanding service awards, and the company of the most caring people in our community.

*Thank you
once again to those
who give so much of
their time, energy, love
and support...
We could not do this
without you...*



Summer MESSAGE

from Dan Riordan,
Executive Director:



As you may have read in an article right here in this newsletter, this was the first year our Hospice held its annual Art on the Lawn fundraiser in Calaveras County. I have heard quite a varied response to the decision to hold the event in Calaveras and some of the response has been encouraging and positive and some has been from folks who wonder why we did not hold the event in Amador County like we always have in the past. I think it's a good question and I wanted to take just a moment and share some thoughts about that.

Hospice of Amador was first established almost 30 years ago in 1982 by a small group of volunteers with a vision of providing quality, end-of-life care to folks in our community. The hospice movement was much younger then and this was a herculean effort that has taken root and provided extraordinary care to hundreds of patients and families over the years. It didn't take long before Hospice of Amador served its first patient in Calaveras County and we have been serving Calaveras County patients and families ever since. Several years ago, in their wisdom, the Board of Directors of Hospice made it official by changing the name of our agency from Hospice of Amador to Hospice of Amador & Calaveras. I loved that decision then and I love it now.

• What the Mokelumne River separates, the end of life journey unites. At hospice we cross the river each and every day to provide care to our families, friends and neighbors in both Amador and Calaveras County. Even though miles may separate us, this hospice journey truly draws us together with the opportunity for healing, compassion, forgiveness, and love. As we head into our 30th year of service my prayer is that our hospice mission might draw folks even closer together as we live, love, die and provide support to each other each and every day. Peace to each of you and thank you for your continued support.

Hospice General In-Patient Care (GIP)

In early 2010, Hospice of Amador & Calaveras partnered with Sutter Amador Hospital to develop a program to provide in-patient hospice services to patients in the hospital. We had our first "hospital hospice" patient at Sutter Amador Hospital in December 2010. Since then we have provided this service to many patients. We call it our GIP program which stands for General In-Patient care. GIP is a level of care provided in a hospital setting, which is designed for critical patients with short-term hospice needs that may not be met at home. It is provided under the Medicare Hospice Benefit that is no cost to the patient. Medical and other insurances provide a similar level of care. In order to provide these services, a patient must meet certain Medicare requirements. Hospice and Sutter Amador are working together to provide this service to all appropriate patients in need. Hospice thanks Sutter Amador for making it possible for us to provide this service in our small community.

Student Art

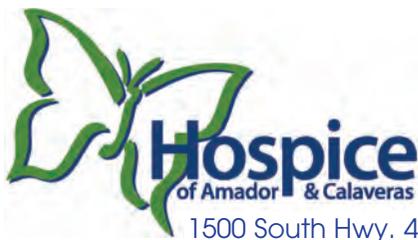


For this year's Art Auction in Calaveras County, we invited art students from Bret Harte High School to participate in creating paintings of what hospice care or end of life issues might look like. Hospice received entries from 4 students whose work is shown here, from left to right, Maddie Ward, Laurel Sudduth, Emma White, and Mallory Ward. Hospice invited its graphic designer Joy Elhard to help select one painting that could be used this year to help advertise the annual Art on the Lawn Art Auction fundraiser. In the poster (to the left), you can see how the work of Mallory Ward is beautifully woven into the Art on the Lawn poster. Hospice is appreciative to these creative young students and their teacher, Mark Waelty, for helping Hospice reach out to the community.



To the right:
Mallory Ward,
our student artist.
Above, the four
pieces of original
art produced by
Bret Harte
High School art
students.





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Jackson, CA 95642

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PAID
JACKSON, CA
PERMIT NO. 6



Have you seen this truck?
We now offer pick-up service
for your larger items...
Call today to donate!

Hospice Thrift Stores go **GREEN!**



Beginning in March this year, the Hospice Thrift Stores began partnering with Snowline Hospice to recycle and sell all of the donations we receive that are unsuited for sale on the retail floor. While we had earned some revenue from unsellable clothing and shoes in the past, we have increased that revenue now by 100% for clothing and an incredible 800% for shoes. In addition we have found a market for many items that, in the past, ended up in the dumpsters/landfill. The recycled shoes, for instance, end up in an African village where children sort, pair and sell them for 25-50 cents per pair!

Last year, income from all of our recycling efforts was approximately \$4800. After only 11 weeks into this new program, Dave Carlton, Jackson Thrift Store manager, reports revenue in excess of \$5800. Of that, just under \$2000 was for clothing, and \$2400 for shoes. What had been a cost center, the disposal of unsellable plastic items, scrap metal and e-waste, linens and books, has now been converted to a profit center. While the revenue from some of the plastic and metal scrap is minimal, the positive environmental impact cannot be understated and, coupled with a 30% reduction in waste fees expected in the first year this program, just makes good sense. As we refine our processes we will reduce our impact on the landfill even more.

It's astonishing how much all of these recyclables weigh. Notable recycled volumes during the first 11 weeks of the program include: Clothing - 22 tons, shoes - 2.3 tons, books - 6.7 tons, and linens - 2.4 tons. The additional weight is comprised of scrap plastic, metal, and e-waste, etc. These items represent just a small fraction of our recyclables but help make up the additional revenue and reduced trash volume in the landfill every day.

Once fully implemented, it is estimated that the program will generate an additional \$27,000 of annual revenue and will reduce our waste fees by \$3,000 for net gain of \$30,000 for Hospice of Amador and Calaveras. Kermit the frog said, "It isn't easy being green!" and he is right, but it sure feels good! Remember to donate to your Hospice Thrift Store today. We take everything! (Well, almost everything...?) And remember, what we can't sell, we'll recycle!

