Chatham-Kent Hospice

HOSPICE HAPPENINGS *newsletter*

SUMMER 2017

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www.chathamkenthospice.com

Hospice Looking Back

Reflecting on our first year, we have learned and affirmed many valuable lessons as we walk alongside families as they say goodbye:

Every Day Counts

Birthday parties, family movie or games night, spa baths or family visits all help people develop warm memories that will sustain them through their grief journey.

Small Gestures Make a Big Impact

Our care team have specialized training in palliative and end-of-life care but it is their generous hearts, listening ears and warm hugs that help residents and families know they are cared for and not alone.

Support for Families is Important

Often families have been caring for their loved one for weeks, months or even years before they come to Hospice. Hospice care reduces stress, allows for meaningful conversations and helps them feel supported as they say goodbye.

When You Give, You Often Get More in Return

Volunteers feel rewarded knowing they have made the day better for someone who might be living their last day. This gives them a purpose outside of themselves which leaves them feeling fulfilled.

Moving Forward: New Strategic Plan 2017-2020

Through a thoughtful process and with the above lessons in mind, the Hospice Board of Directors created the organization's Strategic Plan for 2017-2020. Our new vision, values, and mission will act as a roadmap as we continue to provide exemplary, compassionate end-of-life care for families in Chatham-Kent.

For more information on the new Strategic Plan please visit www.chathamkenthospice.com

Vision - *Enriching lives; embracing each day at end of life*

Values – *Caring, Dignity, Excellence, Integrity, Diversity, Collaboration*

Mission - *We provide care and engage our community to change how families live the important experiences of end of life*

Come learn more about the Chatham-Kent Hospice

Community Impact Open House

Wednesday, July 19th, 2017

from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
at Active Lifestyle Centre

Save the Stamp!
If you would like to receive the electronic version of this newsletter, please email us at foundation@chathamkenthospice.com. Not only does it help keep our costs low but it is also environmentally friendly!

CHANGING MOMENTS CHANGING LIVES
BENEFIT GALA

Hosted by the Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation

Friday, October 27th, 2017

John D. Bradley Convention Centre

Mitton's Jewellers Diamond Draw | Silent Auction | Live Auction

Join us for our 2nd Annual Gala, where you will enjoy a delicious gourmet dinner, browse and bid on a variety of exclusive and memorable experiences, and learn more about the impact of Hospice in our community.

Gather your friends and enjoy an elegant and beautiful evening while raising essential funds for the ongoing operational needs of Chatham-Kent Hospice.

Visit www.ckhospicegala.com or call 519-354-3113 for more information and to purchase your ticket.

This event would not be possible without the support of our Title Sponsor Victory Lincoln.

Community Events

NIK MCLEOD MOUSTACHE MEMORIAL – August 12th, 2017

One of the most impactful ways to keep a loved one's memory alive can be through holding a fundraising event in their honour. That's what Chris McLeod did 10 years ago when he created the Nik McLeod Moustache Memorial Golf Tournament in memory of his brother, Nik, who passed away at the age of 25. It started out as a way to get his best buds together and the first year raised $400 for local charities including Chatham-Kent Hospice. This year's event should see the total raised surpass $50,000.

"I would trade in the past 10 years and $50,000 raised by this tournament to spend just another 10 minutes with my brother. There is one moment every year where I'm running around getting set up, that I stop and share a moment with my brother. Tears every time. But I love it. The C-K community is simply amazing" shared Chris.

For more information or to register for this tournament visit www.moustachegolf.com

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:

Randy Atkinson Memorial Golf Tournament
July 15th, 2017

Join us for the 12th Annual tournament in support of the Randy Atkinson Memorial Fund. The day features 18 holes of golf, dinner and a euchre tournament. For more information contact ramgolf@cogeco.ca.

LCBO Charity Coin Collection
June 18th to July 20th, 2017

A coin collection box will be at the checkouts at LCBO locations in Blenheim, Chatham, Dresden, Tilbury or Wallaceburg. Your spare change can make a big difference!

CLAC Local 579 Golf Open
July 29th, 2017

CLAC Local 579 is hosting their Annual Charity Golf Scramble at Willow Ridge Golf & Country Club in support of the Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation.

