

Music Ministry Offers Blessings for All

Hospice of Tennessee Valley (HTV) is proud to offer a program that never fails to bring a smile to the faces of those who participate in it. Our music ministry, with local musician Kerry Gilbert and our own on-call nurse Jeff Hornbuckle, is a wonderful addition to the care our patients are already receiving. It has proven to uplift the spirit and encourage the soul.



Kerry Gilbert sings with brother-sister patients John Robertson and Ruby Butler at El Reposo.

At HTV, we believe that every patient should have the best quality of life possible, and we have found that this ministry can be a special part of that. Music allows the patient to relax and forget about the illness he or she is facing - even if just for a few moments.

Both Gilbert and Hornbuckle have seen first-hand how positively this music ministry affects people. Whether it is one-on-one or in a group setting, music awakens something in individuals and allows them to experience the blessing of singing and worshipping the Lord. It simply allows them the opportunity to participate in something that may have been missing more recently in their life.

For Hornbuckle, who also serves as the choir director at North

See "Music" on page 2

Making a Difference Matters to our Director

David Crosby keeps the big picture in view. He also recognizes the opportunity Hospice of Tennessee Valley (HTV) has to serve others...not only from a physical standpoint but from a spiritual one as well.

"We must take the physical side of our care very seriously," Crosby said. "It is important that medication be handled appropriately and that patients are cared for with dignity. But, the spiritual side of a patient's journey is for eternity. I think that is sometimes overlooked in hospice care, but that is what makes this work most special to me. Being associated with a group who puts God first, but also has the best interest of our patients in their heart is what it is all about."

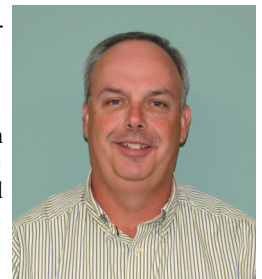
This Central-native and University of North Alabama graduate has worked in hospice administration for nearly 15 years, and as HTV Director since 2003. "Because we are locally owned and operated, all of our decisions are made here at home, and not in a corporate office in a big city," he said. "That is so important because we go to church, activities and even the grocery store with the families of our patients. We hold our company to a high moral standard since we are making decisions that affect those we personally know."

In addition to his role as Director, it is Crosby's more recent calling into chaplaincy that has changed him the most. Although he felt the Lord calling him into this line of work over a year ago, he resisted initially, but began seeing patients nearly six months ago. Crosby says it is the best decision he has ever made.

"I now have the unique opportunity to work hands-on

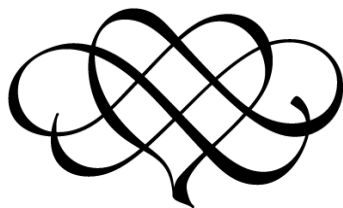
with our families in their homes, while also continuing my responsibilities as Director. This has given me such a different perspective because I'm seeing first-hand what is important to our patients and their families, and, as Director, that enables me to make decisions in their best interest. Having that one-on-one experience with families is invaluable and has made me a better Director."

Crosby is most proud of the fact that HTV has positively affected so many lives since opening its doors in 2002. More than 1000 families have been serviced in that time frame, and Crosby views that as a lot of hands the Lord has been able to use.



"It is an honor to serve as the hands and feet of Christ in this line of work," he said. "So many families have called our employees angels, and that is a reflection on those who go out and wear our name badge. They represent not just Hospice of Tennessee Valley, but an individual passion for what they do and how they serve others. How many lives have we had the opportunity to touch...and how many of those have turned around and touched another. Nobody knows but the Lord, but that is why His kingdom work is always worth it."

Crosby and his wife, the former Laura Copeland of Cloverdale, have three children, ages 15, 9 and 8, who all attend Lauderdale County schools.



MISSION STATEMENT

Hospice of Tennessee Valley provides an individualized program of physical, emotional, spiritual and practical care for people in the last phases of a life-limiting illness, with an emphasis on control of pain and other symptoms.

We provide comfort and care for your loved one.

Hospice care is a choice made to enhance the lives of patients who have a limited life expectancy. Hospice care emphasizes comfort measures and counseling to provide social, spiritual and physical support to the dying patient and their family. Hospice care is provided through an interdisciplinary, medically directed team. This team approach to care for the terminally ill typically includes a physician, a nurse, a home health aide, a social worker, a chaplain, and a volunteer. Members of the hospice team are trained in managing symptoms, controlling pain and caring for psychological, social, emotional and spiritual needs. Hospice emphasizes palliative rather than curative treatment; quality rather than quantity of life. The goal of the hospice team is to be sensitive and responsive to the special requirements of each individual and family.

