This year we’re shaking things up a little for our annual Christmas get-together. Some sites will be doing “Cookies with Care” (as usual) while others will be stuffing handmade butterflies, note pads, pens, etc., into decorated gift bags for patient gifts. Each celebration will have a meal for volunteers to enjoy as they work. So all you little Elves mark your calendars for the following events taking place in December in your area! If you can’t attend one event, then go to the one in the next office or county. It’s all good!

December 4, 2017, Elkin/Jonesville/Wilkes/Alleghany area Volunteers
11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
Location TBA
Cookies with Care and Lunch—Menu TBA
Bring 2-3 dozen baked cookies

December 5, 2017, Yadkin County/Iredell/Davie area and SECU Hospice Care Center Volunteers
11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
At the Yadkinville United Methodist Church, Yadkinville—Cookies with Care and Lunch—Menu TBA
Bring 2-3 dozen baked cookies

December 6, 2017, Hillsville/Galax/Fancy Gap/Independence/Cana and area Volunteers
11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
At the Hillsville, VA, Office—Stuff Gift Bags for Patients—Menu TBA
No need to bring any cookies

December 7, 2017, Stuart/Martinsville and surrounding area Volunteers
11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
At the Stuart, VA, Office—Cookies with Care—Menu TBA
Bring 2-3 dozen baked cookies

December 11, 2017, Mt. Airy/Woltz Hospice Home/Pilot Mountain and area Volunteers
11:30 to 1:00 p.m.
At the Mount Airy Office—Stuff Gift Bags for Patients—Menu TBA
No need to bring cookies
Why I Am a Volunteer for MVHPC, By Jim McKnight Hillville/Galax Family Services Volunteer

One of my first hospice patients was a very spry and witty lady, who was always glad to have a visitor. We talked and she told me of her children and husband; the many hardships throughout her lifetime. She reflected on those memories, what they meant to her now at this stage in her life, and what treasures they were to her now. When she passed, I remembered thinking, maybe, just maybe, I had made a little difference in those last days for her. But I realized more, how blessed I had been through those visits.

My name is Jim McKnight, I have been a hospice volunteer for almost eight years now.

I am married to my high school sweet hear, we have three daughters, six grandchildren, and three sons-in-law. Our seventh grandchild is soon to make his appearance. I am a deacon at Mountain View Baptist Church, where I have been a member since 1975. In 2009, I was offered early retirement from Virginia Department of Transportation. My wife told me I couldn’t play golf all the time, and had to find something meaningful to do.

In the spring of 2010, I saw an ad in the local paper for hospice volunteer training, and with my wife’s encouragement, I went for the two day class, not knowing at the completion if I could, or would, really do something like this. But since that time, I have served many patients and families, and what a true blessing to my life, each one has been.

In 2013, my ninety year old mother was stricken with sudden dementia, and I was able to see how beneficial and special hospice services and all the caring team members truly are to a patient and family. The loving care and dedication that each one showed for her and our family, was always there. With their help, guidance, and care, we were able to keep our mother in the home she loved until her death. I was able then, to see both sides of hospice services, and how much this program gives the patients and families, to make, sometimes, the most difficult day of one’s life, more peaceful.

I go to my visits with only one thing in mind: that is, to do the very best I can to give as much comfort and companionship, I can offer, to try to enrich, maybe, their last days here on this earth. I will admit, sometimes, it is difficult and a little taxing.

If the patient is no longer coherent and not able to communicate, you wonder if the visit is really worth the effort and time spent. But, I have decided that just the presence of another human is comforting, and I just talk and have a conversation with them all the same. I have come to believe, some part of that person is still inside and listening.

In my time as a volunteer, I have learned so much about life, human nature, myself, and my faith. I have seen the strong will to live in many adverse situation, and just how determined that will can be in prolonging a life and how that can impact the lives of grieving, often helpless feeling, family and friends. I have been taught how to grieve, how to let go, how to rejoice, and how to have peace about all of life’s journey, no matter how short, long, or difficult.

