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# Outstanding people have one thing in common; an absolute sense of mission. – Zig Ziglar

# **Sharing the Journey**

The Lamar Area Hospice staff and Board of Directors hosted a luncheon on April 30th to honor the founder of

Lamar Area Hospice and all who contributed to the effort and followed her lead.

More than three decades have passed since Lana Geier and a group of concerned citizens began the

work to establish an in-home hospice that would serve Lamar and the surrounding communities. Most of them worked in the healthcare field and were painfully aware of the need for hospice care in the area. According to Geier, Dr. Roger Bermingham, Lillian Norman and Linda Earl played a significant role in the initial formation of the organization in 1983 and 1984. According to Board

meeting minutes from March 1984, Geier was the only paid employee, supported by thirty volunteers. In 1991, Jackie Brown and Linda Earl took over the helm with Dr. Donald Benton as Medical Director, Lana Geier as Director of Nursing and Ann Richards as Chaplain.

Some of the volunteer nurses during those formative years included Martha Thompson, Don Falconburg, Celia Kennedy and Marilyn

Today Lamar Area Hospice has fifteen full-time and twenty-two part-time paid employees. Our paid staff is supported by forty-eight volunteers, including our Chaplain and Medical Director. While many things have changed over the course of thirty plus years, one thing remains constant – the communities we serve

continue to be the backbone of this organization through

Phillips.

volunteerism and financial support.

Thank you individually, repeatedly and sincerely for the belief and commitment you have shown and continue to show Lamar Area Hospice.



Standing, left to right: Angie Deloach Higbee, Martha

Thompson, Jackie Brown, Leslie Day, Lana Geier

Seated: Sue Rangel and Linda Earl. (ca. 1990)

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# **Good Grief Kids Support Group**

Lamar Area Hospice will host Child Life Specialist, **Roni Vallejos**, for a 6-week program helping kids walk through the journey of grief with art, games and activities. The goal of the program is to make children's grief an experience of good grief – the kind of grief that strengthens coping skills, prevents problems in children who are "at risk" because of the recent death or terminal illness of a family member or friend and directs youngsters into a process of healthy grief. Facing and coping with bereavement is a challenge, particularly so when the bereaved is a child. The Good Grief Kids Support Group will be a unique contribution and certainly an opportunity to support children in our community who are dealing with loss. For more information contact **JoDell Rogers**, Family Service Coordinator for Lamar Area Hospice.



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Lupe Salazar CNA
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We walk away from our jobs every day knowing we make a difference.

# What do you really know about hospice?

When making a decision about hospice care, it helps to have a good understanding of what hospice is, and what it isn't.

Many people think hospice care is just about dying. Hospice care is so much more than that. Hospice care is about helping patients live each day of their lives to the fullest extent possible and providing support to both patient and families.

Many people believe hospice is a last resort – we're giving up. Hospice is not about giving up or losing hope. It's a mode of therapy that has different but more options. When the focus becomes about living and not about treatments that aren't helping and medical interventions that cause distress and provide no lasting benefits, we see a more comfortable patient and a process that is less stressful and easier on both patient and family. Research supports that people at end of life live longer on hospice than in acute care.

Who pays for hospice care? Lamar Area Hospice is a non-profit organization. The family is never charged for services, supplies or medications. We are licensed to receive a pre-determined reimbursement from Medicare/ Medicaid and some private insurance companies when applicable; however, Lamar Area Hospice serves anyone facing a life limiting illness regardless of insurance, race, age or ethnicity.

Nine out of ten people polled indicated they'd prefer to receive care at home. The majority of Americans do not want to die in an institution. Hospice treats pain and manages symptoms while allowing patients to be at home with family and friends. Our organization goes to great length to make it possible for you to care for a loved one at home.

**Hospice is not only for cancer patients.** In fact, a large number of hospice patients have congestive heart failure, dementia, chronic lung disease, decline in health status or other conditions.

Hospice is not just for the patient. Of course, special attention is given to making sure the patient is pain free and managing uncomfortable symptoms; however, hospice provides staff and resources that deal with every aspect of the patient, including their family. We are every bit concerned about the caregivers and the provision of respite to ensure their wellbeing.

