

Compassionate Connections

through Talbot Hospice

May 2018

The Importance of ADVANCE HEALTHCARE PLANNING

By Della Andrew

On March 3, 2016, my husband Herby and I attended a program at the Avalon Theatre called Talbot Conversations hosted by Talbot Hospice. The program was presented by Angelo Volandes, the author of the book, *The Conversation—A Revolutionary Plan For End-Of-Life Care*. We came away from that program convinced that our community needed to address the issues presented and decided to ask our church to help with this effort. It took a year to accomplish this. But finally on March 20, 2017, St. Mark's Church held a program called *Consider the Conversation*. I remember that Hospice staff spoke, we saw a film, and at the conclusion we were each given a copy of the *Five Wishes* document.

Before the next program, we were encouraged to read, discuss, and complete our copy. I remember us doing this. The first section addressed who we wanted to make medical decisions for us if we were not able—of course, we already had this legally in place done by our attorney. The second section addressed the kind of medical treatment we wanted or didn't want. Here's where most of our discussion occurred, and at the end we mostly were in agreement. The third section addressed personal issues of how comfortable I

want to be, how I want people to treat me, and what I want my loved ones to know. This is where we made notes that were not the same. The one I will always remember asked the question "how do you want to be remembered?" My children were not surprised that I wrote a complete sentence of more than 25 words. Herby wrote two words: "loves people." His response has helped our family in our grieving process as we have been blessed by the support of the people in our community that he touched.



Della and Herby Andrew

Then on April 3, we attended the second session where we signed the *Five Wishes* document, had it notarized, made copies of it, and chose a binder for the original. Little did we know then that we would use this document so soon.

On May 7, Herby was involved in an automobile accident, had surgery at Memorial Hospital and at Shock Trauma and died there less than sixteen hours after the accident. We had Herby's *Five Wishes* document with us for guidance.

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From the Executive Director



Everything we do impacts life, hope, dreams, relationships with others and our individual belief systems. Spring is a time of awakening, encouraging us to live in the moment and enjoy. This awareness of what is truly important is something we practice all year long, and that permeates everything we do at Talbot Hospice. Whether serving residents at our Guest House or caring for patients at their residence, our family centric model of care for individuals at the end of life places us firmly in the moment, making memories meaningful and understanding what is, rather than what was or what could be.

The world is full of opportunities to serve, service and care for others. Hospice care and the philosophy of living in the moment allows us to clearly see the generosity unfolding around us every day:

- We thank our interdisciplinary team and our volunteer caregivers who serve at the bedside with compassion and provide an endless state of grace.
- We thank the Guest House staff and volunteers who nourish our residents with food infused with love and caring.
- We thank our entire staff and all volunteers who support the organization's operations in a myriad of ways and jobs.
- We thank our community physicians who value end-of-life care and who work closely with us as their patients embark on this journey.
- And we thank our donors and corporate sponsors, whose financial generosity supports our day-to-day caregiving and our broader mission to provide the compassionate care to the end-of-life experience and allows us to expand our services and programs.

Highlighted in this newsletter are two community members sharing their perspective of end-of-life care and the importance of advocating for advance healthcare planning. Have you had "The Conversation" with your family? It always seems too early, until it's too late. In the words of Helen Keller,

*"What we have once enjoyed deeply we can never lose.
All that we love becomes a part of us."*

Talbot Hospice is interwoven in the tapestry we call our community. We are here for you, for your loved ones, for your friends and family.

Our success is partly due to each of you, your support, your advocacy, your understanding that the end of life is equally as important as the beginning.

Vivian M. Dodge

Vivian Dodge MBA, BSN, RN
Executive Director

Field Painting Credit (cover)
Artist: Cody DeWitt, Gr. 11
School: St. Michaels Middle
High School
Medium: Digital Illustration
Art Teacher: Christopher Pittman

Crab Painting Credit (p3)
Artist: Nehemiah Benson, Gr. 7
School: St. Michaels Middle
High School
Medium: Batik
Art Teacher: Bridget Whited

Young Volunteer Spotlight: PATRICK CECIL



Patrick Cecil strongly believes in helping others. At the ripe age of 13, he has been serving the community for about a decade through fundraising for Talbot Hospice, The American Cancer Society Relay for Life for Talbot County, and The Colors of Cancer of Talbot County.

Patrick and his family participate every year in the Festival of Trees

where he recalls putting his first ornament on a Christmas tree at the Tidewater Inn when he was three years old.