I volunteer to make a difference in my fellow humans; to support a life that is leaving this flesh, as well as their families and friends, by giving encouragement, sharing some strength and love, in often their weakest time of life. I hope to demonstrate to people that death is as much a part of life as life itself, and if we are prepared, not afraid or alone, we can have a peaceful end. I want to show people that each life has a purpose and has made a difference to the world where they lived; that they are loved and appreciated, and they have been a blessing to many, especially to me.
Looking for ways to fill those days? Want to learn something new or increase your skills? Want to show off your own skills by teaching a craft, specialized knit or crochet stitches, or by singing a song? MVH&PC offers the following FREE arts and crafts groups to anyone in the community. Please call Pat Younger, Director of Volunteer Services, if you’d like more information about the groups listed below. You can reach her at 336-789-2922 or toll free at 1-888-789-2922 or e-mail at pyounger@mtnvalleyhospice.org.

**WHAT’S HAPPENIN’ IN YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS?**

Note: Groups are subject to cancellation due to holidays or inclement weather. If in doubt, please call your site Volunteer Resources Coordinator.

**Yadkinville**
Every Monday of Every Month
12:30 to 2:30 p.m.
**Yadkin County Prayer Shawl Ministry**
East Bend Senior Center
East Bend, NC
Every 3rd Tuesday of Every Month
1:00 p.m.
**Yadkinville Craft Group**
Yadkinville Office
320 West Maple Street
Yadkinville, NC
Every Wednesday of Every Month
12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
**Elkin/Jonesville Prayer Shawl Ministry Group**
Yadkin Valley Senior Center
Yadkinville, NC

**Elkin**
First Thursday of Every Month
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
**Elkin Craft Group**
Mountain Valley Hospice Office
Bridge Street in Elkin—a cross from Speedy Chef
Every Wednesday of Every Month
12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
**Elkin/Jonesville Prayer Shawl Ministry Group**
Yadkin Valley Senior Center
Jonesville, NC

**ALERT!**

It has become a tradition at MVH for each patient admitted to receive a Prayer Shawl. However, the demand for Prayer Shawls, Lap Robes and Throws has greatly exceeded what our current groups are able to make which means some patients may not receive a handmade shawl from MVH.

If you can knit or crochet and would like to make one (or more) at home (or join one of our groups listed here), the minimal dimensions are as follows:

Shawls: 24” x 65”

Throws/Robes: 36” x 48”

If you can’t knit or crochet, donations of yarn will be greatly appreciated. Red, White and Blue yarn is in high demand for our military Veterans. You may bring this to the nearest MVH office site. Monetary donations also accepted. Thank you for your interest participation.

And remember, your gift of yarn or money is tax deductible. We’ll give you the form for your taxes!
Mount Airy
First and Third Wednesdays of Every Month
9:00 a.m. to noon
Mount Airy Prayer Shawl Ministry Group
Mountain Valley Hospice Office
401 Technology Lane, Suite 200
Mount Airy, NC
Second Friday of Every Month
10:00 a.m. to noon
“Greetings by Hospice”,
Handmade Greeting Card and Craft Group
Mountain Valley Hospice Office
401 Technology Lane, Suite 200
Mount Airy, NC

Pilot Mountain
Fourth Thursday of Every Month
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Pilot Mountain Prayer Shawl Ministry Group
Pilot Mountain Office, Off Hwy 268 in the same area as the VFW

Hillsville, VA
Second Tuesday of Every Month
10:00 a.m. to noon
Stix “n” Stones Craft Group
Hillsville, VA, Office
Hwy 58 just beside I-77 North exit ramp
Third Tuesday of Every Month
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Prayer Shawl Ministry Group
Hillsville, VA, Office
Hwy 58 just beside I-77 North exit ramp

Stuart, VA
Second Tuesday of Every Month
10:00 a.m. to noon
Patrick County Prayer Shawl Ministry Group
18981 Jeb Stuart Highway
Stuart, VA (across the highway from Wal-Mart)

Martinsville, VA
Second Thursday of Every Month
10:00 a.m. to noon
Martinsville, VA Prayer Shawl Ministry Group
Martinsville, VA, Office

NEW PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GROUP IN MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA!
MARK YOUR CALENDARS*

*Events subject to change due to weather or other unavoidable events. Always wait for your invitation or call your nearest MVH office for more details.