Hospice of Tennessee Valley's interdisciplinary group of professionals and volunteers develop with each patient/family/caregiver a Plan of Care which includes, as appropriate, the following services and team members:

Attending Physician
 Medical Director
 Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
 Registered Nurse
 Hospice Aide
 Homemaker Services
 Licensed Medical Social Worker
 Grief Counseling
 Spiritual Support
 Therapists
 (contracted Physical, Occupational & Speech)
 Dietary Counseling (contracted)
 Hospice Volunteers
 Consultant Pharmacist
 Durable Medical Equipment
 Medications & Medical Supplies
 Inpatient Care
 Bereavement Follow-Up
 Continuous Care

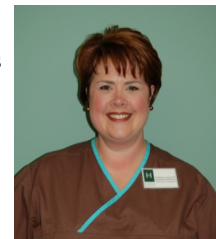
Patient Care Coordinator Named

Stephanie Luman, R.N. joined the staff of Hospice of Tennessee Valley in June as our Patient Care Coordinator. In this role, Luman is responsible for the admission of new patients, collaborating with case managers on establishing a patient's initial plan of care and supervising all clinical staff. In addition, Luman is providing clinical education for the staff of HTV, while also working toward providing continuing education hours for local nursing staff in physician offices and long-term care facilities.

"I'm very blessed to be a part of Hospice of Tennessee Valley," Luman said. "The entire team represents the true philosophy of hospice in putting patient care first and promoting comfort and dignity in the final stages of life."

Luman is a 1994 University of North Alabama graduate with a B.S. in Nursing. She is presently working toward her Masters of Science in Nursing. "We are so pleased to welcome Stephanie to our staff," said Camilla Toney, Clinical Director. "Her management and hospice experience as well as her strength in clinical and community education made her a natural fit for our company."

Luman lives in Florence with her husband, Jonathan, and her two children, ages 9 and 7.



Around Town:

Bible Studies

The Chaplains of Hospice of Tennessee Valley currently offer Bible studies at Heritage Manor every Wednesday at 2 p.m., Morningside every Wednesday at 9 a.m., Southern Manor every other Wednesday at 2 p.m., El Reposo every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and Cottage of the Shoals every other Friday at 10 a.m.

Free Blood Pressure Checks

As a community service, we offer free blood pressure checks each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. inside of Regency Square Mall, (directly in front of Kay Jewelers) as well as at Shoals area senior centers on Tuesdays or Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. Contact Helen Walker at 256-767-1322 for specific senior center locations and days.

"Music" continued:

Wood United Methodist Church, the blessing of the music ministry has been all his. "My musical ability is a gift from God, and so I view music as my ministry," he said. "Music is such an integral part of my own worship experience, and our music ministry allows me to share that with others in a way that will honor Him and bless them. But, truly, I am the one who receives the blessing...seeing others smile and sing along. It is a very moving experience for me."



Jeff Hornbuckle leads a group in singing at a local nursing home.

Gilbert readily agrees. "When I am on stage with a band in front of a crowd of people, it is completely different than playing for a person who may just need to be uplifted that day," he said. "It's not about me. I believe music is a great healer of the mind, body and soul. As long as God allows me to be able to serve these patients, I will be a part of this music ministry."

For more information, please contact David Crosby at 256-767-1322.



Hornbuckle with Mitchell Hollingsworth resident Elnora Whitson.

From a Patient's Point of View
IN HONOR OF:
Peter and Annadrue Brownback

For Peter and Annadrue Brownback, both currently patients at Hospice of Tennessee Valley (HTV), the love story began over 69 years ago. “We were both students at The University of Alabama and met through the drama department at the tryouts for an upcoming play,” said Annadrue. “But, the director was a real dictator. If you were in his play then you belonged to him, so we couldn’t go on our first date until the play wrapped about six weeks after first meeting.”

By then, Peter had charmed not only Annadrue, but her mother as well who actually helped plan the couple’s first date in 1938. “He was as fond of my mother as he was of me, I do believe, and so the three of us went out to dinner together.”

And so began the storied life of the Brownbacks, who would survive the great depression, live in some of the most beautiful and remote areas in the world, experience some of the greatest professional accomplishments and endure one of the most tragic heart-aches that life can offer...together.

