

November 2023

# *Rooted Connections*



*14080 Route 31 West*

*Albion, NY 14411*

*(585) 589-0809*

*info@hospiceoforleans.org*

*hospiceoforleans.org*





*Dear Friends and Neighbors,*

*I hope everyone is having a wonderful year! Thank you for your continued support for our organization.*

*November is National Hospice and Palliative Care month. The hospice concept goes back to ancient civilization when people were often cared for in their homes during the final stages of life. Modern hospice evolved in 1967 by Cicely Saunders, a British nurse who believed people should be able to die with dignity and without suffering.*

*In 1978 President Jimmy Carter announced November as National Hospice and Palliative Care month as a time dedicated to raising awareness about hospice care and to recognize our dedicated staff, volunteers, and the community who support us.*

*Considering that, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank each one of our staff and volunteers. Our Team at Hospice of Orleans consists of Doctors, Nurses, Home Health Aides, Social Work, Bereavement, Spiritual, Volunteers and various support roles. Collectively our team provides care for the whole person, body, mind, and spirit. Our goal at Hospice of Orleans is to bring the best healthcare to the homes of the most vulnerable.*

*We invite you to help celebrate these selfless men and women who are hospice caregivers.*

*In this issue, you will read our Fall/Winter Appeal letter featuring two patient families we had the honor and privilege to serve. I encourage you to view their full stories on our website. Proceeds from the Appeal will go toward upgrading the kitchen in our Martin-Linsin Residence and enhancing our dining experience for our patients. As you consider your support for the Appeal, please know that every dollar counts and is directly impacting our patients.*

*Thank you to all of you who have donated to our organization. You are all helping make a positive impact and supporting our patients and the families we serve.*

*Sincerely,*

*Marilyn Blumeter-Milbrand*

*Hospice Administrator of Hospice of Orleans*

# New Faces



## **Meet Bonnie Reigle, our Administrative Assistant!**

Bonnie has lived in this community her entire life. She has been married to her high school sweetheart for 36 years and has three grown children and two grandchildren.

“I love to travel and spend time outdoors, especially in the Adirondacks.”

“End of life is hard on the person passing and the family left behind. What I love about working at Hospice, is that we get to try to make that a little bit easier for the patient and family.”



## **Meet Kelli Birch, our Volunteer Coordinator!**

Kelli is 31 years young and has lived in Orleans County her entire life. She graduated from Holley High School in 2010 and currently resides in Clarendon with her boyfriend of 11 years, their four dogs, and three-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Sawyer.

“I love to travel, shop, watch football (GO BILLS!), read books, and make as many memories as I can with my family”

“Hospice has always been a passion of mine and I feel like what the organization does for the community and the people who live here is so incredibly special.”

# Gratitude Report

Thank you for your recent support of our annual golf tournament and Toast to Hospice event. Together, the fundraisers brought in over \$18,000! All proceeds went toward our patient care services which allows us to provide the best comfort care for our patients.

We recently had our 5th Annual Memory Walk at Holley Falls. We had a large turnout out with over 25 families participating. Even some furry friends joined us! Special thanks to David Schubel who sponsored our healthy snacks and water, Mary Lou Tuohey and the Case-Nic Cookie team who made delicious sneaker cut-out cookies, SNL Sweet Escapes owner Sarah Brigham who provided rice krispie treats, Roberts Farm Market who provided fresh pressed apple cider, The Doggie Shop owner Dee Tchorznicki who provided dog treats, and Jennifer Simpson and the Albion Tim Hortons team who donated coffee for our walkers to enjoy.



## Save the Date!

**Light A Life Ceremony-** December 8th at 5PM  
Hospice of Orleans  
14080 Route 31 West  
Albion, NY 14411

**Blue Christmas-** December 16th at 3PM  
Albion Presbyterian  
29 E State St  
Albion, NY 14411



To RSVP you and your family to either event, please call us at  
585-589-0809



# Donor Spotlight

A huge thank you to Mitchell Family Cremations & Funerals, Inc. who hosted the 10th Annual Car Show to benefit Hospice of Orleans! This year, \$2,665 was raised for Hospice! What amazing generosity in our community! Thank you for helping us make our mission possible.



