



Langley Hospice News

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October 2013



Langley Hospice Society, a community-based, non-profit organization, provides compassionate support to help people live with dignity and hope while coping with grief and the end of life.



Langley Hospice Society Celebrates 30 Years of Compassionate Support

On September 26, 2013, Langley Hospice celebrated its 30th anniversary of providing compassionate support and comfort to residents of Langley and Aldergrove with its first Garden Party. In attendance were several of our original founding and long-term supporters, including Jeannine McCarthy and Dorscie Paterson. Kathy Derksen, long-time president with the Society Board addressed attendees on behalf of our two Boards of Directors, the Langley Hospice Society and the Langley Hospice Foundation:

“As a volunteer with Hospice for over 20 years, I have watched us grow from a half-time staff person with a handful of volunteers working out of a 12’ x 12’ trailer, to a staff of 10 employees with over 175 volunteers working from this lovely Hospice Supportive Care Centre, and I have seen a huge expansion in the hospice programs & services we offer.

“Some 12 years ago or more, we successfully advocated for the establishment of a ten-bed “interim hospice” on the hospital grounds and continue to work in partnership with the palliative care professionals to provide the residence with ongoing volunteer support services. Ten years ago we were the third charitable organization in Langley to set up a Thrift Store, and our Second Story Treasures in Walnut Grove, has come to be known as “the destination thrift store” in Langley.

“We are so incredibly proud all our achievements to date, as we continue to reach more people and advance our mission to provide compassionate care and support to help people live with dignity and hope while coping with grief and the end of life.



Kathy Derksen, Dr. Maureen Adamson and Shannon Todd Booth, staff member, attend the Garden Party

“In addition to palliative care and support, our hospice programs include much-needed individual and group grief support programs for children, teens, adults and

families; as well as education; advocacy, volunteer training, a resource library, a summer camp for grieving children and teens; and grief support services to our Langley schools. All of our services are provided free of charge to everyone.”



Shivani Kaushik, staff member, with a tray of gourmet delights

The Garden Party saw story boards lining the veranda as guests entered, as staff tried to capture a glimpse of some of the programs and services offered by Langley Hospice. “These programs and the individuals and families they impact, speak to the importance of access to quality palliative care and bereavement support, for the people of our community. We hope you know how important your support is, to the Hospice Society. It is with your assistance that we can continue to deliver important programs and services to the community. One of our goals over the next few years is to work closely with the various stakeholders in our community in advocating for the replacement of our ‘interim hospice facility’ on the hospital grounds with a much-needed new building so that the Langley communities are provided with even better palliative care services.”

Executive Director, Sandra Castle was recognized for her guidance, hard work and dedication to our ongoing Hospice mission over the past nine years. Thanks also went to Dr. Maureen Adamson and her incredible palliative care team for all the caring work they do at the hospice residence, and to our main funders, the BC Provincial Government, United Way, our thrift store patrons, donors and the amazing contributions of our volunteers, staff and community supporters, who have helped ensure the provision of quality palliative care and support to our community for more than 30 years.

In closing, Kathy thanked attendees, including Langley Mayors, Ted Schaeffer from the City, and Jack Froese from the Township, city councillor, Rosemary Wallace, and town councillor, Bob Long, along with the many others who came out to celebrate with us. A special mention also went to the staff, volunteers, sponsors and donors who worked so hard together in making our 30 Year Celebration event possible.

Happenings...

Our Langley Hospice Society staff and volunteers have been busy with some new projects this Fall.

The first of these was *The West Fine Art Show – Remembering Betty*, a 3-day event organized by long time Langley resident and well-known artist, Murray Phillips, and hosted on the grounds of Indian Springs Land and Cattle Company Ranch in South Surrey. This year, the West Fine Art Show saw 25% of art sales support the Langley Hospice Society in memory and in honor of Murray's wife, Betty, who lost her battle with cancer in



Murray Phillips, one of the founders of The West Fine Art Show



Artist Brian Croft and Red Robinson at The West Fine Art Show

June of this year. Thanks to all of our volunteers, the show organizers, and the generous donations from supporters and participating artists, to date almost \$15,000.00 has been raised in memory of Betty Phillips. The show was a fabulous opportunity to inform the public about who we are and what we do, and engage with them in a new type of activity, and we are absolutely thrilled that Murray Phillips and Brian Croft have approached the Langley Hospice Society to be the

charitable partner of their 2014 West Fine Art Show – stay tuned for more details.