His affinity for Talbot Hospice and his desire to give back comes from personal experience. "Talbot Hospice allowed my grandfather and my uncle to remain at home until they passed away," said Patrick. "They were able to spend time with their family at home and enjoy quality of life."

For four years Patrick also has been a sponsor of the Relay for Life for Talbot County raising over \$2,000 to help support this organization by walking the track, helping the elderly, selling raffle tickets, coordinating paint nights, and many other fundraising activities. He uses these funds to help sponsor the Colors of Cancer Gala where he has been a Pink Sponsor at the \$500 level for the past three years.

At the 8th Annual Colors of Cancer Gala on April 21, 2018, Patrick received the 2018 Colors of Cancer "Leader in the Community Award" for his efforts in the "Fight Against Cancer." He also received citations from Senator Addie Eckardt, Delegate Johnny Mautz, Senator Chris Van Hollen, and Governor Larry Hogan.

According to Executive Director Vivian Dodge, Talbot Hospice is blessed with volunteers of all ages and with a wide range of talents. "It is especially gratifying to see young people with such an awareness of the benefits of hospice who are willing to give so generously of their time to serve others."

Advance Directives continued from page 1

Obviously, I highly recommend that everyone complete this document, give copies to your children and/or other health care agent, and your doctor. Let your family know where the original document is kept in your home for easy access. You can't know when an emergency may occur that they will need it in order to carry out your wishes. And continue your conversation with your family members to remind them of where to find it in your home, what has changed or become more important to you since you completed it, etc.

Don't delay!

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.

Della Andrew was born and raised in Talbot County, as was her husband Herby. Both left the county after high school to serve in the military—Della in the Navy, Herby in the Air Force. They returned to the Eastern Shore and were married in 1962. Together, Della & Herby lived out a commitment to service in their community. After working at St. Mark's Preschool, Della joined the staff at Easton Day Care Center (today Critchlow Adkins Children's Center) in 1984, serving as Executive Director from 1988–2001. Herby was a founding member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church. He and Della worshiped there together throughout their marriage. Della has been a Sunday School teacher since 1970 and has been chairing the church's missions committee since 2004. Herby was a career dairy and grain farmer. He served four terms as a Talbot County Councilman beginning in 1978, was a director with the Talbot Bank (now Shore United Bank), served on several nonprofit boards, and volunteered with many local projects. He was a lifetime member of the American Legion Post #70.





Bird Painting Credit
 Artist: Morgan Kimminau, Gr. 7
 School: Sts. Peter & Paul Middle School
 Medium: Mixed
 Art Teacher: Becky Wheatley

FACT: Last year
 Talbot Hospice provided
\$588,000
 worth of unreimbursed direct
 care to hospice patients.

Note from a grateful family

"Dear Hospice friends –

I truly cannot express my gratitude for your care and support of my husband and me during the last weeks of his life (and after). You guided us with a gentle touch and just the right amount of encouragement and understanding to help us cope with all that was happening during an unbelievably difficult time.

I have been familiar with the incredible benefit of Talbot Hospice to families of our community, and now I know first-hand the truly excellent quality of care that you provide 24/7 when the need is there. I cannot tell you how comforting that was overall, but especially when our life was truly chaotic. Please know we loved all we met—you offered more than you know and gave so freely."

Thank you for supporting our patients and families through the Annual Fund!

There is still time to make a contribution this fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. **EVERY GIFT COUNTS!**

To make a secure online gift, visit our website at TalbotHospice.org/donate.

We invite you to participate in our **NEW MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM.**

A small monthly gift (\$10 minimum) may allow you to increase your support to a more significant level. And it's easier on your budget!

Join the Guthrie Society with gifts totaling \$1,000 or more and receive the annual report, special mailings and an invitation to a private party in the fall.

Join the Hummingbird Society with gifts totaling \$500-\$999 and receive the annual report and special communications.

Stock gifts and matching gifts welcome.

YOUR GIFT WILL SUPPORT:

- Bereavement services for all members of the community, including children
- Volunteer training and support
- Pathways Program—a pre-hospice, non-medical, volunteer program of supportive services for people diagnosed with a life-limiting illness.
- Care in our Hospice House residence at little or no cost to those who cannot afford the room and board fee.
- Pediatric Care Program
- Honoring Veterans at the end of life
- Education in the community



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. You can purchase bricks on our website talbothospice.org (click on Donate/Ways to Give).