NEW FAMILY SERVICES AND ADMIN VOLUNTEER BASIC TRAININGS: 2017—THIS IS FOR NEW RECRUITS ONLY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s) 2017</th>
<th>Office/Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Days of the Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 13 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Stuart</td>
<td>9-5</td>
<td>M/W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quarterly Volunteer Support Meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date 2017</th>
<th>Time/Location</th>
<th>Includes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2017, Mon</td>
<td>9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Loc TBA</td>
<td>Stuart/M'ville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FEEDING BUDDIES TRAINING AT THE SECU HOSPICE CARE CENTER OF YADKIN

Many THANKS to these wonderful ladies who recently took our seven-hour classroom training to be able to assist patients in the facility with their meals. Pictured left to right: Kathy Robertson, Instructor; Sherry Gibson, Volunteer Resources Coordinator; Sue Niemeyer; Marie Lynch; Mary Reavis; Peggy Shore; Dianne Marshall; Margaret Hauser, Instructor; seated left to right: Beverly Holt; Libby Shore.

Feeding Buddies is a program designed to instruct volunteers on how to assist patients with their meals. Volunteers are only asked to assist with patients who do not have any swallowing issues. At the end of the class, all trainees are presented with a silver spoon lapel pin as a designation to staff that they are fully-trained. Again, many thanks to this special group of ladies!
We are in need of volunteers to visit with our patients in their homes or in the facilities where they reside. If you know of anyone who would like to volunteer, please have them call the Volunteer Resources Coordinator at the office where they wish to train.

=====================================================================================  

**Veteran Oral History Project**

Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care is embarking on an exciting project. Led by Phil Mack, Outreach Service Provider, MVHPC volunteers and staff are currently being trained to interview our veteran patients about their military and life experiences.

The project will fulfill many objectives. First and foremost, the veteran patient is given the opportunity to share their unique military experiences. Those experiences may have never been shared with anyone before. The interview affords the veteran facing end of life to deal with any issues regarding their time in the military. The interviews are recorded on a DVD disc and a copy of the recording is given to the patient and their family as a token of our appreciation of their service to our nation. Another copy of the interview is given to Surry Community College and the Surry Historical Society as a record of the sacrifice of men and women from this region. The interviews will also provide research material for historians studying military history. Dr. Annette Ayers and Marion Venable were instrumental in establishing our collaboration with Surry Community College and the Surry Historical Society for the project.

Mountain Valley Hospice provides focused services to our veteran patients and attend their very special needs. Pinning of veterans, the gift of a Red, White, and Blue prayer shawl, and the opportunity to share their life stories with their family and friends through the Oral History interview project honors these special people. It is a privilege to share their stories, offer comfort and support, and provide a legacy to their families.

---

**PATIENT/FAMILY VOLUNTEERS—DON’T FORGET**

MAIL IN YOUR VISIT NOTES EACH MONTH: OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER!!
Never forget!  You are special — and enjoy your special day!!

Taken from: https://www.americangreetings.com/blog/october-birthday-fun-facts/

**Born in October**

- More American Presidents were born in the month of October than any other month.
- October was originally the eighth month of the Roman calendar. It comes from the Latin word “octo” meaning eight. Later, it became the 10th month when January and February were added to the calendar.
- October folklore says that if the deer have a gray coat in October, expect a hard winter. (and Molly Willey says this is also true for wooly worms and a dark coat)

| Fruits and Vegetables available in October: apples, beets, blackberries, turnips, sweet potatoes, peppers, pumpkins, oranges, okra |

There’s extra good news for autumn babies—some research suggests that those born between September and November are more likely to live to 100 years old! - also taken from americangreetings.com

**Born in November**

- November holidays bring us many opportunities to pause and to express feelings of gratitude and kindness, including World Freedom Day (11/9), Veterans Day (11/11), World Kindness Day (11/13), World Hello Day (11/21), Thanksgiving (11/24), and Giving Tuesday (11/29).

This is also a great opportunity for MVHPC to say a BIG THANK YOU to all of our VOLUNTEERS!!! Not only in November, but every month of the year!!

