

Compassionate Connections

through Talbot Hospice

February 2018

Making MEMORY QUILTS

Janet Pfeffer's love of fiber and fabrics began early when she took up knitting at the age of 7. Fast forward to 2003 when she plunged head first into the hobby of quilting by offering to create a t-shirt quilt as an auction item for a Center Stage Theatre fundraiser. From there, her passion for bringing joy and comfort to people while raising money for good causes snowballed.

When Janet's friend Gail Woodard lost her husband Bob in 2007, Janet offered to make a memory quilt from some of his clothing. Gail took over a bag of shirts and ties and the result was a treasure that Gail says she and her dog love and use on a daily basis.



Gail Woodard (left) talks about some of her husband's shirts and ties with Janet Pfeffer who made a memory quilt from them.

*"This one he wore over and over," Gail said as she points to a particular strip of cloth.
"And this one reminds me of our trip to Malaysia because he bought it there."*

Janet adds, "Bob wore interesting clothes and colors." From that bag, Janet ended up making three quilts, one for Gail and two more for Bob's daughters. She even included strips of buttons and a Land's End emblem.

"My favorite pattern is log cabin," said Janet. "It's a traditional quilt pattern from this country. The unit is a square; you start in the middle with four strips around it. Traditionally the color red is in the center to represent the hearth or heart."

According to Janet it typically takes about 20 hours to make one quilt. She estimates she has made as many as 30 quilts over the past 15 years.

As a Talbot Hospice volunteer Janet offers her services to hospice families who would like to make a memorial quilt from their loved one's clothing. "I especially like making memorial and celebratory quilts that incorporate meaningful clothing, colors, and themes," says Janet. Samples of her

quilts can be found on her website: www.janetpfefferquilts.com. If your loved one was served by Talbot Hospice, and you're interested in a memorial quilt, you can contact Lori Miller, Director of Volunteer services at 410-822-6681 or lmiller@talbtohospice.org. There is no charge for this service.

Janet Pfeffer is the former longtime Executive Director of Talbot Partnership. She has two grown children and enjoys her hydrangea garden and her dogs.



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NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Talbot Hospice complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

From the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

As I pen this note, I am filled with a sense of pride of what has been accomplished over the last few months and also enthusiasm for what lies ahead.

Because of an incredibly successful state re-licensure survey in October, Talbot Hospice is now licensed to open 3 more beds in the Eleanor A. Koons Hospice House. The expansion of these 3 beds means we have greater capability to care for individuals that can no longer stay safely in their own homes. Our beautiful homelike facility will become their “new residence” and our staff an extension of their families. The rooms are being outfitted and will be available for use in the coming months.

Honoring Veterans and supporting their unique needs is an integral component of our hospice services. This spring we have planned several new initiatives focusing on end of life care of Veterans. Our “Heroes Among Us” exhibit features images from pinning ceremonies and is a powerful tribute to our Veteran patients. Our 3rd Annual Community Outreach is dedicated to Veterans and will feature guest speaker, Deborah Grassman, author and expert in caring for Veterans at the end of life. You can learn more about this special event on page 8 of this newsletter or by visiting TalbotHospice.org/events.

This year we will continue to grow our services to include palliative care partnerships, expansion of the bed capacity in the Hospice House, general inpatient beds at University of Maryland Shore Regional Medical Center, more community based grief support counseling, and our specialized pediatric program.

We are honored to be a vital presence and resource to our community. As the need for our services increases, we are rising to the challenge, thanks to generous donors, dedicated volunteers and compassionate staff. We truly appreciate the support from our community, and are especially grateful when that affirmation of confidence enables us to continue to offer hope for all those we serve. From your financial gift to volunteering your time, thank you!

It all matters...hospice matters, simple things matter, each day is a gift. The end of life is as important as the beginning.

Serving Hospice,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vivian M. Dodge".

Vivian Dodge MBA, BSN, RN
Executive Director

MSCF GRANT FUNDS PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM



Left to right: Talbot Hospice Executive Director Vivian Dodge and Director of Development Kate Cox; Charles Capute, Esquire; and Mid-Shore Community Foundation President Buck Duncan.

