

## Once a Dream... Now a Reality



Architect drawing by Larry Frank of Bennett Frank McCarthy Architects, Inc.

## Casey House 10th Anniversary

On August 2, 1999, Montgomery Hospice opened Casey House, the first (and only) inpatient hospice facility in Montgomery County.

This issue of Hospice Matters is dedicated to Casey House (with stories from ten years ago and from today).

What makes Casey House special? Some say that it is the beautiful setting—the surrounding fields, the flowers, the fountain, the patio. Others cite the home-like feeling inside the building, with the large table used by families to share meals, comfortable sitting areas for visiting with friends, and the meditation room providing a space for quiet thought. The characteristic of Casey House most often mentioned as exceptional is the staff of people who work there. Professionalism and expertise, combined with caring and compassion, make the Casey House staff an extraordinary group. They provide round-the-clock comfort and dignity to seriously ill patients.

On that opening day in August of 1999, Karen Rush was the Casey House director. An experienced leader, knowledgeable about hospice care, she set the perfect tone. A newspaper article from that year quoted her as stating “high family involvement” as one of her top priorities. This emphasis on family as well as the patient continues today. Members of the original staff also speak highly of Karen’s support of them, and her ability to identify talent and potential while interviewing future employees. At the 10th anniversary celebration, held on August 15, 2009 on the grounds of Casey House, Karen’s leadership and role in the



Original Casey House staff members: Solange Hess, Edie Daharsh, Loraine Griffith, Debbie Miller, Jayne Phillips, Karen Rush, Molia Sieh, Sara Perry

# Montgomery HOSPICE

start of Casey House was acknowledged with a Dedication and Vision award. The many members of the original Casey House staff attending the celebration led the standing ovation.

One of the original Casey House nurses, Edie Daharsh, looks back fondly on the early days. She tells of the challenges of “building glitches” but also remembers the teamwork. “We were really a close group, learning things together. The cooks, the social workers, the volunteers, the bereavement staff—we all worked cooperatively.”

According to current Casey House nurse Marlene Bell, the goal of supporting both patient and family, coupled with strong teamwork among the staff, continues today. Hired by Karen Rush in July of 2000, Marlene has worked the night shift for all these years. Like Edie, she is grateful for Karen’s leadership, to her fellow staff members for sharing their knowledge with her and for ongoing educational opportunities, all of which have allowed her to hone her hospice skills. Marlene also echoes Edie’s sentiments about the team: “When I come in at night, I know that the social worker, the chaplain, the kitchen people have all been working to address any problems. You are never alone.” Marlene’s calm, reassuring, professional presence is a comfort for patient and families in the middle of the night.

A family member’s thank you note says it all:

*Thank you so much for your wonderful gentle care during this very difficult time in my life. I will never forget the wonderful tender care my husband and I both received from the staff at Casey House. He told me several times he was so glad we had made the decision to move to Casey House. He was at such peace.*



# From Ann's Office

## Casey House 10th anniversary

Recent health care reform discussions have included many conversations about end-of-life care. Those of us who work in the hospice community have welcomed the opportunity to remind both local and national audiences of the incredible value that hospice care provides and its importance as part of the medical care continuum. We continue to advocate for patients who want to spend their last days in their own homes, while working to provide hospice care facilities for those who need more advanced care.

For the last ten years, residents here in Montgomery County have had the benefit of an inpatient hospice house. More than 3800

patients and families have been served by Casey House since its opening in 1999. Having a medical facility available to care for the most seriously ill members of our county was achieved through the hard work of many people. Starting with the dreams of the Montgomery Hospice Board of Directors, with the generosity of the Eugene B. Casey Foundation and the many contributions of volunteers and staff, those dreams became a reality.

The community came together to build Casey House. The donations received varied from ladders to artwork to monetary gifts large and small. This neighborhood support has continued throughout the last ten years, with donations ranging from holiday decorations and landscaping to major grants. We are able to continue our work because of the ongoing support of individuals, foundations and corporations. We are grateful to all.