**Fruits and Vegetables available in November: artichokes, limes, kumquats, cranberries, tangerines, kiwi, plums, parsnips**

**Born in December**

- The birthstone for December is the turquoise, which represents prosperity, success, and good fortune.
- December’s flower is the narcissus, which symbolizes rebirth and respect.
- Winter officially begins in the northern hemisphere.

| Fruits and Vegetables available in December: apricots, blackberries, silverbeet, watercress, wild rocket |

- The birthstone for December is the turquoise, which represents prosperity, success, and good fortune.
- December’s flower is the narcissus, which symbolizes rebirth and respect.
- Winter officially begins in the northern hemisphere.
As you've probably already heard, the hospice landscape is changing. We are inundated with for-profit hospices in our 17 county service area as well as stiff competition from other non-profit hospices. All are competing for our patients right here in the communities we serve. We recently had The Telios Carolinas Group come up to MVH to help remind us of ways to keep our market share. As a not-for-profit agency, it is oftentimes hard to beat out the competition of for-profit agencies who may have unlimited marketing funds. Therefore we depend on our paid staff and Volunteers to assist with getting the word out about us. This quarter's education is about how you, as a Mountain Valley Hospice Volunteer and representative, can assist marketing efforts by talking about our great hospice agency and the array of services we offer. Below is a series of both internal and other articles that will be of great help to you. If you believe we have provided the best hospice care in our area (Northwestern NC and Southwestern VA), then take a moment to learn about us and ‘talk it up’!

By Leah Eskenazi, Family Caregiver Alliance January 29, 2015 at 6:10 PM EDT

**Why Hospice Care Could benefit your loved one sooner than you think**

Many families overlook the scope of hospice services available to loved ones and their caregivers.

_Bettina’s dad Paul (89 years), a once robust and active man, was getting weaker every day due to heart failure. They met with a surgeon to consider his options but the proposed medical intervention was fraught with complications and no guarantee of being able to return him to his one passion: square dancing. He opted instead to continue taking medications to treat the problem and ponder how he could hide his increasing weakness so as not to be a burden to Bettina. Recently, a friend asked if she had considered looking into hospice. Bettina was taken aback. She always thought that hospice was just for people who were terminally ill …_

Promoting independence and “successful aging” is a laudable goal for many and a common media headline. But it’s not the reality for people caring for anyone diagnosed with a terminal illness or a relative who struggles to manage day to day as a result of debilitating health conditions and growing frailty. Most people would prefer to talk about wellness rather than illness, so we tend to avoid planning for advanced illness and ultimately death. One valuable, often overlooked, and generous Medicare benefit for those caring for a family member or friend is **hospice care**.

Adult children tell me that if they bring up the subject of end-of-life planning, their parent will think they want to “push them aside” or “be done with them.” Spouses have told me that they worry that even thinking about it will somehow hasten death or cause their partner to die sooner. The reality is, given the right opportunity, those living with illness and frailty often welcome the opportunity to share their preferences about their end-of-life choices. Listening without judgment to the individual’s worries or advice can be a gift to them. Researching what is available to help care for a family member living with advanced illness relieves the individual from having to do the work themselves.

**Medicare coverage for hospice**

Since 1983, Medicare has paid for most hospice care received in the United States. Other payers of hospice care include Medicaid (in most states), the Department of Veterans Affairs and most private insurance plans. Typically, no one is turned away from receiving hospice. Private contributions and donations are used to help cover the cost of care for those who have no other ways to pay for this service.

Beneficiaries are eligible for hospice care when they are entitled to Medicare Part A and are certified by a physician as having a life expectancy of six months or less if the illness runs its normal course. However, living longer than six months doesn’t mean the patient loses the benefit. After the initial certification period, each beneficiary receives an unlimited number of additional 60-day periods.
A good example of this was my friend’s mother, who lived in an assisted living residence. At an advanced age and consumed by Alzheimer’s disease, she “graduated” not once but twice from hospice. Both times she was diagnosed with pneumonia, kept comfortable but without aggressive treatment to cure her. Both times she appeared to be at “death’s door” but rallied to wellness. Throughout the experience, the hospice team oversaw her mother’s care while keeping the family well-informed and supported.