Volunteers Feted at Annual *Appreciation Luncheon*

On May 9 we paused to pay tribute to the more than 200 dedicated volunteers who selflessly give of their time and talent in so many ways. These individuals make an important contribution to our program and are crucial to our ability to offer the breadth and depth of services we provide for patients and families at a very sacred time. Presidential Service and Distinguished Volunteer Awards were distributed to 43 volunteers with a minimum of 100 hours reported in 2017. These individuals comprise 22% of the volunteer corps and provided 71% of the 15,510 hours donated in 2017. Congratulations, and thank you for your altruistic devotion.

THE BEST WAY TO FIND YOURSELF IS
TO LOSE YOURSELF IN THE SERVICE
OF OTHERS—Mahatma Gandhi

Many thanks to the following local businesses that generously donated door prizes:

Avalon Foundation
Chapel's Country Creamery
Doc's Downtown Grille
Dragonfly Boutique
Eastern Shore Yoga
Garden & Garnish
George's Green Thumb
Harrison's Eastern Shore Restaurant
Hill's Drug Store
Hog Neck Golf Course Pro Shop
Honeybee Flower Farm
Inn at Perry Cabin
Kissed By The Sun Spa
Lizzy Dee
Salisbury Gift & Garden
Seasonal Flowers
Debbie Setter—Mary Kay Consultant
Sparkle Cleaning
The Christmas Shop
Tranquility Massage & Bodywork
Village Shoppe
YMCA of the Chesapeake



Debbie Chance & Leona Schmidt



Peggy Frampton & Pat Harden



Presidential Service Award Winners (l-r) Bettie Baer, Leslye Mosier, and Eleanor Morrell. Not pictured Julie Burleson and Linda Nabb

Pete Rampmeyer
Mary Ann Ray
Cindy Reed
Gordon Ries
Adrienne Rudge
Beverly Serio
Beverly Shea
Anne Slack
Brenda Stone
Kathy Unti
Sara Woodall
Denise Ziegler

Senator Addie Eckardt and Delegate Johnny Mautz were present to award special citations to the following Volunteer Advisory Committee members recognizing their dedication and leadership:

Jack Anthony
Sally Bent
Susan Haddaway
Emilie Joshi
Phyllis Peddicord
Bruce Richards
Gordon Ries
Brenda Stone

PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

(first time recipients)

Bettie Baer
Julie Burleson
Eleanor Morrell
Leslye Mosier
Linda Nabb

Alex Collins
Ruth Dominick
Nance DuPont
Kathy Foster
Margaret Frampton
Janet Granger
Susan Haddaway
Pat Harden
Liz Hershey
Mary Ann Huckel
Suzie Hurley
Emma Johnson
Emilie Joshi
Florence Lednum
Stuart Levine
Mary Lou Malone
Jean Marvel
Bob Paulus
Phyllis Peddicord
Deborah Pulzone

DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS

(awarded each subsequent year a volunteer qualifies)

Jack Anthony
Preston Bascom
Sally Bent
Ginger Bevard
Susan Blankner
Patricia Case



Susan Dyott & Barbara Hardin

The annual luncheon is funded by the Marita Menzies Endowment Fund, established in 2004 in loving memory of Marita Menzies, former Talbot Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, to provide training programs and appreciation events for Talbot Hospice volunteers.





Talbot Hospice RN Dot Mayorga (second from right) and Executive Director Vivian Dodge (left) with Justin Britcher and Jenn Chance from Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam.

Mayorga Receives FHN Hospice Caregivers Award

Talbot Hospice RN Dot Mayorga is the recipient of the most recent Hospice Caregiver Award sponsored by Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home (FHN). The award was created by FHN to recognize dedicated hospice caregivers for their selfless devotion and generosity of heart. Each quarter a caregiver is honored based on a review of nominations from peers, friends, patients and their families and others who feel a particular individual exemplifies the spirit of this award.

Following is the nomination from a family recently served:

"Dot integrates all the qualities of a hospice nurse in her care, nursing skill, compassion, and expertise. Dot has a special intuitiveness to sense her patient's readiness to deal with their multiple challenges and issues. My husband's cancer caused him to have difficulty processing language. Dot gained his trust with a straight forward and caring style that just worked. Thank you Dot for being there not only for my husband but also for understanding the stress of my dual roles of nurse and wife. I will not forget your call at 11 p.m. on a particularly difficult night. I am so grateful for Dot's role in helping me keep my husband at home until we reached the critical point where he needed to enter Hospice House. You made all the difference."

