



Langley Hospice News

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March 2007



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 Residence ... Celebrated the New Year with Love, Marriage and Hope

On January 3, 2007 a very special event occurred at the Langley Hospice Residence. Family and friends joined **Wendell Peterson** and his long time partner, **Kathleen Chaban**, in a small but moving marriage ceremony performed by Reverent John Dyck. This is a first for the comfortable, home-like Hospice Residence and was truly a magical moment, bringing hope to the bride and groom. What was most noticeable was the joy in the groom's eyes as he pledged his love to his new wife. Hospice staff and volunteers joined the short, joyous celebration which followed the ceremony, with the after effects lasting long into the evening. It was indeed a bright occasion which buoyed the spirits of the other hospice patients, as the news of the wedding



spread throughout the facility. Everyone wished the bride and groom a happy life together.

The 10-bed Langley Hospice Residence, operated by Fraser Health and supported by the Langley Hospice Society, has been open for 18 months and patients and families have certainly appreciated having a peaceful, home-like environment to spend their last days with dignity and comfort. "Every effort is made to ensure the comfort of the patient and their families, including a kitchenette, family room dining area and sofa beds for loved ones to stay overnight", says Sandra Castle, Executive Director, Langley Hospice Society.

Mr. Peterson died peacefully on January 20, 2007 with his beloved wife, Kathy, at his side. Our sympathies go out to his family.

In Loving Memory of Derek Alder

November 15, 1942 – April 4, 2006

The Vancouver International Marathon will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2007 and one of the participants, Colin Alder, will be traveling all the way from England to participate in this challenging 26.2 mile race. Colin will be running in memory of his brother, Derek Alder, a much loved and respected Langley resident, who passed away from cancer on April 4, 2006. The day of the marathon is very significant because May 6, 2007 would have been the 40th wedding anniversary of Derek and his wife Florence.

Derek spent the last month of his life under the compassionate care of the Langley Hospice Palliative Care team. Since then, Florence has received much needed and ongoing support from the Langley Hospice Society. Florence and her brother-in-law have made a commitment to raise funds to support the Langley Hospice programs and services.



If you would like to make a pledge to support Colin in honoring the memory of his brother, donations may be made to the Langley Hospice Society by telephone, fax or mail. (see contact information in the newsletter). If you would like to contact Colin for more information or to wish him well, he may be reached at colin@mobilepromotions.com. Official tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10 or more.

Happenings...

All walkers and runners, young and old, are invited to join in the 7th Annual Journey Walk/Run for Remembrance

For the last six years, Langley Hospice has hosted the Journey Walk/Run for Remembrance as both an opportunity to honor and celebrate the memories of loved ones and as a fundraiser.

The Langley Hospice **7th Annual Journey Walk/Run for Remembrance** will be held on **May 6th, 2007 at the George Preston Recreation Centre, 20699 - 42 Avenue.** With the



heartfelt support of all our generous donors last year, we raised over \$15,000.00 to support Langley Hospice. By raising pledges, forming teams and coming out the day of the **Journey Walk/Run** you are an integral part of Hospice and our community.

We are offering a silent auction, door prizes will be drawn and Langley Hospice Spirit Awards will be presented to individuals and teams raising the most pledges. Participants will have the opportunity to wear a memorial armband and/or sign our memory book.

With your continued support we hope to raise over \$22,000.00 this year. The programs and services we provide to our community have been made possible by your generosity and commitment. Check out our webpage at www.langleyhospice.com for pledge forms. Thank you for your support!

FAREWELLS & NEW FACES

We at the Hospice Society office bid a fond farewell to **Mary MacDonald**, Bereavement Coordinator. Mary left the office in December to spend more time with her family and garden ~ but don't worry, she'll be back - volunteering with us later in the year. We miss you, Mary!

Dawn Stewart Holt started December 11 in the newly created position of Clinical Counsellor. Dawn brings two years experience as a counsellor and is an award-winning scholar from SFU. She came to us first as a volunteer in the children's support groups and is very happy to now be a staff member. Dawn will work with hospice clients and families, collaborate with

Fraser Health Hospice/Palliative Social Workers and will also work with clients from the community. In

addition to being an experienced counsellor, Dawn also brings a special partner to her work

with us: Mac the Therapy Dog. Mac is a provincially registered Therapy Dog and is the only one of his kind working in a B.C. community agency. Mac is also very happy to bring his skills and commitment to Langley Hospice Society.