This was followed closely by our **Langley Hospice Anniversary Garden Party Event** on September 26th at which community members, corporate sponsors, supporters and local dignitaries come out to help us celebrate 30 years of C o m p a s s i o n a t e



Michele Coleman, Sydney MacPherson, Jeannine McCarthy, Lois McLeay and Bonnie Greenlee at the Garden Party

Support! The weather was perfect, and saw guests touring the grounds of our Supportive Programs Centre and viewing staff displays about the many programs and services we offer free of charge to the community. Attendees enjoyed the entertainment provided by the Langley Community Music School faculty and students; wine by Kalala Organic Estate Winery and passed canapés by Chef Sean Bone; as well as a community supported silent auction. A huge

thank you to all of our fabulous volunteers who helped make the evening a grand success, and to our event sponsors: The Langley Advance, Carrick Consulting, Kalala Organic Estate Winery, University Printers and the Langley Community Music School, as well as the many silent auction donors from the community. We look forward to the Garden Party becoming an annual event for Langley Hospice—stay tuned for an upcoming date in August, 2014!



Thanks to Sue and Wendy for their cheerful service!

Shannon Todd Booth
Communications & Funds Development Coordinator

Farewell...



It is with great sadness that we note the passing of longtime Langley Hospice Foundation Board member, **Roberta Frankforth**. We would like to offer sincere condolences to Roberta's family. Roberta volunteered with hospice for almost 17 years, serving as President for the last two. Kathy Derksen, Society Board President commented, "We are all shaken by her untimely loss. We are so very grateful for having known and worked with Roberta, and for her long volunteer commitment to Langley Hospice".



Mark Your Calendar...

November 25 is fast approaching! and so is **Willowbrook Shopping Centre's Red Hot Charity Shopping Event** from 6:30pm to 10:00pm on the 25th! This fabulous exclusive, ticketed shopping event allows attendees to beat holiday shopping crowds, take advantage of exclusive savings, and help local charitable organizations at the same time. Featuring in-store exclusive discounts up to 75% off, thousands in prizes, live entertainment, personal consultations with Stylist Giovanni Amenta, and more!



\$10 tickets available at the Langley Hospice Society's Supportive Programs Centre; Second Story Treasures Thrift Store, Willowbrook's Customer Service Centre OR online at: www.shopwillowbrook.com. Please note: 100% of ticket proceeds to benefit local charities.



Journey Through the Holidays Memorial Service

Langley Hospice Society is offering a celebration of life in the memory of your loved one.

December 12, 2013

7:00pm – 8:30pm

(Registration opens at 6:45pm)
20660 – 48th Avenue, Langley

The holiday season can be a challenging time for any of us who have lost a loved one. At Langley Hospice Society, we offer a warm evening of commemoration, candle lighting and friendship. As part of our celebration, we will share a slide show, and you are invited to provide pictures of your loved one, which can be dropped off or emailed to shivanikaushik@langleyhospice.com or to info@langleyhospice.com (Subject: Journey through the Holidays). **The photos will be returned to you** and a CD copy of the presentation will be available at no cost. Please note the last date to drop-off/email pictures is **December 6th, 2013**.

For more information or to register please contact Shivani at **604-530-1115** **Due to limited seating, you must RSVP by December 6, 2013 – please let us know if you would like to bring additional guests as well.**

Help Wanted!

Celebrate a Life

Every year, Celebrate-A-Life creates an opportunity for people to honour the memory of a loved one who has died by writing their name on an ornament and placing it on one of our Christmas trees in the mall and writing in the Memory Book.

We are looking for **volunteers** who are willing to “lend an ear” and help out this year:

- ◆ **November 30 to December 14, 2013**
- ◆ **Willowbrook Mall**
19705 Fraser Highway, Langley
- ◆ Shifts available:
Mondays – Saturdays: 9:15am - 1:15pm;
1:15pm - 5:15pm; and 5:15pm - 9:15pm
Sundays: 10am - 2pm; 2pm - 6pm

Contact Denise at (604) 530-1115
or at denisestation@langleyhospice.com.

We Need To Talk



Ah, grief, I should not treat you
like a homeless dog
who comes to the back door
for a crust, for a meatless bone.
I should trust you.
I should coax you
into the house and give you
your own corner,
a worn mat to lie on,
your own water dish.

You think I don't know you've been living
under my porch.

You long for your real place to be readied
before winter comes. You need
your name,
your collar and tag. You need
the right to warn off intruders,
to consider my house your own
and me your person
and yourself
my own dog.



-- Denise Levertov

The word “grief” often invokes an image of sadness or despair. However, what it fails to acknowledge is the vast array of emotions included within the grieving spectrum. Grief is a certain companion and fickle friend; it is inescapable throughout the course of a life, and is therefore something every human has or will experience before they breathe their final breath. However, the ways in which each person experiences grief and the potential subsequent healing process can vary as vastly as the event that triggered it. As a result, it is imperative that people seek *healing* rather than answers on their grief journey; nevertheless, *sharing stories of grief and healing can ultimately help to normalize the experience for those undergoing it.*

Individual and group bereavement sessions, available at Langley Hospice Society, aim to alleviate and normalize the grieving process for individuals who are currently undergoing or struggling with a loss. In this setting, individuals are encouraged to explore practical suggestions and to consider creative and alternative methods as an outlet for grief and pathway to healing. The information distributed by these supportive services assist in promoting mental and physical health, and above all, healing from the devastation of a loss.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from individual (in office or community) or group bereavement sessions, please call Shivani at (604) 530-1115.