*Becky Karls and Paula Fuller shown with Julia Alt, Director of Advancement presenting Hospice of Orleans with the check from the fundraiser.*



*Ed Doran, this year's Hospice Choice Winner, who had a beautiful tribute to the firefighters and emergency responders of 9/11.*





*Dear Friends and Neighbors of Hospice,*

*Thank you for your continuous generosity and support for our organization. We strive to provide the best care to those facing a life-limiting illness. Thank you all for making our mission possible. Your support directly impacts the patients and families we serve annually. We wanted to take this opportunity to share two of our patients' journeys.*

*We had the privilege to speak to Renee Meese, daughter of Daniel Schultz. Daniel received hospice care at our Martin-Linsin Residence in August.*

*"Upon arrival, Stacey, a Martin-Linsin nurse, met us. She did my father's intake and she was awesome. She handled my father with a gentleness I had not seen before. I felt like my dad was rescued by Martin-Linsin and everyone there played a part."*

*One of Renee's favorite memories was when her father was asked about his favorite drink. "He managed to whisper Pepsi and wouldn't you know it, not five minutes later we had an ice cold glass of soda in our hands for him which he happily and promptly emptied."*

*We asked Renee what she would say to other families who may be on the fence about choosing hospice care for their loved one. "Don't be afraid of Hospice. I know so many people think it's only really for the few last days of life but it is also for people who are in their last six months of life. It is a warm, loving environment and I only wish that I have been able to have gotten my father there sooner. I have come across many people who have the misconception that hospice hurries the end of life. That is not true. Hospice and especially the Martin-Linsin Residence was able to allow my father to die peacefully without pain and without being afraid. He sensed he was safe and cared for and I felt the same.*

*The Martin-Linsin Residence was not a cold institutional-type place like most hospitals and nursing homes. If you can do one thing for your loved one, bring them to this hospice. You won't regret it. Thank you to all the Martin-Linsin Residence staff for helping to walk my dad home."*



*We also had the opportunity to speak to Marissa Olles, daughter of Meredith Minier. Meredith was a part of our hospice home care program in the Spring. In August, she received hospice care at the Martin-Linsin Residence. Marissa described how her family felt when Meredith first began hospice care at home.*

*"Much of our comfort and peace came from our talks with Jennelle, mom's home nurse. She is a truly kind, gentle, and competent nurse who spoke softly and encouragingly to us about each aspect of Mom's care."*

*Marissa also described how prepared her family felt before Meredith transitioned from care at home to our Martin-Linsin Residence. "That measure of preparedness ensured that when the day came that Mom entered the Hospice residence, I never had to lift a finger to fill out a form, find insurance cards, etc. We could simply spend precious time together."*

*We asked Marissa what she would say to other families who may be in a similar situation with their loved one but aren't sure if hospice is the right next step.*

*"Taking care of a beloved family member or friend is one of the most stressful experiences we face. It's emotionally and physically overwhelming and making the right decisions on behalf of that loved one can be nerve-racking. As hard as it is for the caretaker, the loved one is facing the biggest challenge of all. The decision to accept and fully utilize hospice services is one of the best decisions we made with Mom. I wish everyone could understand how much it benefited our family. We had absolutely no regrets. When you love someone, they deserve the best care you can possibly provide, and hospice was the answer for us."*

*As you carefully consider your Fall/Winter gift, please know that your generosity provides comfort to the patients and families we serve. Without you, we would not have had the opportunity to provide Daniel, Meredith, and their families with a beautiful ending. This season, all proceeds from our Fall/Winter Appeal will go toward upgrading our kitchen in our Martin-Linsin Residence and enhancing our dining experience for our patients. We thank you for your support of Hospice of Orleans.*