Talbot Hospice recently received a grant from the Margaret B. Ferree Fund of the Mid-Shore Community Foundation for the purpose of developing a Planned Giving Program. According to Executive Director Vivian Dodge, the program is being launched to educate the community about the importance of growing the investment fund to ensure the continued availability of end-of-life services.

“We are grateful to MSCF for recognizing the importance of a robust planned giving program and for partnering with us to help develop and implement programming,” said Dodge.

The Margaret B. Ferree Legacy Society of Talbot Hospice has been established to recognize donors who have committed to making a planned gift to Talbot Hospice. Ferree was the embodiment of stewardship and generosity on the Mid-Shore and an early advocate for the hospice concept of care. She served on the TH board for repeated terms for more than two decades. Her generous philanthropy included helping to build the Hospice House which opened in 1998 as well as the later expansion which doubled the footprint.

For more information about planned giving and the Margaret B. Ferree Legacy Society, contact Kate Cox, Director of Development, at kcox@talbothospice.org or 410-822-6681.

TRANSFORMATIONAL BEQUEST RECEIVED FROM JUDITH AND ERIK K. STRAUB

We are pleased to announce that we have received a transformational bequest from the estates of Judith and Erik Straub, longtime and dedicated supporters of Talbot Hospice. We were honored to serve both Judy and Erik in their final days.

Judy and Erik moved from Monkton, MD to Easton in 1979, to establish a marine construction business. Judy was a very active volunteer in Easton, working with the United Fund, the Republican Party and the Academy Art Museum as membership chairman and President. Erik enjoyed sport fishing and golf and was a car enthusiast. Upon Erik's retirement in 2006, the Straubs moved to Florida but kept their home in Talbot County.

Charitable donations are vital to our ability to provide excellent care. In 2017 we provided \$588,000 worth of uncompensated care.

“The Straubs have left a legacy that inspires all of us to strive to fulfill their belief in the hospice mission,” said Executive Director Vivian Dodge. “With Erik and Judy's generous legacy, we can positively impact the lives of many patients and families for years to come. Thanks to the many past and present leaders, donors, staff members and volunteers, Talbot Hospice has a solid foundation on which to build and expand our services and programs for Talbot County citizens. With Judy and Erik's remarkable gift, new opportunities lay before the hospice team to meet the future needs of our community.”

Gifts like the Straubs are carefully invested and stewarded in order to provide long-term support to our hospice mission.

MISSION

Talbot Hospice offers hope, compassionate support and services to all members of our community facing end-of-life issues. We provide patient and family care, community education and advocacy while respecting both curative and palliative treatment choices.



Volunteer Training



The spring session of volunteer training will take place March 19 and 21 from 8:15 a.m.–5 p.m. in the Clark Guthrie Center at Talbot Hospice.

Topics covered include:

- Hospice purpose & philosophy
- Admission criteria
- Volunteer roles
- HIPAA, confidentiality, & ethics
- Attitudes and fears
- Death & dying
- Spirituality
- Listening skills and boundaries
- Family dynamics
- Cultural diversity
- Grief
- Hands on training, standard precautions

Volunteer training is offered two times per year, once in the spring and again in the fall. We currently have a specific need for cooks, greeters, drivers, musicians, in-home companions and Hospice House caregivers.

For more information, please visit our website at talbothospice.org or contact Lori Miller, Director of Volunteer Services at 410-822-6681 or lmiller@talbothospice.org.

TALBOT HOSPICE MEMORIAL

Walk

on Oxford Day
Saturday, April 28, 2018, 8 a.m.

Walk in memory or in honor of a loved one from Oxford Community Center to the Strand.
Proceeds benefit Talbot Hospice patients and their families.