Shivani Kaushik, MSW, RSW
Adult Bereavement Coordinator

5th Annual Camp Chrysalis Children's Grief Camp August 22 – 25, 2013

This year's Camp Chrysalis was held from August 22 – August 25. A lot of work and preparation for camp happens behind the scenes, weeks even months before. Some of last year's volunteers returned and have been invaluable to the Children's Program, volunteering throughout the year in children's support groups and day camps. We also recruited a couple of new volunteers from Kwantlen University's nursing program and Douglas College's child and youth programs.



Last year at camp I met a fantastic group of teen girls who had been coming to Camp Chrysalis for a number of years. They are lots of fun and have great camp spirit. This year, with training provided by myself and Wendy Sashikata, my right-hand person in the Children's Program, they became activity

leaders at camp and with direction, helped choose and lead fun activities for the children at camp. The girls were valuable members of our Camp Team.

This year Camp Chrysalis received a generous donation of food to feed our campers from **Buy Low Foods** stores at Walnut Grove and Brookwood. I would like to say a big thank you to store managers, Jason Kalvik and Kirk Flynn, for supporting the camp. We would also like to send thanks out to the **Fraser Valley Orchid Society** for their generous support of this program.

Twenty-six children attended camp this summer supported by 10 volunteers and one fantastic cook, Jaclyn Carmichael, who has been assisting at camp for a number of years and takes very good care of us. Jaclyn's food is the best and loved by all the children and volunteers - the



children are still talking about her food a few months later! A special thanks to both Jaclyn and Dominic Fricker from the kitchen who also do much more at Camp and mean so much to the children.



Camp is an amazing experience from the caring and bonding that takes place to the outright fun and silly moments that will never be forgotten - so many moments of support and pure joy. Activities ranged from soak-filled afternoons of water play to scavenger hunts, the all-time favorite capture the flag, and - no one will forget - our piñatas. This year we had some visitors who came to camp and did beautiful henna tattoos for us; thank you to Neesha and friends. Again this year our main event was the Thursday night fair filled with activities and cool prizes. Weddings seem to be a theme at camp and at this year's Worst Dressed Competition, two of our volunteers walked down the wedding aisle with bouquets and rings made by our little girls.



One of the highlights for me took place on our first night in the little girl's cabin, when they got to put makeup and nail polish on our male volunteers. The hysteria and excitement was truly infectious. Our Camp winds down on Saturday night with a

lantern ceremony led by our teen girls. The ceremony provides the children an opportunity to honour their person who has died in their own way. It was a very powerful, moving experience that has become an important part of the camp's traditions.

Eleven volunteers, with the help of our seven teen girl activity leaders, contributed over 1,200 hours at Camp Chrysalis! I would like to thank Wendy for co-coordinating camp with me and a heartfelt thanks to all the returning volunteers April, Konnor, Aaron, Joleen and Dominic - your support and commitment to the children means so much. A special thank you to our teen activity leaders, Alexis, Rachel, Makayla, Rihanna, Cassidy, Kianna and Chloe. Thank you to the new volunteers Karla, Ellyn, Jessi and Gio. Tracy, Neesha and friends - thank you for the fun activities you brought to camp when you came to visit. A big thank you to Jaclyn, our fantastic cook and a special thank you to the cleanup crew: Thornton, Barb, Wendy, Janice, Sheryl, Carmen, Henny and Dianne. Thank you to everyone at Hospice for all your support!

Linda Sheridan
Child/Teen Bereavement Coordinator#

**April–September, 2013
Donations Made in Memory of:**

Joan Agnew	Alvin Israelson	Barbara Nelson
James Andrew	Kris Kristinsson	David Paterson
Joan Barton	Paul Kucera	Ruth Patterson
Alfreida Bedard	Rainer Laburda	Betty Phillips
Lance Bracken	Chuck LeBlanc	Aileen Rankin
Tony Catonio	Ron May	Edith Ratzlaff
Judith Cayer	Maureen McCargar	Walter Rennie
Ian McKay Coyle	Dorothy McIntyre	Paul Samec
Della Crawford	John McIntyre	Tom Scotcher
George Crosson	Faye McLeod	Alexander Scott
Jack Daum	Helen Meadows	Debi Stone
Stanley Enge	Elisabeth Meers	Klaas Stuive
Roberta Frankforth	Gerald Melnychuk	Robert Tatarniuk
Muriel Freeborn	Rudy Miller	Ralph "Mickey" Trapp
Hazel Sibson	Agatha Moeller	Joyce Urbaniak
Clara Grant	Elsie Morley	Richard Welch
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Hugh Holmes	Allan Hugh Murray	Gloria Young

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*Additional terms and conditions apply.

HENDERSON'S LANGLEY FUNERAL HOME
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