

# InTouch

## Our Mission

*Honoring every moment of life, Hospice of Larimer County provides specialized, compassionate care for anyone affected by an advanced medical condition and support to those who are grieving.*

## Our Values

*We honor life through:*

*Compassion*

*Respect*

*Integrity*

*Excellence*

*Stewardship*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pathways Groups & Events

Grief & Bereavement Library

Five Wishes

Debbie Boose Memorial Tennis Tournament

Abby's Signature Concert Series; Classical Series

Care Center Expansion

HLC/NAIFA Golf Benefit

## A MESSAGE FROM EVAN HYATT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I am honored to be speaking to you as the new CEO for Hospice of Larimer County (HLC). I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the Staff of HLC for placing their trust and confidence in me to lead this outstanding organization.

I have a five-year history with HLC as the Marketing Manager and most recently as the Development and Marketing Executive. During that time I have had the opportunity to meet many supporters of this organization and work side-by-side with some of you to raise funds and awareness for HLC. I want to thank all of you for your continued support and I hope to meet many more of you in my new role.

HLC is not unlike other organizations in regards to the challenges and opportunities we are facing. Everyday the Staff and Board members of HLC strive to provide the highest quality hospice and bereavement care possible to the community we serve. Our mission serves to guide us as we work towards this goal.

I invite you to take a few moments to read through the following pages and learn about a few of the projects we have implemented recently



to improve our services including the expansion of our in-patient Care Center, the Five Wishes guide, and our community library.

I am looking forward to sharing information and news with you in the coming months. I welcome your feedback and input on how we can best meet the needs of our community. Please feel free to contact me at (970) 663-3500 or [evan.hyatt@hlchospice.org](mailto:evan.hyatt@hlchospice.org) with any comments or questions you may have. Thank you for your continued support.



## 2008 FALL PATHWAYS GROUPS & EVENT DATES

LARIMER COUNTY OFFICE  
305 Carpenter Road, Fort Collins, Colorado

*Please call for Registration and Information: (970) 663-3500*

### **Newly Bereaved Group**

Surviving the early days after loss, for grieving persons in the first months of grief.

Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:00 pm

August 27, September 3, 10

October 15, 22, 29

\*\*\$25.00

### **The Mourning After**

8 week Adult Grief Support Group

Monday evenings, 6:30-8:00 pm

October 7 thru November 24

\*\*\$75.00

### **Writing Through Loss**

No need to have any writing experience, just a willingness to explore grief in words.

Tuesday evenings, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

August 26 thru October 14

\$75.00

### **Following Image**

Express and explore grief through art.

Monday evenings, 6:30-8:30 pm

September 22 thru November 10

\$75.00 plus \$15.00 material fee

### **Family Grief Connection**

Support groups for bereaved families

Parents Grief Connection

Teens Grief Connection

Kids Grief Connection

Thursday evenings, 5:00-6:30 pm

October 2 thru November 2

CALL FOR FEE / REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### **HOPING Drop-In Group**

#### **Helping Other Parents IN Grief**

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group

Every 1st Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 pm

(This group, NO FEE, NO REGISTRATION

REQUIRED)

### **On Our Own**

Ongoing discussion group for people who are adjusting to life after the death of a spouse.

Meets monthly, every 2nd Wed., 6:30 pm

September 22 thru November

\$75.00 plus \$15.00 material fee

(This group, NO FEE, NO REGISTRATION

REQUIRED)

*\*\*Hospice of Larimer County families are exempt from registration fee for \*\*these groups only, but may donate the fee.*

## GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT LIBRARY AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY

Hospice of Larimer County's library is available to anyone in our community who is dealing with the loss of a loved one, caregiver's of those who are ill, professionals, volunteers and our staff. The library is stocked with over 1000 books and other publications focused on all aspects of grieving. Topics include general grief support, as well as specific losses regarding children, spouses, parents

and siblings. Additionally there are more than 200 books specifically for children.

There is no charge for the use of the HLC library. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. New books are added frequently. Suggestions for books to be added and donations are appreciated as we develop the collection. For more information contact us at (970) 663-3500.

## FIVE WISHES

"Five Wishes" is a comprehensive, living will document that gives users a way to express their personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well as their medical wishes. "Five Wishes" lets a person say exactly how they wish to be treated if they get seriously ill and cannot make decisions about their care themselves.