Adults \$25 | Students \$10 | Children 12 & under free. Fee includes adult t-shirt and light breakfast. Register at TalbotHospice.org/events/memorial-walk

Questions? Contact Laura Richeson 410-822-6681, lricheson@talbothospice.org



WILLIAMS RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS ABELOFF AWARD

Associate Medical Director Michele Potter Williams, DNP recently received the prestigious Martin Abeloff Award at the 2017 Maryland State Cancer Control Conference for her contributions to cancer control and public health through patient care and public health policy advocacy. Michele is board certified in oncology and pain management and provides direct care to cancer patients at the University of Maryland Shore Regional Health Cancer Center. Michele was nominated by the American Cancer Society for this recognition created in 2007 to honor the legacy and achievements of one of the Cancer Council's most distinguished long time members, renowned medical oncologist and researcher Dr. Martin D. Abeloff who was always compassionate and devoted to his patients, colleagues and public service.

Talbot Hospice

Welcome Spring Bouquet 2018

ORDER BY MARCH 20
PICK UP BOUQUETS
THURSDAY MARCH 22
ATTALBOT HOSPICE

Order a gorgeous fresh floral bouquet for yourself and a friend, co-worker, neighbor or teacher! This colorful fundraiser—now in its fifth year—helps Talbot Hospice offer hope, compassionate support and services to all members of our community facing end-of-life issues. **ORDER YOURS TODAY!**



A patient and her daughter enjoyed receiving a beautiful bouquet for her room during last year's sale.

number of bouquets _____ x \$20 = _____

name _____

address _____

email daytime _____

phone _____

Make your check payable to Talbot Hospice.
For credit card, use form below. You may also purchase via phone 410-822-6681 or online at talbothospice.org/events.

credit card: Visa MasterCard

exp date _____ CVC _____

signature _____





ENGRAVED BRICKS AND MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Celebrate the life of someone dear to you by purchasing an engraved brick for our walkway or a plaque to be placed on our Memorial Wall outside Hospice House. As you honor the memory of a loved one, your gift provides needed support so that we may continue to maintain the high standards of services, support and care at Talbot Hospice. Engraved bricks and plaques may be purchased in memory of or in honor of someone special. You can purchase them on our website talbothospice.org (click on Donate/Ways to Give) or complete this form and return it to Talbot Hospice. Bricks are installed two times a year, spring and fall.

Standard Brick (4" x 8") \$100, 3 lines, 16 characters per line
What would you like your brick to say?

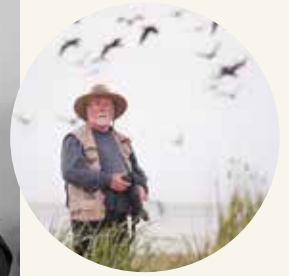
Plaques (16" x 16") \$500, 12 lines, 20 characters per line
What would you like your plaque to say?

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Make check payable to Talbot Hospice and mail to:
586 Cynwood Drive, Easton, MD 21601-3805

I'd like to charge to VISA MasterCard
Name as it appears on card: _____
Credit Card Number _____
Exp. Date: _____ Card Verification #: _____

HONORING THE HEROES AMONG US



Artist-in-Residence,
Doug George

Harry Will served in the US Army from 1951–1953. After completing Officer Candidate School, Will served as 2nd Lieutenant, platoon commander and combat engineer during the Korean War.

This year's Artist-in-Residence, Doug George, is a local photographer whose focus is primarily on Maryland's Eastern Shore, particularly nature and especially birds. Last fall George, an Army Veteran with 28 years of service, responded to our search for a photographer whose assignment would be to capture images of our Veteran patients during Pinning Ceremonies held to honor, recognize, and thank them for their service. "These services have become more and more popular with our patients and families and can give a very important sense of closure to some," said Lori Miller, Director of Volunteer Services, who coordinates a team of volunteers who are also Veterans to perform the ceremonies. "It is a reverent and special moment for our patients and all involved."

An exhibit of George's work titled "Honoring The Heroes Among Us" hangs in Hospice House paying tribute to our Veterans and documenting the ceremonies during which a special reading is recited, Veterans are given a pin and a handmade patriotic quilt and pillow made and donated by the Bayside Quilters. The photo exhibit will also be on display at our Third Annual Outreach Event March 15, 6 p.m. at the Easton High School Auditorium featuring Deborah Grassman who is an expert on Veteran care at the end of life.