Warmest Regards,

*Marilyn Almeter-Milbrand*

Marilyn Almeter-Milbrand, RN, BSN, MSM  
Hospice Administrator

*Julia Alt*

Julia Alt  
Director of Advancement

*You may view both Daniel and Meredith's full stories on our website at [hospiceoforleans.org](http://hospiceoforleans.org)*

## I would love to support the Fall/Winter Appeal!

Please return this form with your check payable to: **Hospice of Orleans**

Please mail to: 14080 Route 31 West, Albion, NY 14411

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory (circle one) of: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to share my loved one's hospice journey. Please contact me by  
phone \_\_\_\_\_ or email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to become a volunteer for Hospice of Orleans. Please contact me by  
phone \_\_\_\_\_ or email \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount:

☐ \$300    ☐ \$250    ☐ \$150    ☐ \$75    ☐ Surprise us! \$ \_\_\_\_\_



If you prefer to donate online, please use the following link:  
<https://hospiceoforleans.org/support-us/give>

# Light A Life

## Ornament Fundraiser

Hospice of Orleans is pleased to invite you to participate in our 2023 Annual Light A Life Fundraiser. Light A Life is a beautiful way to remember someone special during the holiday season.

### Hand-Painted Winter Scene with Personalization \$100

Add a personalized inscription to this year's Winter Scene Ornament.



Front



Back

### Hand-Painted Winter Scene \$50

Local Artist Carol Culhane has designed these beautiful winter holiday ornaments.





## Assorted Porcelain Ornaments \$25

We have an assortment of porcelain ornaments available. We do have a limited quantity so please call ahead to reserve yours today! 585-589-0809



## Assorted Cardinals \$20

We have an assortment of wooden heart-shaped cardinal ornaments with various sayings. We do have a limited quantity so please call ahead to reserve yours today! 585-589-0809



## Bell on Tree \$10

These bells are placed on our Memorial Tree with your loved one's name on the bell. You may pick up your loved one's bell after our Light A Life Ceremony.



# Light A Life Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\$100 Limited Edition Winter Scene Ornament  
(Personalized and hand-painted by Carol Culhane)

\$50 Winter Scene Ornament  
(Hand-painted by Carol Culhane)

\$25 Porcelain Ornament

\$20 Wooden Cardinal Ornament

\$10 Bell on Tree  
(With loved one's name)

**I would like to purchase:**

\_\_\_\_ \$100 Ornament (qty\_\_\_\_) Inscription: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ \$50 Ornament (qty\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_ \$25 Ornament (qty\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_ \$20 Ornament (qty\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_ \$10 Ornament (qty\_\_\_\_)

(Circle One) This ornament is in **Memory** or **Honor** of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my order at the Light A Life Ceremony on December 8th

\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my order on Dec 13th

\_\_\_\_ I will need my order shipped to me for \$10

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_



**Pay with credit card here:**


**<https://hospiceoforleans.org/event-links/light-life>**


If you prefer to pay with cash or check, please stop in and see us Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM. If you prefer to mail your payment, please make checks payable to:


Hospice of Orleans 14080 Route 31 West, Albion, NY 14411

# Hospice Elves Wanted

We are looking for volunteers for the following:

 Santa's Workshop: Volunteer at our pop up shop in our conference center now through December 8th! We will have our assortment of keepsake ornaments available for purchase.

 Holiday Music: Are you a musician? We would love to have you perform during our lunch hour in our Martin-Linsin residence or at our Light A Life Ceremony on December 8th!

 Holiday Interior Decorator: Do you have an eye for detail? We would love your help transforming our offices and Martin-Linsin Residence into a winter wonderland!