At our recent 10th anniversary celebration, I had the opportunity to meet many family members of Casey House patients. It was a privilege to hear their stories and to be

able to thank them for trusting us to care for their loved ones. I would especially like to acknowledge the two speakers who publicly related their family's experiences at Casey House: Sheila Boland, whose brother Chris Boland was a patient in 2005, and Beryl Feinberg, whose father, Stanley Lowenthal, died last spring. At the celebration, I was also able to express my appreciation to members of the medical community and the faith community for their partnerships with us. We were honored at the event by proclamations from Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett, Congressman Chris Van Hollen and Senator Benjamin Cardin.

We at Montgomery Hospice look forward to continuing to serve Montgomery County through Casey House as well as through our Hospice at Home and Bereavement Care programs.

Ann Mitchell  
President & CEO



## Ed Asher's Team: Making the Dream Come True

By "googling" Edward Hall Asher, you can learn that he was the President and COO of the Chevy Chase Land Company and that he worked there for 34 years. You can also discover that he served as the Chairman of the Board of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (and still serves on their Advisory Board). You may even find a 2006 picture of him at a business meeting with supermodel (and philanthropist) Petra Nemcova.

But you have to talk to Ed Asher himself to learn what he considers the high point of his career.

When Ed's friend Mike McCarthy recruited him to join the Montgomery Hospice Board of Directors in 1995, the idea of an inpatient hospice house was still a dream. Ed recalls listening to a volunteer's report of a visit to Russia and learning that their method of treating pain involved "bell therapy." This "therapy" basically involved ringing a bell for patients and asking them to concentrate on the sound instead of their pain. Ed remembers thinking that there had to be a better method for managing the pain of seriously ill patients. Fortunately, a few

years later, the Eugene B. Casey Foundation donated 7.4 acres of land in northeast Rockville, and the dream of a facility for hospice patients began to seem achievable.

Many hurdles needed to be faced, not the least of which was raising money to build such a facility. Fortunately, Ed Asher was named the Campaign Chairman of the Casey House Capital Campaign. He successfully led the campaign committee, which included Honorary Co-Chairs R. Robert Linowes (a prominent lawyer who was active in community organizations), the Honorable Constance A. Morella and ABC News correspondent Cokie Roberts. Other members of the committee included Angela Briefs, Michael McCarthy, Brian McCagh, Peggy McCaig and Ken Nicholls, Director of Development.

With the help again of the Eugene B. Casey Foundation, grant money from the state of Maryland (from a bond bill sponsored by Senator Leonard Teitelbaum), and many generous donations from the community, enough funds were raised. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on September 10, 1997 and construction started that same year.

Ed's background in the building business came in handy as he hired an architect, found a builder and oversaw the construction. He downplayed the many obstacles that were overcome and his skill at facing them, describing "some bumps in the road" that "magically worked out." Crediting the board and the community, he remembers the project as being "a lot of fun."

The tag line of the capital campaign was "The Casey House: Caring for Unmet Needs." Ed Asher's leadership and the success of the capital campaign allowed the dreams of the Montgomery Hospice board to come true and allowed those unmet needs of the residents of Montgomery County to be satisfied. "I'm more proud of being a part of the building of Casey House [than anything else in my career]."

After retiring in February, Ed and his wife moved to Berkeley Springs, West Virginia where Ed is fulfilling another dream, one from his youth. Now, "googling" Ed will lead you to the country radio station WDHC and their newest radio personality, "The Doctor."



Ed Asher as country music DJ "The Doctor"

## Casey House Construction Slowed by Baby Birds

The building of Casey House involved the usual construction milestones, legal permit requirements and fundraising challenges. However, one delay right at the start was rather unusual. Before any construction could begin, the two buildings standing on the land donated by the Eugene B. Casey Foundation needed to be removed. Two local fire departments were given permission to burn the vacant house and dilapidated barn, providing a training

opportunity for firefighters. While the "controlled burn" of the house went off as scheduled,



the destruction of the barn had to be delayed. The discovery of the nest of baby birds, birds that were protected by federal and state law, forced the postponement of the demolition of the barn. The birds were turkey buzzards, described by the project manager at the time as "ug-ly." The fact that their diet consisted of the remains of dead animals and that they made an unpleasant hissing sound didn't matter. Construction waited until those babies grew up and left the nest.