A MEMOIR WORKSHOP: LOOKING BACK WITH GENTLE EYES

Six-week memoir workshop facilitated by ANNE MCCORMICK, M.ED. at Talbot Hospice, Tuesday mornings March 20–April 24, 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Anne McCormick is the retired Associate Director of the Learning and Counseling Center and adjunct professor of English at American University, Washington, D.C. She is the co-author of two books and numerous journal articles about accommodating college students with disabilities. Since retiring to the Eastern Shore, McCormick has co-offered many workshops in memoir writing and served on several advocacy boards for individuals with disabilities.

The workshop is free of charge and open to the public. Class size is limited to ten participants. Advance registration is required and can be made by calling 410-822-6681.

10 reasons to *Feel Good* about your donation to Talbot Hospice

1 WORLD CLASS HOSPICE

You are ensuring that excellent, compassionate end-of-life care is available to Talbot County citizens, addressing physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs.

2 36 YEARS STRONG, MAKING A DIFFERENCE

You are part of a community that has supported compassionate hospice care in Talbot County for 36 years. Your gifts are changing the end-of-life experience for our community's patients and families.

3 SERVING ALL WHO CALL UPON US

You are ensuring we deliver care to everyone who needs our services, no matter what their financial situation. Last year we provided \$588,000 worth of unreimbursed, direct patient care.



4 ELEANOR A. KOONS HOSPICE HOUSE

You are providing a home away from home for our community; a peaceful, homelike residence for those whose end-of-life needs cannot be effectively addressed in the home and choose to spend their final days with us, regardless of their ability to pay.

5 GRIEF AND LOSS

You are providing grief and loss support to *anyone* in our community who has suffered a loss, including children, adolescents, and adults, while helping the whole family unit build and nurture hope and solace.

6 PATHWAYS

You are enriching the lives of chronically ill people who are supported by our pre-hospice, volunteer supported program, *Pathways*.

7 PEDIATRIC CARE

You are enabling children to remain at home where they love to be, surrounded by family and their favorite things and coordinating care, medical services, and support to children and families.

8 VETERANS

You are helping to care for Veterans and honoring them through our care and the special 'We Honor Veterans' recognition program to those who served in the military.

9 VOLUNTEERS

You are helping with advanced training of our volunteers which ensures those who give of their time are expertly trained.

10 EDUCATION

You are offering community advocacy and FREE educational outreach events on end-of-life issues to all members of the community.



Talbot Hospice
presents the 3rd Annual Outreach

SOUL INJURY: *Liberating Unmourned Loss*

Featuring **DEBORAH GRASSMAN**
Expert on Veteran care at end of life
and Author of *The Hero Within* and
Peace at Last

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018, 6 p.m.
EASTON HIGH SCHOOL
Free of charge and open to the public



Deborah Grassman is recognized as one of the nation's leading experts in caring for Veterans nearing the end of life. She is a mental health Nurse Practitioner whose career at the Department of Veterans Affairs spanned nearly 30 years. She was the Director of the Hospice program and personally took care of more than 10,000 dying veterans.

Grassman is CEO and co-founder of Opus Peace, a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide programs that respond to the soul injury that occurs during trauma, abuse, self-neglect, and serious illness. She is most well-known for her pioneering presentation **Wounded Warriors: Their Last Battle** which was the first of its kind to identify the unique needs of Veterans as they age. In 2002, she introduced "pinning ceremonies" to honor dying veterans—a ceremony which has now become standard practice in hospices and long-term-care facilities throughout the nation.

Grassman's presentation is suitable for Veterans, family members, professionals and anyone who could benefit from processing unmourned grief or unforgiven guilt. Local Veteran organizations and support groups and agencies will be on hand prior to Grassman's presentation to offer their resources to Veterans and their families.

On Friday, March 16, 8 a.m. Grassman will present the workshop Wounded Warriors at Talbot Hospice for agency professionals who work with Veterans.

Presenting Sponsors



For more information or to register visit TalbotHospice.org/events or contact Caron James, 410-822-6681 or cjames@talbothospice.org.