

# Connections

Fall 2016



**Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights.**

**~Pauline R. Kezer**

Over the past year, Glacial Ridge Homecare and Hospice has experienced many changes. In November, we moved across the street to our current location. Our staff and volunteers have also changed over the last year. In April, I accepted the position as manager of Homecare and Hospice. October will mark my 20<sup>th</sup> year at GRHS, starting as a home health aide, LPN, and now RN. I am very proud of the work we do at GRHS and the great team I work with.

We will continue to focus on customer satisfaction and providing excellent care to our clients in their own home as our top priority. We appreciate all

the feedback we receive through surveys, calls, and patient testimonials. These are valuable tools used to evaluate processes as we continually look for ways to improve our services. Client comments like, "They did a great job," and "excellent service," remind the staff of the very rewarding and valuable work they do every day.

We believe change is an opportunity to improve and expand our services but our commitment to provide comprehensive and compassionate care will always remain the same. - *Tina Blair*

## Ride Committee Members Set to Retire



Pictured L to R: Rollie Wold, Gary Wold, and Paul Soppeland. Not pictured: Mike Tamte

This year marked the 20th anniversary of the Hospice Motorcycle Ride in Pope County. Unfortunately, it also marks the retirement of our dedicated Ride Committee members Mike Tamte, Paul Soppeland, Rollie Wold and

Gary Wold. These men now look to pass this rewarding work on to a new generation of volunteers. Their dedication to hospice care, and willingness to seek out donations, promote, and organize the ride year after year have made it a wonderful community tradition that serves so many families in need.

The ride raised \$37,609, and hosted 218 riders on 147 motorcycles and 17 classic cars. We hope we can continue this fundraising tradition for our program. If you would like information about supporting a new ride committee team, please contact our office at 320.634.2221.

Thank you to these hardworking men, their families, and the generous support of local businesses, riders, and volunteers throughout the years!

## Volunteer Corner

Winston Churchill said, "You make a living by what you get, you make a life by what you give."



Nellie Anderson and Joanne Rost were two such women who lived sacrificial lives providing comfort and care to hospice families. While a new statistic estimates the average length of time someone volunteers for hospice is two years, these two women combined for nearly 60 years of service dating back to the very beginning of hospice care in Pope County in the mid 1980's!

Our hospice family was deeply saddened by the loss of these special volunteers. Nellie died this past March and just one month later, Joanne passed away. Their absence has left a profound hole in our team and in our hearts. My job as volunteer coordinator was made easier by these two inspired mentors and supportive team members whose response to my request for help was most often "Sure, I think I can do that", or simply, "What time should I be there?"

We are deeply grateful for Nellie and Joanne's years of service and devotion to our program. They inspire us to continue serving our patients with excellence as we honor the legacy they leave.

## New Volunteers

As we say good bye to our beloved friends, Nellie and Joanne, we are pleased to welcome several new members to our team, who recently completed their training to become hospice volunteers. Pictured below are: Rosie Hedner, Roseanne Olsen, Margaret Pederson and Amory Anderson. Each of these women come with a heart to serve others, and a rich background of life experiences that will benefit and support our hospice families. We are thrilled and honored to have them join our team!

**Welcome to the team, ladies!**



Pictured L to R: Rosie Hedner, Rosanne Olsen, and Margaret Pederson.



Amory Anderson



## Hospice Volunteers

Jan Braaten  
Annette Olsen-  
Watkin  
Nikki LaSota  
Donna Ortendahl

Wendy Peterson  
Cindy Senf  
Paul Soppeland  
Mike Tamte  
Helen Bjorge

Margaret Pederson  
Rosie Hedner  
Rosanne Olsen  
Amory Anderson

## Staff Spotlight



**Billy Killacky**  
Home Health Aide

My name is Billy and I'm 28 years old. I grew up in Starbuck and still live there. I love working for Glacial Ridge Homecare and Hospice because I get to provide care in the privacy of our client's homes so they can be at

home longer. It can't get much better than that! Caring for elderly clients, or any age category, has always been a passion of mine. I feel a sense of reward at the end of the day knowing I'm taking care of someone's loved one in need. That is a great feeling and an honor and privilege. I look forward to serving many more in the future, and making them feel comfortable in their own homes.



**Trisha Christensen**  
Home Health Aide

My husband and I have lived in Villard for the past 16 years. We have been married for 18 years and have two daughters Shauna, 19 and Hanna, 15. I enjoy gardening and fishing. I started working at GRHS two years ago as

a nursing assistant, and began working for Homecare in May 2016. I love taking care of clients in their home. I am glad to be a part of the GRHS team.