## A Unique Birthday Party

Eloise Strand is rarely seen without a hat. She wears church hats and ski hats and even has a “hospice hat.” When she retired from the



Eloise Strand, Montgomery Hospice Life Director

Montgomery Hospice Board after six years of service (including leading the group as chairman during the building of Casey House), she was presented with a “hospice hat.” (“You do not receive a gold watch when retiring from a nonprofit,” she laughingly explains.) So when plans were being made for her 80th birthday party, it seemed natural to plan a hat motif for the occasion.

At the party, guests talked amongst themselves about which “hat” they shared with Eloise; that is, how they knew her. The friends from church often saw her in one of her more formal hats. Others at the party had worked with her when she was a physical therapist at Walter Reed, or worked for her after she became an Army Colonel. Together, they all celebrated Eloise’s new “hat,” that of octogenarian.

Despite all the hat pictures on the invitations and decorations, guests were specifically asked not to bring Eloise any actual hats as gifts. Instead family and friends were asked to bring checks. These checks were donations to Montgomery Hospice (or to another of Eloise’s favorite organizations, Ephesians Life Ministries or Wintergreen Adaptive Sports).

Eloise is thankful for the generosity of her friends to Montgomery Hospice. She continues to be involved as a bereavement volunteer, helping grieving families. She remembers fondly her time on the board of Montgomery Hospice and proudly recalls the opening of Casey House. As she wrote in the “memory book” at the 10th anniversary celebration: “I feel truly blessed to be a part of this awesome Casey House and all associated with it.”

## In Memory of Chris Boland

“I’ve cut more wedding cakes than Elizabeth Taylor.” Chris Boland’s method of reassuring clients illustrated his sense of humor, as well as his experience and professionalism. In charge of catering at the Arts Club in Washington, DC, Chris helped create perfect celebrations for many a bride. Hard-working but fun-loving, his breaks from work often involved travel, including visits to Ireland, one of his favorite destinations. At 54, he was the “baby” of the family, younger by 3 minutes than his twin brother. Much loved, much enjoyed, Chris had many friends. His sudden severe illness was shocking and devastating.

His sister, Sheila Boland, credits Casey House with helping her through Chris’s last weekend. “We didn’t have to worry about anything once we crossed that threshold.

And I mean us, the family. It was a given that the patient was cared for.”

Diagnosed on Thursday, January 27, 2005 with advanced liver cancer, Chris arrived at Casey House on Friday and died on Sunday.

Sheila describes the staff of Casey House: “They do everything perfectly. They give you everything the patient needs and everything the family needs and in most cases you don’t even know what you need until they give it to you.” She recalls the weather as being cold and nasty, but feeling warm inside the building. She describes all the little things that made such a difference for her family: the cook taking the extra time to fix her brother’s requests for meals, the staff’s rallying around Chris’s twin brother, being able to have all of his

many friends visit together in the “great room”, the four deer that approached them when they ventured outside onto the patio.

“My brother was smiling and happy the last few days of his life. He wouldn’t have been anywhere else.” Chris is buried in Fanore in County Clare, Ireland at one of his favorite spots overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. His family remembers his smile and is grateful for the gift of Casey House.



Sheila Boland with photograph of her brother

photograph by Laurie Dewitt, The Gazette

## International Delegation Visits Casey House



On September 14, 2009, traveling from cities all over Japan, a group of doctors, social workers, architects and students visited Casey House. The study tour was arranged and accompanied by Dr. Alfons Deeken, Professor Emeritus at Sofia University in Tokyo, Japan. The group was traveling to hospices in Europe and North America to gain knowledge to further their goal of developing more hospices in their own country. Hospice care has been growing rapidly in Japan, according to Dr. Deeken. He reported seeing attitudes in Japan changing greatly in the last several years, including more openness in discussing death with dying patients. More than 22 percent of Japan's population is over the age of 65 and this percentage is expected to rise.