If this information about hospice surprises you, take the time to find out more. The time to learn about hospice is before a life-threatening illness occurs. Far too many people wait until they are in the midst of a health care crisis before thinking about what options are available and if hospice care is appropriate. Hospice works best when there are months rather than days to establish relationships and support. Moreover, the earlier hospice is involved, the more we can make the patient's remaining time as comfortable and satisfying as possible.

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched; they must be felt with the heart. - Helen Keller

The way you give says something about who you are, how you live, and the legacy you choose to leave behind. Your donations through memorials are a wonderful way to honor someone special and to provide later for families in our community who might be in need of hospice and palliative care.

# Donations and memorials received from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

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Barrow, Brenna Bowles, Loren & Joyce Falcon Industries, Inc. Fowler, Joe & Peggy Giadone, Joe & Sue Heck, Linda Ketcham, Karen Mulbery, Ronald & Linda Ritter, Ed Schemahorn, Bob Staker, Robin Tempel, George & Georgetta Tinnes, Danny & Coleen Weber, Michael & Karen

#### In Memory of Betty Scriven

Bigge, Dee Brush, Jackie Campbell, Floor DeWitt, Mickey & Sharon Gossett, Ed & Laverne Griffin, Leland & Janet Hartbauer, Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Havs, Wavne Jagger, Dale & Melinda Marston, Bob & Ernestine Mickey, Mozelle Peterson, Joan Sagebrush Sam's Scriven, Les Tempel, Ethel Tempel, Gale Tempel, George & Georgetta Women's Sunday School Class

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#### In Memory of Julie Seward Cook, Chuck & Mary Lou

In Memory of Shadow & Biskie Bruckner, Karen

# In Memory of Olaf Sharp

DeWitt, Mickey & Sharon

#### In Memory of Colleen Shedeck Allen, Dennis & Linda

In Memory of Carl & Mary Jane Shinn

Marsh, Don & Loretta Wilkening, Roxanne

In Memory of Rich Siegfried Parker David & Lori

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In Memory of Loren Tempel Tinnes, Danny & Coleen

#### In Memory of Melody Ann Tempel

Tempel, Gale

#### In Memory of Joan Thompson DeWitt, Mickey & Sharon

#### In Memory of Jill Tinnes

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Tinnes, Danny & Coleen

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Thacker, Robin

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Your Bunco Girls

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#### In Memory of Norman Vagher Goetz, Jean

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#### In Memory of John D. & Esther Weimer

Weimer, Joan

#### In Memory of Vernon Weimer Weimer, Joan

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Heath, Sonny & Diane

#### In Memory of Joe & Verda Wilkening

Marsh, Don & Loretta Wilkening, Roxanne

#### In Memory of Pat Willhite Fell, Richard & Judy

In Memory of Ron Wilson Lawrence, Art & Janet & David

#### In Memory of Carl Winsor

Brettell, Joan Brooks, Ken & Carol Colclazier, Don & Patsy Conely, Mary Eckert, Doug & Kim Elarton, LD & Marv Freiberger, Linda Giadone, Joe & Sue

Groomer, Ina Hays, Wayne Koenig, Don Mickey, Mozelle Oswald, Gerald Parker, Glenna Schemahorn, Bob Sherwood, Marlene Tempel, Ethel Travis, Joyce Travis, Mildred Wootten, William

#### In Memory of Patsy Winsor

Brettell, Joan Colclazier, Don & Patsy Elarton, Mary & Eldon Giadone, Joe & Sue The Marble Family Mickey, Mozelle Myers, Wade & Mona Reyher, Donald Roth, Jack & Sue Staker, Robin Travis, Joyce Travis, Mildred Weakley, Richard & Renee Wootten, Bill & Kathy

#### In Memory of David R. Wollert Harrison, Sloan & Tanisha

## In Memory of Doris Wollert Wollert, Kellev

Wollert, Sheila

Porter, Dorothy and Family

In Memory of Pat Yoder Ausmus, Monte & Carol In Memory of Bruce Young Young, Joyce In Memory of Greg Young Allen, Dennis & Linda In Memory of Joy Zollars