## In Loving Memory

We dedicate this newsletter to the Hospice patients who have died over the past six months. Our loving thoughts and prayers continue to be with their families.

Nellie Anderson	3/31/2016
Julian Ogdal	4/2/2016
Marie Vandyke	4/2/2016
Rebecca Krei	4/5/2016
Milton Conklin	4/7/2016
Stanley Eke	4/19/2016
Kurtis Stern	4/22/2016
Audrey Nelson	5/4/2016
Carol Boe	5/11/2016
Helen Dean	6/4/2016
Werner Fuchs	6/5/2016
Eleanor Kirkwold	6/9/2016
Melbourne Lea	6/18/2016
Linda Kaner	6/19/2016
David Bingham	6/28/2016
Allan Halls	7/6/2016
Florian Finkelson	7/18/2016
Kathleen Lagred	7/19/2016
Ardelle Muzik	7/27/2016
Sandra Baker	8/2/2016
Omar Christianson	8/4/2016
Nancy Zimmerman	8/6/2016

Glacial Ridge Hospice has received their families' permission to print these names.

## 6 Week Bereavement Care Group - Begins Thursday, October 13

Join us on Thursday, October 13th for our fall bereavement care group. The Bereavement Care Group provides a safe, informal small group setting for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. Each week, we introduce topics that address common concerns and stressors associated with the grieving process. Our goal is to provide a comfortable place where you can receive emotional support and education with others who can relate to your loss. The group meets for six consecutive Thursdays.



**Thursday, October 13th – Thursday, November 17th**

**Glenwood Retirement Village**

**719 Second St SE, Glenwood MN 56334**

**2:30 – 4:00 PM**

To register, please contact at Hoplin-Hitchcock Funeral Home, 320.634.4466 or Diane at Glacial Ridge Hospice, 320.634.2221. Our group will be held at the end of Ruby Ridge station in the activity room. Enter on north side of building or the receptionist will provide directions from main entrance.

## 2016 FLU SEASON

Prevent putting your life on hold. Getting an influenza (flu) vaccine is easy and it is the most important step in protecting yourself and your loved ones from the flu each season.

Flu vaccines from Glacial Ridge Health System are quadrivalent vaccines. This means you are protected against 4 flu viruses. Insurance will be billed.

“Walk-in Flu Vaccine Clinic” dates at Glenwood Medical Center:

Friday, October 7	8:30am - 4pm
Wednesday, October 12	8:30am - 4pm
Wednesday, October 19	8:30am - 6pm
Thursday, October 27	8:30am - 4pm

Brooten Medical Center, starting October 7:  
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4pm

## Our Homecare and Hospice Staff

Tina Blair, RN  
Julene Peterson, RN  
Jocelyn Smith, RN  
Kayla Sanstead, RN  
Jessica Schoen, RN  
Sarah Shelton, RN  
Marji Aaberg, HHA

Lori Armstrong, HHA  
Sandy Cooley, HHA  
Trisha Christensen HHA  
Helen Elvehjem, HHA  
Billy Killacky HHA  
Marilynn Lysen, HHA  
Taylor Stoos, HHA  
Diane Middendorf, LSW

Tammy Kluver, Office  
Alison Schmidt, Billing  
Teresa Ross,  
Clerical Support  
LaNita Mortenson, PT  
Michael Vig, PT  
Stephanie Sabol, PT  
Craig Curry, PT

Amy Barfknecht, PTA  
Kacia Kollman, PTA  
Tammy Vig, OT  
Brianna Hillestad, OT  
Mindy Zimmerman, OT  
Patty Skiba, COTA  
Lowell Hoekstra, ST

Dr. Thomas Haus (Homecare Medical Director) | Dr. Jeffrey Schlueter (Hospice Medical Director)

*Join us in the celebration of life!*



**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**7:00 PM | Ridgewood Villa**

The program includes performances by local talent.

The candlelight vigil will be followed by the lighting of the "Tree of Life."

Refreshments will be served.

All funds raised help significantly to provide services for our hospice patients and their families.

Thank you for your support. We hope you can join us.

IN MEMORY OF / IN HONOR OF:

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

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

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

GIVEN BY:

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

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION AMOUNT: (Please circle one.)

\$5    \$10    \$15    \$20    \$\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for sponsoring the "Tree of Life" with your donation in memory of a loved one or in the honor of someone still living. Please send this completed form along with your donation for each person honored or memorialized at The Tree of Life to: Glacial Ridge Hospice, 10 Fourth Avenue SE, Glenwood, MN 56334. Thank you.