Although cancer patients used to make up the vast majority of hospice recipients, that is no longer the case. An increasing number of people diagnosed with late-stage Alzheimer’s disease, non-Alzheimer’s dementia, heart disease, stroke, Parkinson’s and other conditions benefit from hospice.....

**Hospice is underutilized**

People often wait too long before seeking hospice care. In the United States, the average length of hospice care is less than 60 days with 30 percent of those who elect hospice care dying in seven days or fewer. It seems that misinformation about the benefit coupled with our general discomfort talking about end of life prevents Medicare beneficiaries and their family from taking advantage of the valuable benefit.

**What services are provided?**

An interdisciplinary team of health and social service professionals joined by volunteers work together to provide the following:
- Comfort care for pain and symptom management
- Maintenance care for existing chronic conditions such as diabetes or emphysema
- Support for emotional, social, psychological and spiritual needs and issues related to dying
- Needed drugs, medical supplies and equipment
- Mentoring for the individual, his or her family, and friends on best practices in patient care
- Services like speech and physical therapy, which can be accessed when needed
- If receiving hospice at home, payment for short-term inpatient care is available when symptoms become too much to manage or when caregivers need a respite break to take care of themselves
- Grief counseling is available and can take the form of a support group, one-to-one therapeutic counseling, spiritual counseling, phone check-in calls and educational materials to surviving family and friends.

Those receiving care are allowed to keep their regular physician or nurse practitioner to oversee their care or to receive care from the doctor associated with the hospice organization.

Hospice is offered by both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations and can take place:
- At the home of the patient, a family member, or friend
- At a stand-alone hospice center
- In a hospital
- In a skilled nursing facility or other assisted care residence

If you think you or a friend or relative may be using hospice services in the near future and you are fortunate enough to have more than one hospice provider in your community, it’s a good idea to contact or visit two or three. You will want to look for an organization that most closely matches your preferences. Although the core services provided by every hospice are essentially the same, each organization will have its own character, driven by their business model and organizational values.

Typically, hospice care starts as soon as a formal request or a ‘referral’ is made by the patient’s doctor. Some questions to ask a potential hospice provider:
- Is this hospice program Medicare-certified?
- How many years has the agency been serving your community?
- Be sure to ask for references from families served and professionals (hospital or community social workers). Ask for specific names and telephone numbers and follow up with these people to ask about their experience with this provider.
- Does the hospice organization require a designated family primary caregiver as a condition of admission? If so, what are their expectations of what the family is responsible for? What can they offer if the primary caregiver is working or has other obligations and can’t be present all of the time?
- Ask about the hospice policies. Are they centered on your needs or focused more on the needs of the agency? If the hospice imposes a specific set of conditions that do not feel comfortable or right for your situation, it may not be a good fit. Be sure to discuss your concerns.

An excellent list of questions to select from is offered by the American Cancer Society.
Benefits for caregivers

An important part of taking care of yourself is taking breaks. Your hospice team will offer to have volunteers come and sit with the patient or help with chores to make things easier for you. They are there to assist your family member or friend — and you — so be sure to tell them how they can help. Hospice will be there to provide comfort and support following your loved one’s death. Bereavement services are offered to caregivers and families for at least one year.

These services can take a variety of forms, including telephone calls, visits, support groups and written materials about grief.

For residential hospice, take note that the Medicare hospice benefit does not cover room and board in an assisted care facility (nursing home, hospice center), but will pay for care related to the terminal illness. However, there must be a contract between Medicare and the hospice providing the care.

New in 2015: Medicare Care Choices Model

Included in the Affordable Care Act (2010) is a pilot project called the Medicare Care Choices Model. According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), in 2015 a select group of hospice providers will offer a new option. Medicare beneficiaries will receive palliative care services while concurrently receiving services provided by their regular physician and health care team.

Palliative care, if you are unfamiliar with the term, is a method of care that, like hospice, focuses on comfort of the patient and support and education for the caregiver. But palliative care can begin when a diagnosis is given and while treatments are being evaluated and selected. By comparison, hospice care traditionally begins after active treatment of a condition has stopped and the patient is not expected to survive the illness for longer than six months.