Produced by Aging With Dignity, a private, non-profit organization dedicated to providing practical information, advice and legal tools to ensure persons wishes and those of their loved ones will be respected. It was written with the help of The American Bar Association's Commission on the Legal Problems of the Elderly, and the nation's leading experts in end-of-life care.

"Five Wishes" is unique among all other living will and health agent

forms because it looks to all of a person's needs: medical, personal, emotional and spiritual. "Five Wishes" also encourages discussing your wishes with your family and physician.

"Five Wishes" lets your family and doctors know:

1. Which person you want to make health care decisions for you when you can't make them.
2. The kind of medical treatment you want or don't want.
3. How comfortable you want to be.
4. How you want people to treat you.
5. What you want your loved ones to know.

Hospice of Larimer County continues to provide the "Five Wishes" booklet, free of charge to anyone living within our community. To receive a copy of "Five Wishes", contact us at (970) 663-3500. More information is available at [www.agingwithdignity.org](http://www.agingwithdignity.org)



*Val Hecker and Bonita Hanner  
Women's 4.0 Doubles Winners*



*Ted Ray and Todd Kooi / Men's 4.0 Doubles Finalists*

## DEBBIE BOOSE MEMORIAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The eighth annual Debbie Boose Memorial Tennis Tournament was held June 10-15 at the North Lake Park tennis courts in Loveland. More than 200 players from throughout northern Colorado took part in this year's event. Highlighting the event were exhibition matches by local professionals and wheelchair bound players, an Italian dinner provided by Carino's Italian Grill and unique awards printed from original art work by Loveland artist Dee Clements. This year's Tournament raised more than \$30,000 in memory of our friend, avid tennis player and former Board member. Proceeds from the event support inpatient care at Hospice of Larimer County. Thank you to all who supported this year's event.



*"The Serve"  
the award for the  
2008 Debbie Boose memorial was  
donated by internationally known  
Loveland sculptor, Dee Clements*

---

**LIVING WITH  
UNCERTAINTY**  
**A PATIENT FAMILY STORY  
OF HOSPICE CARE**  
**BY DORA HILDEBRAND**

“Good morning Evelyn, good to see you today,” words that draw Evelyn’s attention away from the television to the smiling face of Michelle, the Hospice counselor. Evelyn’s face lights up and her eyes show a faint hint of recognition.

My mother is a resident at Lemay Avenue Health and Rehab Center in Fort Collins. Almost 98 years old, Evelyn has lived in a long-term care facility under the fog of dementia for seven years. We have lived with uncertainty all these years, always knowing the end is coming, never knowing when.

In January 2008 when I learned Mom was consistently losing weight and that the end was near, I decided to call in Hospice. She was already receiving excellent care, but I had heard about Hospice care from a friend and wanted Mom to enjoy her last days to the fullest. Eight months later, she almost seems to be thriving under the combined care of the nursing home and Hospice.

There’s rarely a time when I visit that I don’t “run into” a Hospice worker. The other day someone was walking towards me wearing a familiar Hospice tag. I asked if she had been visiting Evelyn, and she immediately said, “You must be her daughter.” Walking back to the room with me, the nurse filled me in on her latest observations. “Your Mom is such a joy to work with,” she mentioned, a comment I hear often from the Hospice team

Mom has always loved to participate in the music programs provided at Lemay Avenue. Now, in the privacy of her own room she enjoys music especially for her. I was there when the Hospice music therapist played her guitar and sang songs of long ago. As Mom listened she had a far away look in her eyes that led me to hope she was making connections with another time she had heard the once familiar tunes.

Recently when the Hospice chaplain visited Mom and asked if she would like to pray, she immediately bent her head and placed her hands in the “prayer position” and was able to remember a few words of the Lord’s Prayer. A reminder to me that there is still a remembrance that I sometimes overlook when I look into the eyes of a mother who no longer knows who I am or why I’m there.

Rarely a week goes by without a phone call from one or more members of the Hospice team reporting on how Mom is doing . . . and asking how I’m doing. “I’m doing fine,” has usually been my answer until the most recent family conference at Lemay Avenue when four of the Hospice

team members joined me. As we left the room, I was asked, “How are you doing, Dora?” This time I decided to reveal that I wasn’t doing as well as I would like. The stress of my mother’s care is finally taking its toll on me and I just can’t seem to de-stress. Michelle immediately pulled out her calendar and asked when we could meet. I had ignored an important aspect of Hospice care—the support that is available to the family during this period of transition and grief. During our meeting a few days later, we solved no problems, yet I felt like some of the weight I had been carrying on my shoulders had been lifted a few notches. I vented some frustrations and learned that I’m not alone in my concerns. Michelle assured me that Mom is happy and safe. The bouts of tearfulness she once experienced have diminished. She is always in a good mood when Hospice members visit and she’s a delight to be with. As for me, Michelle recommended ways to de-stress and reminded me that she is always available to support me as I move through the grieving process. Yes, we’ll be meeting again . . . soon.