Call Kelli Birch, our Volunteer Coordinator, for more information! 585-589-0809

# *Donations & Tribute Gifts*

June 2023 - October 2023

**In Memory of Arthur Peragine**

Sandy Peragine  
Marianne Kepler  
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Discover Real Estate

**In Memory Of Martha Depeters**

Renee Colonna

**In Memory of James E. van Wagner Sr.**

Mark & Linda Wyno

**In Memory of Nancy Blumenstark Mingus**

Leslie Lawrence  
William Vosteen  
Patricia Weber  
Peter McDonald

**In Memory of Robert C. Lusk**

Anne & Bill Downey

**In Memory of Marnie Kozielski**

Karen Morris  
Douglas & Kelly Griffith  
Paul Hardman  
Deborah & Eric Zelnick  
Nancy Bell  
Ricki Shine  
Deanna Cosso

**In Memory of Louise Welch**

Susan Welch Hopper

**In Memory of Daniel M. Schultz**

Lori Brien  
Susan, Colleen, Julie O'Melia

**In Memory of Patricia Thompson**

Maura Pierce

**In Memory of Lowell Davis**

Sara Freeman  
Benjamin Bane  
Mark Bailey & Susan Peters  
Rev. Hendricks

**In Memory of Richard Palone**

Michael Waldo  
Delphine Waldo

**In Memory of Phil Ciarico**

Lisa, Ken, Spencer, & Paige Ireland  
Janice McCloy

**In Memory of Margaret VanNostrand**

Ray Sadler  
Richard Sadler  
Robert Sadler

**In Memory of Diane Krenning**

John Kish

**In Memory of Richard Tower**

Ann Tower



# *Donations & Tribute Gifts*

June 2023 - October 2023

|                    |                             |                  |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Ann Tower          | Francis Gifaldi             | Mora Edwards     |
| Anne Downey        | Gary Colburn                | Nick Adams       |
| Antoinette Pickett | Gary Mannella               | Nicki Fredericks |
| Barbara Passarell  | Harry Ritz                  | Pamela Canham    |
| Betty Kepner       | Ike and Chris Burr          | Patrick Olles    |
| Beverly Saskowski  | Jack Tomasino               | Randall LeBaron  |
| Bonnie Reigle      | Janice McCloy               | Ray Sadler       |
| Brenda Knapp       | Jarred Saj                  | Richard Sadler   |
| Carlo Figliomeni   | Jean Shervin                | Robert Muntz     |
| Carol Irwin        | Jeffrey Johnson             | Roland Howell    |
| Cathy Boon-Sabo    | Jennifer Rogers             | Sandi Pitts      |
| Chelsea Carter     | John and Deborah Batchellor | Sandy McKain     |
| Christine Fancher  | John and Wendy Becker       | Scott Green      |
| Christine Griffin  | John Chrzan                 | Shirley Rosato   |
| Cindy Saj          | John Kish                   | Steve Gifaldi    |
| Claudia Conley     | Jonathan Rosenfeld          | Susan Gifaldi    |
| Craig Herman       | Kathy Babbitt               | Steve Hawley     |
| Daniel Thurber     | Ken and Lisa Ireland        | Susan Howard     |
| David Hilts        | Kevin Kaderli               | Terry Cook       |
| David Reigle       | Kurt Hardenbrook            | Timothy Caldwell |
| David Schofield    | Laurel McNall               | Valerie Riemer   |
| David Schubel      | Lawrence Hughson            | Wayne Barry      |
| Debra Bartel       | Lynn Budziszewski           |                  |
| Diane Hennekey     | Madelyn Warner              |                  |
| Eileen Banker      | Marc O'Hearn                |                  |
| Ellen Pelkey       | Marilyn Almeter-Milbrand    |                  |
| Eric Bison         | Mazelle Binnette            |                  |
| Eric Rubinstein    | Michael Gray                |                  |
| Faith McNeil       | Michael Rich                |                  |
| Francine Spronz    | Mike Jackson                |                  |

*Special thanks to all our anonymous donors this quarter.*

Hospice of Orleans  
*14080 Route 31 West*  
*Albion, NY 14411*