A Legacy of Love to His Family

Stephanie's grandfather, Joe D'Hondt, loved his family more than anything and adored nature. He became a farmer and enjoyed being outside and tending to the pig barn. You could always find his "buggy" tracks (golf cart) leading back to the bush where he would spend time feeding the chipmunks and listening to the birds sing. Joe was a loving family man who always looked forward to family dinners, especially KFC as a treat. His grandchildren remember the fun soccer games held before and after supper. Saturday nights were set aside for going out with friends and waltzing with his wife, Irene. The two were inseparable and Joe would often say he wouldn't have survived without her.

Stephanie's husband Paul hit it off right away with Joe, and always would sit and have a good talk about life. Paul remembers that Joe loved his family and wife so much and never missed an opportunity to express it with a smile or conversation with his kids and grandchildren whether in person or on the phone. National Geographic would always be playing in the background showing animals in different habitats.

When Joe was moved into the Chatham-Kent Hospice, Stephanie soon noticed the difference it made for both Grandpa and Grandma. The care he received at Hospice was second to none and allowed him to be at peace in a secure and safe environment. Grandma was able to participate in his care while receiving all the support she needed. Joe was even able to be wheeled outside in his bed to the Courtyard where he could take in the fresh air and sunshine that he was accustomed to. This most definitely made Joe feel more at home. All of the extended family were able to spend sacred time with him in his final days which they treasure.

"We are thankful and grateful to the staff and volunteers at Chatham-Kent Hospice. Their compassion and attentive care made us feel like they were part of our family and reflected the expression of love we experienced from our grandparents growing up" shared Stephanie.

As Stephanie and Paul begin their life together, they wanted to do something to ensure others are able to have the same experience. They generously chose, in lieu of wedding gifts and favours, that family and friends make a donation to Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation to support other families in life's final journey.

Thank you and best wishes Stephanie & Paul!

Music Therapy

One of the many comfort services we offer our residents and families is music therapy. Since music can be highly beneficial taken in both a passive or active manner, it is widely appealing and accessible. Our music therapist uses singing and vocalizing, moving to music, creating music, recording music, playing simple and pleasing sounding instruments and facilitated music relaxation experiences. The only requirement is a love of music. Benefits are expansive and wide reaching. Music is a non-threatening and natural way to express emotions e.g. joy, love, gratitude, loneliness, pain, fatigue, grief, anxiety or fear. While the benefits are different for each resident, many of them enjoy a visit from our music therapist, Candace.

Volunteering - Mother's Day Tea

Our mothers here at Hospice were treated to a special High Tea which included delicate desserts like special cream puff swans and decorated sugar cubes. There were also specialty sandwich fingers and top notch service from our Kitchen Volunteers. Just another example of how our staff and volunteers strive to make each day special!

Accessing Hospice Care

Are you or is someone you love struggling with a life-limiting illness?

Residential hospice care may be something to consider.

To access residential hospice care, the first step is to call the Erie St. Clair LHIN (former Erie St. Clair CCAC) at 519-436-2222.

Their helpful staff will connect you with a Care Coordinator or refer you to the services that are right for your needs.

www.GiveAsYouGoCK.ca

GIVE AS YOU GO Chatham-Kent

Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation is a proud member of the CAGP Chatham-Kent Chapter. Made up of a number of local charities, we are working together to better our community by raising awareness about strategic charitable giving.

Proud Member of: CAGP **Canadian Association of Gift Planners**

Thank You!

With your support, our first-ever Hike for Hospice was a big success! Coinciding with the first anniversary of Hospice residential operations, over 350 participants came out on Sunday, April 23rd to walk the Mud Creek Trail in Chatham. The weather was beautiful and thanks to our hikers, sponsors, volunteers and donors, $58,500 was raised for ongoing operational needs. A sincere thank you to everyone who helped make this day a success!

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Attention Union Gas Employees, Retirees and Board Members!

Union Gas will match your donations of $50 or more to support Chatham-Kent Hospice.

If you would like to take advantage of this program, employees can request the match through the Source and Retirees and Board Members can call Chatham-Kent Hospice at 519-354-3113 for an application form.

What a wonderful way to make the most of your donation!

Contact us to learn more or donate:

Chatham-Kent Hospice
FOUNDATION

By mail to: 34 Wellington St. E. Chatham, ON N7M 3N7
Online: www.chathamkenthospice.com
Or call: 519-354-3113 #2403
Please make cheques payable to Chatham-Kent Hospice Foundation.

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We are grateful for your support of Chatham-Kent Hospice. If you would no longer like to receive a copy of this newsletter, please let us know by emailing: foundation@chathamkenthospice.com or calling 519-354-3113 extension #2403.

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