According to CMS, the goal of the two-year demonstration project, Medical Care Choices, is to see “whether Medicare beneficiaries who qualify for coverage under the Medicare hospice benefit would elect to receive the palliative and supportive care typically provided by a hospice if they could continue to seek services from their curative care providers.”

Anticipated announcement for at least 30 rural and urban hospices selected to offer the Medical Care Choices benefit is slated to occur early this year (2015).

Pursuing the Medicare benefit and accepting help from hospice can feel like a major change in how the person receiving care and their family considers the remaining time they have together. Caring for someone with serious illness and at the end of life is a daunting task, both mentally and physically. Having a dedicated, skilled and caring team of professionals to help can allow you to focus more on quality time with the person and less on the care and maintenance of the disease. Accepting help can make a difference in everyone’s well-being.

In a future column, we will address more issues facing those caring for a parent, spouse or other important person living with advanced illness.

More Information & Resources

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
Caring Connection
Center for Medicare Advocacy

Family Caregiver Alliance fact sheet: End of Life Decision Making
Spotlight On….  

MVH Re-Sale Shoppe

THE MOUNTAIN VALLEY HOSPICE RE-SALE SHOPPE HAS MOVED!

Visit us today to see our new fall merchandise, from home décor to Halloween costumes. We're now located at 461 North South Street, Mount Airy, NC 27030. Store hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10 to 6, and Saturday, 10 to 3. Also find us on Face Book and like us so you will start getting all the updates, sales and specials.

For prices and item availability, please visit the Mountain Valley Hospice Re-Sale Shoppe at 461 North South Street, Suite #1, Mount Airy, NC 27030. Store hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Don’t forget to bring all your donations of gently used items to either the Re-Sale Shoppe or to your nearest Mountain Valley Hospice office and we’ll get them to the Shoppe for you. Donations are tax deductible and donation verification forms will be furnished to you. If you have larger, heavy items that need to be picked up, please call the store at 336-789-1230 to schedule an appointment for pick up.

Fun Facts about the Re-Sale Shoppe—Did You Know?

- If we have a patient in any of our hospice programs (with low income) who needs a washing machine, vacuum cleaner, microwave, refrigerator, books, magazines, etc., and if we have it in the store, it is given to them free of charge and delivered to their residence?
- We distribute donated items that are not saleable in the store to local clothing closets, churches, missions, etc.?
- The items you donate help folks to fill their days with volunteer hours by volunteering in the store?
- We work with local law enforcement, social programs and schools by providing a volunteer site for at-risk youth to volunteer?
- All proceeds/profits from sales stay in our service areas to assist our patients—not Atlanta, GA, or California?
- Many of the items we receive are vintage, antique, or collector’s items?
- The store only has one fulltime employee and one part-time employee that are paid. The rest of the work is performed by volunteers?
- The new location of the Re-Sale Shoppe is approximately three times larger than the previous location?

COME SHOP WITH US! Remember us when you clean out!
Mrs. Emma Marie Leftwich Holder age 96, of Mount Airy, passed away Saturday, July 22, 2017 at Twelve Oaks Assisted Living in Mount Airy. She was born December 28, 1920 to the late Grover Cleveland and Ada Frances Hill Leftwich. She was the oldest living member of Antioch Baptist Church and will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Left to cherish her memories are two daughters and a son-in-law, Norma Creed, Cheryl and Robbie Keen; two sons and daughters-in-law, Ralph and Peggy Holder, Ronald and Charlotte Holder; two daughters-in-law, Doris East and Frances Holder; eleven grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; several great-great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents Mrs. Holder was preceded in death by her husband, Coy Holder; three sons, Kenneth, Steve, and Fred Holder; as well as three sisters and one brother. A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 at 11:00 AM at Antioch Baptist Church with services conducted by Rev. Rusty Reed and Rev. Grant Atkins. Burial will follow in Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery. The body will lie in state thirty minutes prior to the service at the church. The Family will receive friends from 6-8 PM on Monday evening at Moody Funeral Home in Mount Airy.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative Care, 401 Technology Lane Suite 200, Mount Airy, NC 27030 or to Twelve Oaks Assisted Living 1297 Galax Trail, Mt Airy, NC 27030. Online condolences may be made at www.moodyfuneralservices.com.