Besides his work at the university, Dr. Deeken is President of The Tokyo Association for Death Education and Grief Counseling. The goals of the association include educating Japanese people about death, developing hospice programs and providing grief support groups. Dr. Deeken was born in Germany and educated in many different countries, including earning a PhD in Philosophy from Fordham University in New York. Dr. Deeken's 30 books cover many aspects of death, dying and grief.



Casey House physician, Dr. Jocelyn Kouatchou and Dr. Alfons Deeken

In Japan, where one out of every three deaths is caused by cancer (mainly stomach cancer), the hospice program serves cancer patients only. Casey House physician Dr. Jocelyne Kouatchou discussed specific end-of-life treatments with the doctors in the group and also compared how patients are admitted into hospice in each country. Other visitors were interested in how Casey House expenses are paid for and expressed surprise at the amount of community support provided to Montgomery Hospice. The description of the Derby Duck Race fundraiser was met with an equal mix of confusion and smiles. The visit concluded with a tour, refreshments and an exchange of gifts.

## Tea Time

"We serve the best tea in all of Montgomery County," claims Helen Rosenberg, Casey House Tea Time volunteer. She brews the tea with loose tea leaves, not tea bags, usually using her personal favorite, Twinings of London – Classics English Breakfast Tea. Herbal teas are also offered, along with tea sandwiches and cake or cookies. The "chefs" (Casey House cooks "Bertie" Stephens and Oneida Prather) often serve tuna sandwiches (with the crusts cut off) and delicious lemon cake.

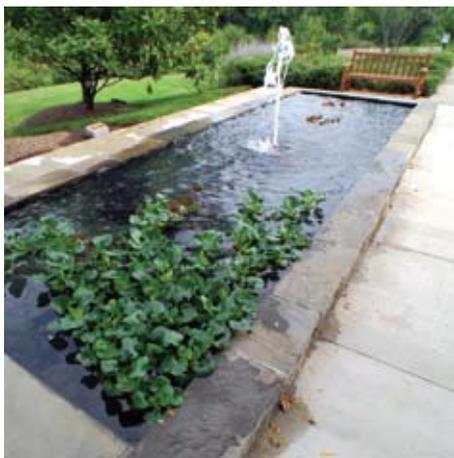
Helen is only partially exaggerating when she brags about the tea. She and the other Tea Time volunteers know that the benefits of the gathering come more from the families taking a short breather and from the sharing of stories. The special small touches add to the feeling of respite: the tea cozy on the tea pot, the soothing sound of volunteer Michele McCarthy's angel harp, the tablecloth, the quiet conversation. A tradition started by Karen Rush, facilitated now by volunteers

three afternoons each week, provides a bit of calm during a troubled time.



## Casey House Water Garden

A quiet refuge. The feel of the breeze, the smell of the flowers, the sound of the birds and the water of the fountain. The patio at Casey House provides moments of comfort to patients and families. Thanks to the generous donation of Robert E. Lynch, Jr., the Casey House fountain has been repaired and the water garden renewed. Mr. Lynch suffered from pulmonary fibrosis and was supported in his home by Montgomery Hospice until his death in May. With the help of the Hospice at Home team, he continued working at his Bethesda legal practice, assisting community members with his expertise in trusts and estates. Described as a wonderful friend and “a pleasure to be with,” Mr. Lynch demonstrated his generous spirit by making a donation to Montgomery Hospice.



After his death, his widow, Ann Marie Lynch, chose the water garden and fountain at Casey House as a project in Mr. Lynch’s memory. Along with the generous donations of water

hyacinths from Dr. Sharon Stoliaroff and hours of donated time from John Gordon of Belvedere Landscape Design, the garden and fountain were renovated. Montgomery Hospice is grateful for Mr. Lynch’s donation and for the restoration of the water garden; it will provide solace to future Casey House visitors.