This "Hospice Alphabet" was created by the management staff who brainstormed to describe our philosophy. The alphabet hangs in common spaces around the building to remind us of our united responsibility and commitment to these core values that govern our day to day work with patients and families.

A bility to care	N urturing
B eautiful team	O ptimism
C ompassionate	P atience
D etermination	Q uality care
E nergy	R espect
F ortunate	S pectacular service
G racious respect	T remendous team
H appy heart	U nited in the vision of our mission
I ntegrity	V alues
J ourney	W ax & wane
K indness	"X" cellence
L ove	Y es
M otivation	Z eal

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WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET,
WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE
—Winston Churchill

Leaving a Legacy

Lee Phillips served on the board of directors from 2010–2016, providing leadership during a significant time in our history, including supporting our capital campaign and construction project to expand Hospice House and our transition to becoming a fully licensed medical hospice in 2015.

As a dedicated hospice volunteer, Lee has thoughtfully remembered Talbot Hospice in his will.

“When I joined the board in 2010, I wasn’t very knowledgeable about hospice,” said Lee during a recent visit to Hospice House. “I learned a lot during my six years of service. Unfortunately, soon after my term ended, my beloved friend, Beth Schucker, was stricken with cancer and ultimately became a hospice patient, spending her final days in the Guest Wing at Hospice House. From this personal

experience, I learned a lot more about hospice and what happens at the heart of the operation. I was impressed with how dedicated the staff and volunteers of hospice really are and how important it is to the patients and families to have their support and the hospice services they provide. That is why I have remembered Talbot Hospice in my will. Anything that I can do to ensure these services continue in our community, I will do.”

We invite you to remember Talbot Hospice in your will, a gift that will help us provide extraordinary care to patients and families for generations to come.

**Questions? Call Kate Cox, Director of Development,
410-822-6681 x15**

TALBOT HOSPICE MEMORIAL Walk

Saturday, April 28, 2018

Stone’s Throw Sponsor

James Real Estate Services
Pensel & Walker
Talbot Hospice Board of Directors

In-Kind Donations

Bay Imprint
Blue Crab Coffee
Eglseder Wealth Management
Oxford Community Center
Rise Up Coffee

Route-Marker Sponsor

Booth, Booth, Cropper and
Marriner
Campbell’s Boatyard
Capsize
Holiday Inn Express
Latitude 38
New Brick & Tile Co.

A record number—more than 155 people—participated in our 3rd Annual Memorial Walk on Oxford Day this year! It was a very special time to remember our loved ones.



Dove release at the Strand



Brenda Wooden



The Marguerite Gardner Family



Mary & Peggy Ford





586 Cynwood Drive
Easton, MD 21601-3805

410-822-6681

talbothospice.org

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SUMMER SUPPORT GROUPS

Talbot Hospice bereavement and caregiver support groups are open to anyone in the community, regardless of whether or not your loved one is/was served by Talbot Hospice and regardless of your county of residence. All groups are offered **FREE OF CHARGE** and meet at Talbot Hospice, 586 Cynwood Drive, Easton.

For additional information contact Talbot Hospice at 410-822-6681 or info@talbothospice.org.



CAREGIVERS SUPPORT

Every Thursday: 1–2:15 p.m.

This ongoing, weekly support group is for caregivers. Caregivers share ideas and find solutions to the challenging issue of caring for a loved one.

GRIEF SUPPORT

4th Tuesday of the Month:

5–6:30 p.m.

June 26, July 24, August 28

This ongoing, monthly group is for any adult within the community that has experienced the death of a loved one.

CHILD LOSS GROUP

3rd Wednesday of the

Month: 6:30–8 p.m.

June 20, July 18, August 15

For parents who have experienced the death of a child of any age.

SHATTERING THE SILENCE

2nd Wednesday of the month:
6–7:30 p.m.

June 13, July 11, August 8

For anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one due to overdose, addiction or suicide.

PET LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

1st Thursday of the month: 6 p.m.

June 7, July 5, August 2

Talbot Humane Society and Talbot Hospice partner to offer a Pet Loss Support Group for grieving pet owners. Please register in advance by contacting Linda Elzey at lwelzey@gmail.com or call Talbot Humane at 410-822-0107.

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

Counseling is by appointment for individuals and their family members in anticipation of, or following a death.