The Brownbacks were married on August 29, 1942 in Annadrue’s hometown of Tusculmbia just a few months after she graduated from The University of Alabama with a B.A. in History. The couple returned to Tuscaloosa that first year, where Annadrue worked while Peter finished his degree. “Peter grew up in Pennsylvania on a farm about 20 miles outside of Philadelphia,” Annadrue explained. “He came to The University of Alabama because, during the time of the great Depression, it was the least expensive major university in the country.” Although Peter was forced to lay out a year to return home and work, he too completed his education and graduated from The University of Alabama in 1943. At that time, World War II was raging, and Peter, who was reserve listed with the Army, was called to active duty and was sent to the Pacific, where he was trained as a paratrooper. Annadrue took herself to Washington D.C., where she worked for Sen. Listerhill.

After Peter’s stint serving, the couple again returned to Tuscaloosa for Peter to pursue his Master’s Degree. Annadrue was recruited by one of her former professors to teach freshman English at the University, which would ensure the couple faculty residence. “I don’t know whether my students learned much, but I sure did,” laughed Annadrue. “I learned all sorts of things about English that I hadn’t known before, since my own degree was in History.”



The Brownbacks on their wedding day ~ August 29, 1942.



Celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 1992 with their four children (l-r): Ken, Penny, Ann and Van.

Peter completed his Masters program in 1944 and accepted a one-year contract to teach political science at The University of Alabama. Annadrue took her newly acquired teaching skills to Stillman College there in Tuscaloosa, and taught “almost anything or any course” for the next four years. She ended up as Head of the Social Studies Department, while Peter moved up the faculty ranks at Alabama.

In the course of these years, the Brownback’s expanded their family not once, but four times with the births of Ann (’45), Van (’47), Ken (’51) and Penelope (’53). Additionally, Peter earned his PhD in Latin American Affairs from the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1953, Peter began working for the CIA, and after a few years in Arlington, VA, the family relocated to Paris, France. “We simply loved it there,” said Annadrue. “The culture, the people, we just had a plain good time there and made lots of friends.”

The family returned to the states in 1959 where Peter continued his work with the CIA for several more years. He would, at times, be stationed in Egypt for three-four month time periods while working in systems analysis. Then in 1967, Peter left the CIA and began working for USAID, the United States Agency for International Development. This work took Peter to Vietnam, but Annadrue stayed with the children in Tuscaloosa to allow the youngest two to graduate high school. She also earned a PhD in Latin American History from The University of Alabama during this time, joining Peter in Vietnam in 1971. Unfortunately, when the North Vietnamese took over the country in 1975, the Brownbacks were forced to leave with only two suitcases a piece, leaving behind their entire household. They landed in McLean, VA with several other friends who were forced out of Vietnam with them.

Peter retired from USAID in 1980, and then in 1987, the Brownbacks moved home to the Shoals to care for Annadrue’s mother. A tragedy would befall them in 2006, when their youngest child died due to complications from cirrhosis of the liver. “It was so difficult, but we just had to get through it together,” said Annadrue. “There was nothing we could do to change it, so we had to find a way to live through it.”

We at HTV first met the Brownbacks in January of this year, when we began care for Peter. This past August, Annadrue was also referred as a patient. “The people at Hospice of Tennessee Valley have been just wonderful to Pete and me,” said Annadrue. “They told us from the beginning that they would help us with anything that made us nervous or worried, and they have. They have been just great to us.”

And so the story continues for Peter and Annadrue Brownback – two precious individuals who are loved and treasured by their three living children, 11 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren...and by all of us at Hospice of Tennessee Valley.



The Brownbacks at home in Florence today.



200 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630
256-767-1322 www.hospicetv.com

U.S.
POSTAGE
Permit #43
Presort Standard
Florence, AL

From one of our Earth Angels...Kay Jones



Volunteer Kay Jones visits with her neighbors and Hospice of Tennessee Valley patients, Peter and Anndadrué Brownback.

“I have been volunteering with Hospice of Tennessee Valley for the last year. The staff and administration are wonderful. Everyone is available to all the patients, and they work as a team to give the very best of care to each of those patients. I have enjoyed meeting the people that I visit. It is truly a delight and an honor to get to visit with these individuals. As a volunteer, I am able to find out about history through the patients I visit. This is a special privilege because they have lived through it, and now I’m seeing it through their eyes.

I am learning a lot from Hospice of Tennessee Valley and their care. All individuals are special, regardless of their disease. One does well to look beyond the disease and see the person. Not everyone has family support, but they all deserve it. Sometimes the best thing you can do is to just listen with the heart.”

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION:

Complete and return to:
Hospice of Tennessee Valley
200 W. Tennessee Street, Florence, AL 35630

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____



Thank you!