These are the words engraved on the stone:

The restoration and care  
of this water garden  
is given in grateful appreciation  
for the Hospice at Home Care Team  
Robert Emmet Lynch, Jr.  
August 15, 2009

Dear Montgomery Hospice,

Strange, how limited was my image of you—only as a bulwark against heroic measures forced from folks when life is ending. Strange, how all I hoped for was being kept comfortable at the end of my long and sometime weary Pilgrim Path.

And instead there you came, one by one, to my open door armed only with a tender touch. Your wonderful TLC did what medications alone could not. You gave me permission and encouragement to allow my body to take whatever time necessary to heal. Step by step you managed to get me back into that wonderful Universal Life Force which gives of Itself to all.

You allowed me to relax and simply follow the dictates and messages from deep inside my being. You took off any pressure to push too hard. You helped me to understand the unfamiliar weakness that a nasty virus and the body-shaking jolts of a fluttering heart could cause. No pressure was ever given to “do this” or “stop that.” No hurry existed and each step forward was applauded as strength was gradually returning. You gently allowed me to be “me.” You became family.

Perhaps you are really “angels in disguise,” with Boksoon and Marco appearing as nurses, Jenny as a social worker, Linda as a chaplain with darling dog, Helen as leader of volunteers, Bill as generous giver of time, and an inspired physician as medical director of this altruistic group called Hospice. Perhaps your mission is to sprinkle rays of light and joy as you allow us mortals to absorb your kindness.

On some future day my heart may flutter itself away and I shall again need your comfort and support along my journey. I will be secure knowing you are ever the bulwark, standing large and strong, ever on the ready with your TLC.

With a thousand thanks to my incomparable personal physician, Dr. Dennis Hannon, who brought me to Montgomery Hospice in the first place, and to you who carry out your wonderfully inspired mission so effectively.

From my heart, “Nell”

## Montgomery Hospice Foundation news

### 2009 Derby Duck Race

Thank you to all who "adopted" ducks and to our partners and sponsors.

#### **MEDIA Partners**

Comcast  
The Gazette

#### **GOLD Duck Sponsors**

Kaiser Permanente  
Pettit Family Charitable Foundation

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Arnold and Carolyn Kohn  
Mike and Donna McKinney  
Moyer & Sons Moving and Storage  
NIH Federal Credit Union  
Janet and Ron Wolfsheimer

Thank you **Bill Worthington** and **WASH-FM!**

### The Gillman B'not Mitzvah



Congratulations and thanks go out to Emily and Jessie Gillman. The two sisters will be holding their B'not Mitzvah service on November 28, 2009 at B'nai Shalom of Olney. These young ladies have been attending the Derby Duck Race for the last five years. Being big fans of the ducks, they have asked their family and friends to "adopt" ducks to support this Montgomery Hospice fundraiser. Thank you, Emily and Jessie, for including Montgomery Hospice in your Mitzvah project.

### Walk 4 Hospice

*THANKS TO YOU, the 2nd Walk 4 Hospice was a huge success!*

*We raised over \$5,500.00 and donations are still coming in. That's not bad for a sluggish economy.*

*We had a beautiful, sunny day, and there were about 70 walkers who listened to music, had snacks, and walked with friends and family in honor or in memory of a loved one. Our silent auction was a huge hit, and Kirby Moffatt won the 50/50 cash raffle and gave his winnings back to Montgomery Hospice--thank you Kirby!*

*There were 222 donators (companies, individuals and families) who helped make this happen. We couldn't do it without you!!! A special thank you to Talk of the Town Entertainment Company, Nationwide Home Mortgage, Zemel Jewelers, Culver Insurance Group, Drink More Water, and all of the companies who donated to our silent auction.*

*I hope to see everyone next year at the 3rd Walk 4 Hospice. Start spreading the word.*