*Evelyn and Laura Beer, Music Therapist, share a song.*

## ABBY'S SIGNATURE CONCERT SERIES

to benefit Hospice of Larimer County and Respite Care

### Classical Concert

Join us Friday, October 17, at 6:00 p.m., or Sunday, October 19, at 2:00 p.m., for the latest addition to the Abby Signature Concert Series – the Classical Concert. Hosted at the home of Kim and Steve Joyce, the Classical Concert will feature Kim Joyce, Christy French, Mims Harris and Steve Joyce in an hour-long piano concert. This concert adds a special twist to the series as Kim performs solo (two hands), is joined by Mims (four hands), and finally Christy and Steve (eight hands) on two pianos. The Classical Concert promises to be a wonderful evening, or afternoon, in the Joyce's beautiful home. Their living room was designed specifically for home concerts with two Steinway Grand pianos that lend themselves perfectly for this concert. The charm of this concert is the intimate setting, the exception-

al food prepared by Kim, and the uniqueness of the music played by the four pianists.

Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased through Respite Care at (970) 207-9435 or on-line at [www.hlchospice.org](http://www.hlchospice.org)

### Christmas Concert

Christy French, and her special guests, will once again provide us with an hour of music, solitude and reflection for the season on Monday, Dec. 22 at 10:00 a.m. and, in a newly added second concert, at 5:30 p.m. The Christmas Concert will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 401 S. College Avenue, in Fort Collins. No tickets are required for the Christmas Concert; a benefit offering will be taken. A reception will follow each performance.

## HOSPICE OF LARIMER COUNTY EXPANDS ITS IN-PATIENT CARE CENTER

Hospice of Larimer County (HLC) recently completed the expansion of its in-patient Care Center to now include seven patient rooms, and a larger family room. The expansion of the Care Center will allow us to better provide for the ever increasing needs of those in our community who are most acutely ill. The addition of two patient rooms will allow, in most cases, for transfers from hospitals to occur with little or no delay

Located on the third floor of the McKee Medical Center, 2000 N. Boise Avenue, in Loveland, the Care Center provides in-patient level hospice care for our most acutely ill patients. The care provided at the HLC Care Center is very important part of the full spectrum of end-of-life care options needed by our community.

The Care Center is under the direction of Dr. David Allen, Executive Medical Director and Kel Blackwell, Clinical Services Executive for HLC. The facility operates twenty-four hours-a-day, seven days a week and is staffed by a Nurse Practitioner, RNs, Social Workers, CNAs, Chaplains, Grief Counselors and Volunteers who are specially trained in end-of-life care.



## 2008 EVENTS Abby's Signature Concert Series

Thanks to Classical Concert sponsors  
Kim & Steve Joyce, Prue Kaley and Mark Goldrich,

Thanks to Series Sponsors **Carole Egger** and **Fort Collins Sertoma**.

Photography: ©Tim O'Hara Photography, Inc.

 **Hospice**  
OF LARIMER COUNTY  
*Compassionate care for the whole family*



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #403  
Fort Collins, CO

HOSPICE OF LARIMER COUNTY  
305 Carpenter Road | Fort Collins, CO 80525

Telephone: (970) 663-3500  
Facsimile: (970) 663-1180  
www.hlchospice.org

**a community-based non-profit agency**

---

## **NAIFA / HOSPICE OF LARIMER COUNTY GOLF BENEFIT**

The sixth annual NAIFA (National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors) / Hospice of Larimer County Golf Benefit was held Monday, July 28 at Ptarmigan Country Club. This year's title sponsor for the event was All Phase Restoration. One hundred players enjoyed 18 holes of golf and a wonderful lunch. Nearly \$20,000 in proceeds were raised to support programs at Hospice of Larimer County. Thanks to NAIFA and all the sponsors of the event.



Golfers enjoy the NAIFA / Hospice of Larimer County Golf Tournament at Ptarmigan Country Club