EMPOWERING YOU ON YOUR CANCER JOURNEY

Almost a year ago, sudden alarming symptoms made me hurry to see my family doctor. I immediately suspected that something was seriously wrong, and therefore, a month later when a special test revealed colon cancer, this verdict did not surprise me. What was surprising to me was how calmly I took the news, not only at the moment of being confronted with it, but also in all the following days, weeks and months.

In the meantime, I have come to believe that I owe this calmness in large part to being a hospice volunteer for the past fifteen years. This continuously rewarding work and experience has helped me deal peacefully with the thought of my own death, long before I was confronted with the cancer diagnosis ... and I am ever grateful for it.

Having immediately decided to take an active role in my treatment and to do the best I could to help my body heal, I embarked on a journey that has, so far, helped me feel great and empowered. The valuable information I learned along the way could be of tremendous help to others facing or fearing a cancer diagnosis, so I'm sharing the knowledge gained in a free information session:

Empowering You on Your Cancer Journey
Murrayville Library
(Corner of 221 Street & 48 Avenue)
Thursday, March 29, 2007 ~ 7:00 p.m.

This information session is comprised of a 45-minute presentation and a followup question and answer period. The session includes a brief introduction about the speaker and her cancer journey; accelerating the diagnosis and treatment process in our public healthcare system; taking control of your cancer journey; gathering the best possible information for decision making; non-profit organizations helping and

(continued on page 3)

empowering you in your journey; setting the stage for accurate monitoring of your health and early detection of possible problems; and non-invasive ways to support your well-being and healing. Audience members will be provided with handouts detailing the most valuable resources. Since seating for this free program is limited, it is advisable to phone the library at **604-533-0339** for seat reservations.

Dorothea Kline

SAFEWAY “WE CARE” CAMPAIGN

A big thank you to Aldergrove Safeway for adopting Langley Hospice Society as its charity for the 2006/ 2007 Safeway We Care Campaign! This campaign runs from December, 2006 to June, 2007, and during this time Safeway supports us by collecting donations at checkstands as well as sponsoring events through-out the year. We have participated in “Charity Checkout Day” and “Miles Bring Smiles”, and, as of February 2007, Aldergrove Safeway has raised \$1,053.15 for Langley Hospice! This amount will increase with our next event on March 10th—“The Power of \$3.00” - in which Safeway coupon books are sold with all proceeds going directly to Langley Hospice.

If you happen to live in Aldergrove or find yourself in that area, the staff at Aldergrove Safeway welcome you to shop at their store. They are located at 27566 Fraser Highway.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS

This is a new section in our quarterly newsletter in which we would like to welcome new volunteers to our organization. A heartfelt welcome to the following volunteers who have been with Langley Hospice since January:

Client	Second Story Treasures
Katie Atchison	Emma Alder
Ogi Elliott	Jayne Burton
Eileen Findlay	Deborah Groom
Loretta Gibbs	Barb Jackman
Pamela Hensel	Matthew Lee
Crystal Mantie	Mary Probert
Dianne Smart	Lionel Saidford
Susan Vandergoot	Arnold Tsai
	Kay Turner
Office	
Linda Ewasiuk	Dianne Jones
Linda Mizera	

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

The week of April 15th – 21st is **National Volunteer Week**, which presents us with the perfect opportunity to show our appreciation to our wonderful volunteers! Mark the evening of **April 19th** on your calendars as the night to attend a dinner in which we (the grateful staff at Langley Hospice) will wait on you, hand & foot! **Because you serve the community all year long, it's now our turn to serve you!** Watch for your invitations in the mail for further details!



BINGO

Many thanks to the volunteers who staffed the Hospice booth at the Bingo Palace in February. Your participation in this event enables us to maintain our yearly BC Gaming funding, which is a vital source of revenue for Langley Hospice, so.... great job, and thanks very much for assisting with this very important fundraiser!

Heartfelt Thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers for their continued commitment and support. We couldn't do it without you!