*Fondly,  
The Whitt Family*

## The Hospice Cup



L to R, Thomas Carroll, Dr. Joseph Kaplan (Honorary Hospice Cup Chair for MH), The Honorable Thomas DiGirolamo, Arnold Kohn (Immediate Past Board Chair, MH), Jane DiGirolamo, Ann Mitchell

# Memorial and Honorary Gifts

## In memory of:

Quentin Aanenson  
Elie Abel  
Robert Wolfe Abel  
Allan J. Abelson  
Shirley C. Adams  
Marlene Adelman  
Joan Ahrens  
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Ivar Aizkalns  
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Glorina B. "Glo" Baquiran  
Elizabeth Barlow  
Catherine Lorraine Barnes  
George L. Barnes  
Jerry W. Bass  
Mother of Dennis Bass  
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The sister of Rosalie Basson  
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Ron Domen  
Richard Dominelli  
Raymond C. Dondzilla  
Donna  
Dudley Family Aunt  
Howard B. Duncan  
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Marjorie B. Edelson  
Hessie Ederheimer  
Earl Wayne Edwards  
Mathias Egger  
Xavier W. Eilers  
Maurice Eis  
Evelyn Eisen  
Griffith Thomas "Tom" Ellis II  
Henrietta Elsberg  
Franz M. Enzinger  
Sylvia Epstein  
Beulah "Josephine" Erdheim  
Grace Ertischek  
Gilda Evans  
Blair G. Ewing  
Duncan Fairweather  
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Ronald Forman  
Barbara Foxworthy  
Clyde D. Frame  
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Margaret G. "Marge" Free  
Woodrow E. Frey  
Nina Friedman  
Lila Fritz  
Calvin Harry Fry  
Charles Fultz  
Jean Ann Tippet Gairloff  
William C. Galate  
John Gambone  
Eugenia Gapinski  
Nettie Gardner  
Francis Garner  
Shirley F. Garon  
Paula M. Garrett  
E. Lee Gartner  
John Gaunt  
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Zetta Gelb  
Harold A. Gell  
Elizabeth Gelsleichter  
Houry Geramifar  
Noah Girsh  
Heidi F. Glang  
Thelma F. Glaser  
Frances E. Gleason  
Hoke Glover  
Ethel Goldberg  
Ana C. Gonzalez  
Joseph Good  
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Eleanor J. Greenberg  
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Robert Greene  
Barbara J. Greenough  
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Laura I. Griesmer  
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Dorothy L. Moore  
Gloria J. Moore  
Michael L. Moore

Between February 1, 2009 and August 31, 2009, Montgomery Hospice received contributions in memory or in honor of the following individuals. We are grateful for these gifts.

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The naming of Logan Danielle Aronstein  
 Marietta Barcelona  
 The Bokas Family  
 Billy K. Boone  
 Louise W. Borden  
 Charline S. Butler  
 Cynthia Chappell

Cynthy's 60th Birthday  
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 Bob Egan  
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R. Katz  
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 Mother's Day  
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 The Original 13

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 RSHM Jubilarians  
 Aileen Schwartzman  
 Joey Siegel and Dan Seiden

Mitzi Silver  
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"In Honor Of" and "In Memory Of" gifts may recognize any person, including a Montgomery Hospice patient. Gifts from individual donors and gifts in kind will be acknowledged in Montgomery Hospice's annual report. Please accept our apologies if we have omitted any names from these lists.

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 Darnestown Presbyterian Women's Association  
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 Inter-Faith Chapel  
 Jewish Residents of Leisure World  
 Laurel Presbyterian Church  
 The Maryknights  
 St. Elizabeth Catholic Parish  
 St. Francis Episcopal Church  
 St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
 The German Lutheran Church  
 Washington DC