Note: Marie was a valued member of our Mountain Valley Arts and Crafts groups. She was loved by all here at MVH and will be greatly missed.

Doris Scott Johnson, 77, passed away Wednesday, July 5, at Woltz Hospice Home. She was born July 7, 1939 in Surry County to the late Edmund Gray Scott and Florence Reece Scott. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, Chester Arthur Johnson; brothers, Alton Reece Scott, Charles Scott. Surviving are her sister, Betty Riden; and several nieces, nephews, and other family members. Her funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, July 8, 2017 at Fall Creek Baptist Church by the Rev. Don Hudson and Ricky Bauguess. Burial will follow at Thanks To Calvary Baptist Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Fall Creek Baptist Church. In Lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Yadkin Valley Senior Center Pray Shawl Group, 121 Delos Martin Dr., Jonesville, NC 28642, or Shriners Hospital, 950 West Faris Road, Greenville, SC 29605, or Fall Creek Baptist Church Library Fund, 3320 Fall Creek Church Road, Jonesville, NC 28642. Gentry Family Funeral Service in Jonesville is serving the Johnson family. Online condolences can be made at www.gentryfuneralservice.com.

Note: Doris played a huge part in getting the Prayer Shawl Group at the Jonesville Senior Center interested in making Prayer Shawls for Mountain Valley Hospice. We’ve had the pleasure of seeing her at many of our annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquets. She will be greatly missed.

To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson
SECU Hospice Care Center of Yadkin

Volunteers Complete Sacred Vigil Training Program

On September 25, 2017, this group of volunteers completed our six-hour Sacred Vigil Training. Stacie Adams, Instructor, talked about ways to comfort a person who is actively dying. We are thankful for this group of compassionate ladies who are willing to spend time with residents of the SECU Hospice Care Center as they make their final journey.

Pictured above: (seated) left to right: Stacie Adams, Instructor; Verna Gregory; Judy Davis; Marie Lynch. Back (standing) left to right: Nancy Milholand; Sue Niemeyer; Bobbie Gardner; Tina Morrison; Lynn Duty; Mary Reavis; Judy Doub; Peggy Shore; Judy Groce; Teresa Norman; Dianne Marshall.

YVEDDI Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

RSVP recruits, places and supports older citizens in humanitarian pursuits effecting measurable improvements in community life in Surry and Yadkin Counties.

RSVP serves to engage persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs and to provide high-quality experience that will enrich the lives of volunteers. RSVP matches recruited seniors with service provides whose missions are compatible with these aspiring volunteers’ interests, abilities and desired level of challenge.

RSVP provides enrolled volunteers with orientation, training, limited insurance coverage and limited mileage reimbursement as funds allow.

Mountain Valley Hospice and Palliative has seven office/inpatient units in NC and we are partnering with this organization in order to obtain referrals of high-quality volunteers for our offices and for visiting patients in our inpatient units or their homes.

If you know of anyone 55 and older who would like to volunteer with RSVP and have Mountain Valley Hospice as their work site, please contact Missy Whitaker at 336-786-6155 ext. 229.

This program is funded by the Corporation for National Service, county governments, local United Fund and United Way agencies and fund-raising initiatives.
AUTUMN LEAVES FESTIVAL BAKE SALE

October 13 & 14

It’s that time of year again—are you ready for the Annual Autumn Leaves Festival Bake Sale?

Every year Melissa Robertson has a bake sale in front of Robby’s Sales on Main Street in Mt. Airy. All of the proceeds go to benefit MVH/PC.

Please bake and package some treats for selling on main street. If your baked goods contain nuts or nut butters/oils, be sure to list that. Whole cakes sell great. You can bring baked goods to your nearest MVH office on Thursday, October 12, 2017, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. We will get them to Main Street or you can bring them to the street on Friday, October 13, anytime after 9:00 a.m. (or Saturday after 10:00 a.m.)

Don’t have time to bake? Then support our effort by purchasing items during the Festival on Friday and Saturday. This is an excellent time to purchase whole cakes, breads, cookies, candy and other treats for the freezer for the upcoming holidays. Beware, however, we’re usually sold out by Saturday at 5:00 p.m.!

Yes, it’s that good.