BC HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE ASSOCIATION ~ 2007 CONFERENCE
BOLD STEPS: EXPANDING THE CIRCLE

May 25 - 27 ~ Sheraton Guildford Hotel - Surrey, BC

The 2007 Conference will feature seminars, keynote speakers and information on how together we can take Bold Steps to continue making a difference for those who are dying and bereaved in our programs, communities, country and beyond. This conference is open to everyone who is involved in hospice palliative care. For more information please access their website at www.bchpca.com. **If you are interested in attending this workshop bursaries are available. Please contact Fernande at 604-530-1115.**

Volunteer Hours

October 1, 2006 — February 28, 2007

♥ Client Volunteers	1,026 hours
♥ Store Volunteers	4,565 hours
♥ Office, Events, Board Newsletter & Other	1,532 hours

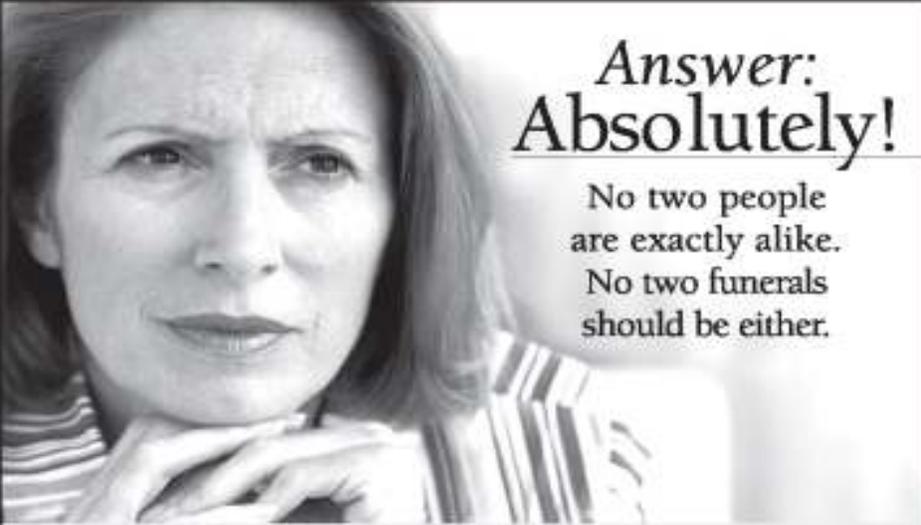
Thanks to all of you for your generous commitment to Langley Hospice!

**December 2006—February 2007
Donations Made in Memory of:**

<i>Jeffrey Wayne Bakker</i>	<i>Alexander "Joe" Fuller</i>	<i>Edgar Rasmussen</i>
<i>Charlene Beaulieu</i>	<i>Mr. Gibb</i>	<i>Howard Rowe</i>
<i>Marvin Brubacher</i>	<i>Daniel Hext</i>	<i>Anthony Scott</i>
<i>Katherine Carpenter</i>	<i>Delbert Johnson</i>	<i>Robert Edward Smith</i>
<i>Alfred Davies</i>	<i>Lacona Jorsvik</i>	<i>Ronald Standing</i>
<i>Doris Davy</i>	<i>Vreneli Kahn</i>	<i>Florence Swanson</i>
<i>Richard Donaldson</i>	<i>Judy Lake</i>	<i>Leona Tate</i>
<i>Alice Dunbrack</i>	<i>Stanley MacDonald</i>	<i>Garth Tubman</i>
<i>Herbert Eldstrom</i>	<i>Ken Macleay</i>	<i>Thomas Vickery</i>
<i>Cassie Ellens</i>	<i>Leonard E. Marrington</i>	<i>Patricia Woods</i>
<i>Phyllis Fearn</i>	<i>John George Palmer</i>	

Henderson's Langley Funeral Homes (annual newsletter sponsor)

Question:
Can I personalize a funeral?



Answer:
Absolutely!

No two people are exactly alike.
No two funerals should be either.

Call 604.530.6488
to receive your **FREE** copy of "How to arrange an affordable funeral"

HENDERSON'S LANGLEY
Funeral Homes
Langley
www.hendersonslangleyfunerals.com

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