Women of St. Francis Episcopal Church

### organizations

Adventist Rehab Nursing Leadership  
 American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 86  
 Angelus Sodality  
 Aspenwood Resident Council  
 BCC Women's Golf Association  
 Bel Air Elementary School  
 Bethesda Country Club  
 Duplicate Bridge Club  
 Boy Scout Troop 781  
 Brooke Grove Independent Living Resident Assoc.  
 Casey Charitable Matching Programs  
 Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club  
 Dr. Charles Drew Elementary School Social Committee  
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 Fallsmead Home Board  
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 Northview Elementary School PTA  
 Olney Lions Club  
 The Pearls  
 Professional Nurses Club of Suburban Maryland  
 Rock Creek Maryland Republican Club  
 Rossmoor Woman's Club of Leisure World  
 South Laurel Recreation Council  
 Stitch and Chat Club  
 Transportation Communications International Union  
 Toscana Resort Rentals LLC  
 URS  
 Village of Vernon Hills  
 Wheaton Lodge No 1775  
 Woman's Club of Chevy Chase

## circle of lights

*The Circle of Light Society recognizes individuals and families who have included Montgomery Hospice in their estate plans through a bequest, trust, insurance policy or other estate-planning vehicle. We are especially grateful to these members who have the foresight and generosity to help us prepare for our future.*

Devora R. Alexander Estate  
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## calendar of events

### Memorial

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Nov 24 **Tree of Lights Ceremony.** Honor a loved one who has died by sponsoring a light in their name on the Montgomery Hospice Tree of Lights. Enjoy the annual “Garden of Lights” display at Brookside Gardens. 7:00–8:30 pm. Wheaton Regional Park, 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton. Call the Montgomery Hospice Foundation at 301 921 4400.

### Bereavement Care- Open to all Montgomery County Residents. Free. Pre-registration required. 301 921 4400

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Dec 8 **Winter Blues: Balancing Sorrow and Celebration While Grieving.** A workshop for adults who are grieving. 6:30-8:00 pm Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville.

Dec 15 **Drop-In Discussion about Grief and Healing.** If you are mourning the death of a loved one, come to this small group discussion about grief and healing. 1:00-2:30 pm. Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville.

Jan 7 **Drop-In Discussion about Grief and Healing.** If you are mourning the death of a loved one, come to this small group discussion about grief and healing. 6:30-8:00 pm. Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville.

Jan 14 **Parent Loss Support Group.** For adults who have experienced the death of one or both parents. Group meets each Thursday from 6:30-8:00 pm for six weeks at Woodside United Methodist Church, 8900 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring.

Jan 19 **Evening Grief Support Group.** For anyone grieving the death of a loved one. Group meets each Tuesday from 6:30-8:00pm for six weeks at Bethesda United Church of Christ, 10010 Fernwood Rd. Bethesda.

Jan 25 **Afternoon Grief Support Group.** If you are grieving the death of a loved one, this group meets each Monday from 1:00-2:30pm for six weeks at Trinity Lutheran Church, 11200 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda.

Jan 27 **Child, Adolescent and Teenager Grief Support Group.** For children ages 4 through teens who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling. Parent/Guardian Group meets at the same time. Each Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 pm for six weeks at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville.

### Volunteer Training

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Feb 19, 26 **Volunteer Training.** Prepares volunteers for their work supporting patients with life-limiting illnesses and the families who and Mar 6 support them. 8:30am–4:00 pm each day. Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Dr., Rockville. Pre-registration required: 301 921 4400

### Fundraising

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Mar 12 **22nd Montgomery Hospice Gala.** Eat, dance and have fun with other Montgomery Hospice supporters at the annual gala. Hyatt Regency Bethesda. Call the Montgomery Hospice Foundation at 301 921 4400.

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For information about any Montgomery Hospice event or activity, contact us at 301 921 4400. Visit [www.montgomeryhospice.org](http://www.montgomeryhospice.org) for updated calendar information.

Hospice Matters is a newsletter for family and friends of Montgomery Hospice, a non-profit organization serving residents of Montgomery County, Maryland who are bereaved or terminally ill.

## Casey House

"We gather to dedicate this home away from home...this house where miracles can pierce through the darkness. This house where fears lie conquered, hidden beyond the scope of nighttime nurturings; this house where courage and goodness abound."

Rabbi Tamara Miller



photograph by Paul Kline