#### Baker, Nina Crosswind Church Davis, Rex & Alberta Knoll, Patricia & Ellis Maggart, Richard & Debbie Springer, Linda

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Christian, Frances

Katz, Nancy

Thompson, Richard & Lorene Tombleson, Cecil & Marilyn In Memory of Regina Zuccarelli

Rogers, Jim & JoDell

#### IN-KIND DONATIONS

Art's Lock Service Bettiann's Keith Cook Jeremy Cooper Ronny Farmer Mercedes Hernandez High Plains Community Health Center Luckv's BBQ Prowers Medical Center

Larry and Lea Stutler

# What do Americans say about how they want to die?

In a Gallup poll commissioned by the National Hospice Organization, 9 out of 10 Americans say they would prefer to be cared for and die in their own home or a family member's home. Respondents were asked to assume they were terminally ill and had six months to live. When presented with the option of using "a comprehensive program of care" provided by professionals committed to keeping them comfortable and alert at home, while emotional support, as well as needed respite care, was given to the family members, 60% of respondents reported that they would be VERY interested in using such services. An additional 26% indicated they would be somewhat interested. However, 22% of the people who had high interest in the services described did not opt for hospice when asked to choose by name. It reminds us of the confusion with the term hospice. We have much to do to educate the community and healthcare arena regarding the appropriateness and benefits of hospice services.

# Memory & Tribute Tiles

A custom Wall of Memories in the lovely Weltha Plummer Memorial Patio Garden displays tiles inscribed with lasting memories, joyful tributes and fond farewells in remembrance or in celebration of loved ones. The Wall of Memories is a fitting tribute to those we have loved and lost and a perfect opportunity to honor someone in a meaningful and lasting way.

We will order this year's tiles on August 3 and will hold a dedication ceremony in October. We offer you the opportunity to include your memorial or tribute on the Wall of Memories. Please fill out and send us the form below.



# To order your Memory or Tribute Tile, please fill in the form below.

Send or bring this form with your payment to Lamar Area Hospice, 108 W. Olive St., Lamar CO 81052.

**\$200.** 4" X 8" Memory/Tribute Tile, engraved with the name of your loved one, maximum 3 lines.

Clearly print the words you would like engraved on your tile next to the appropriate line number. Keep in mind that the maximum number of characters per line is 14. **Spaces and punctuation count as characters.** 

Some examples:	In Remembrance Jeff Martinson 1932-2011	In Honor Of Michael C. Jamison	Margarita Sue & Abraham M. Henderson	Mom & Dad Madge & Ron We Miss You
TILE 1				
Line 1	_			14 spac
Line 2   _	_			14 spac
Line 3	_  _			14 spac
TILE 2				
Line 1	_  _			14 spac
Line 2   _	_			14 spac
Line 3	_  _			14 spac
ORDERED BY: Name:				
Address:				
City:		State: _	Zip:	
Telephone:		Email:		

Please enclose a check or money order made payable to Lamar Area Hospice.



P.O. Box 843 Lamar CO 81052

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# Our Vision

A community where every day of life matters.

# Our Mission

To provide physical, emotional and spiritual care in the final phases of life, comfort the grieving, and educate the community about end-of-life care.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ANGEL OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT, AUGUST 1. This year's event will be on a Saturday and Chairman Mike Marinac has planned a bigger and better tournament to celebrate the event's 20th anniversary. Marinac expects the event to fill up quickly, so save a spot for your team. If you are interested in honoring a loved one on a beautiful tribute sign to be displayed at the event, please call the office.
- The annual **DINNER, DANCE AND AUCTION** fundraiser will be held on **AUGUST 29.** This is a fabulous event featuring a live band, a wonderful meal and amazing auction items. If you would like your name on the invitation list, contact Collette at the hospice office.
- The MEMORY AND TRIBUTE TILE DEDICATION CEREMONY will be on OCTOBER 25. We will place the order for this year's tiles on August 3. We have room for approximately twenty additional tiles before the completion of the memory wall.
- The LIGHTING OF THE WINDMILL MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held on DECEMBER 4 prior to the holiday parade of lights. The event includes reading of the names of deceased loved ones, a bell toll and the lighting of the windmill. It is always a beautiful and meaningful evening.

