



Did You Know **Fund-raising Stats**

The *Did You Know* column in the May, 2014 *Heartbeat* addressed why our fund-raisers are important. Some of you have wondered how 2014 compares with other years; the following information may be of interest.

From 2011-2013, service fee revenue averaged \$260,243 per month; the monthly average for 2014 is \$206,544.

From 2011-2013, monthly donations (memorial and general) averaged \$6,051 per month; in 2014 it has averaged \$4,256 per month.

From 2011-2013, United Way grants by month averaged \$3,217; in 2014, \$4,844.

From 2011-2013, annual event income (Spring and Fall Auctions, Golf Outing, 5-K) has averaged \$73,911. The event income for 2014 is \$99,536.

From 2011-2013, annual membership has averaged 185 members. In 2014, we had 209 members.

Loving Care donors have always been appreciated and needed partners that allow our clinical staff and volunteers to provide needed care throughout Madison and Union counties. In an atmosphere of decreased federal and state reimbursement for service fees and increased competition from national for-

profit companies, our supporters and donors are even more important.

I am personally thankful for the Loving Care staff contributions to the United Way. It demonstrates our understanding of the importance of supporting all local non-profit agencies that are committed to providing local care and services.

I am also thankful to everyone who donates directly to Loving Care.

Last month's *Heartbeat* talked about membership. Have you joined yet? You can print off a 2015 membership application at <http://www.lovingcare.us/volunteer.html> and then click the Membership tab right under the picture.

Meet the Staff



[Sandy Richardson, RN]

Sandy has been a hospice nurse with Loving Care since September, 2011. She graduated in 1977 from Madison Plains and received her R.N. from Clark State in 1984.

Sandy grew-up on a farm in Madison County. While in college, she worked as a unit secretary at Madison County Hospital (now Madison Health) She also worked there as a R.N.

She worked for 13 years at Doctor's Hospital in ICU/CCU/ Open Heart Recovery and at Grant in neuro ICU/SICU.

After back surgery, Sandy was forced to leave the fast paced world of Level 1 trauma.

Sandy loves working with hospice. Because of her hospital experiences, she appreciates how hospice preserves dignity in the dying process and allows patients and family to gather at home for end of life care.

Sandy has a daughter and a beautiful grandson. She is married to Bob and they have two fur babies named Wrigley (miniature schnauzer) and Charlie (very large cat). They love to travel by motorhome. Bob works on a NHRA Nostalgia Nitro Funny Car team and they attend many drag racing competitions. Sandy also loves to hand-quilt small quilts.



Caught You

[Whenever you 'catch' a co-worker demonstrating our core values, please take time to let their supervisor know.]

♥ Michelle Compston demonstrates Creativity by thinking outside the box and finding ways to do things more efficiently and



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more effectively. She also asks questions when she thinks something could be improved.

♥ Jaime demonstrated team work when she helped Tiffaney & Sara with the Holiday Remembrance preparation.

♥ Sherry demonstrated Creativity when she got recycling up & running smoothly. Not only did it save on shredding costs but it is helping the environment too!

♥ Kelli Hughes demonstrated Teamwork when she willingly went to see a HH patient who needed to be evaluated when the HH on-call nurse had received several calls at once.

♥ Joni demonstrates Teamwork and integrity when she frequently, willingly and with an excellent attitude, picks up extra on-call shifts and extra visits when staffing is tight.

♥ HH & H RNs regularly demonstrate Excellence according to a local physician's staff who said "the Loving Care nurses are always thorough and do a great job!"

♥ Aimee demonstrated Excellence, Transparency and Integrity when she took time on her day off to re-establish rapport with a family in need.

Board Beat



Dr. Jack Starr

YOUR BUCKET LIST

DO YOU HAVE A BUCKET LIST? YOU SHOULD. Having a bucket list means that there are things you have not yet accomplished, but would like to. Just what would you put in it? Most people list things they wouldn't do if given the chance. It is a wish list of the improbable and often impossible things. BUT you could do them, given the time, money, and opportunity. What about those individuals who do not have any of these; no time ... no money ... no opportunity?

This is exactly what terminally patients face. If asked to write their bucket list when faced with their finality in sight, it becomes real. They will not have the time to do those things they might wish to do but they can include the things that are really important to them.

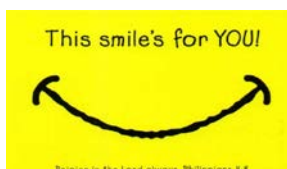
I have often said that people with a terminal illness "are truly blessed". Why would I say such a thing? Think about it for a moment. They know their time is limited, very limited. So while not dwelling on those things that are sort of 'pie in the sky' wishes, they are faced with

reality. No more time to day dream or ponder what could be; they know that list would be futile. But they have an opportunity to do and say the things that are really important in their lives. They can have a more meaningful and practical Bucket List. One that is filled with mending relationships, tying up the loose ends in their lives, saying goodbyes however painful this would be, and in general writing the last chapter in their own life.

How fulfilling it is for the families to know that their loved one did indeed complete (or at least worked on) their final bucket list. They are not snatched away in an accident or sudden heart attack leaving many loose ends in their lives. They have a chance; a chance to say and do what is meaningful to them and their loved ones.

That street goes both ways. Family members and friends also have an opportunity to tell them all the things you often hold back on; or to reminisce about the good times, the trips, the events in their life that mean much for them and you. For most of us, relationships and family are more important than any material things we could mention.

Bucket lists are good to have. They are more meaningful and practical than New Year's resolutions, which are always forgotten or rarely





accomplished. A practical bucket list for those with limited time to live is one that will have many if not all the items scratch off as completed, done, finished or accomplished. How rewarding is that? Now do you see why I think these folks are blessed.

If your bucket list is empty ... was it ever filled up or did you indeed accomplish everything on it? If you did all those things, why not fill it up again. It can give purpose and direction to your life.

Recipes

[Submitted by Mary Miller, RN]



Baked Potato Soup

- 2/3 C. Butter
- 2/3 C. Flour
- 7 C. Milk
- 4 Large Baked Potatoes diced or shredded (approx. 4 C.)
- 12 Strips of Bacon, fried & crumbled (2/3 C.)
- 1 ¼ C. Shredded Cheddar Cheese
- 1C. Sour Cream
- ¾ t. salt
- ½ t. pepper

Melt butter in a large saucepan. Add flour stirring to blend. Whisk in milk, a little bit at a time, stirring until smooth. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Add all the remaining ingredients. Stir and

heat until heated through. Serves approx. 10-12 people.

Community News

- ♥ **Jan 30th**-last day to turn in soup cans for the National Soup Month employee challenge.
- ♥ Annual Membership Meeting. **6-8 PM, March 10, 2015** @ Maranatha Community Fellowship, Lucas Rd., Plain City.

Heartfelt Thanks

The following are patient comments we have received.

- ♥ *Words cannot express the gratitude we feel for your support and care...You came highly recommended and held true to your outstanding reputation.*
- ♥ *Just a note of thanks to each of you that were involved in the care of my mom. Thank you Ina for your sweet care and answering all my questions along the way. Thank you Jason for just listening and Susie for being there for us...I truly appreciate you all.*

♥ *We would like to thank all of you for the love you showed to mom....It would have made things more difficult for us if you had not been there for mom...With all of our love & thanks.*

♥ *We appreciate all the hard work you put into making my mom's days a little brighter. May your Christmas be blessed as you have blessed ours.*

♥ *The hospice team were always respectful, friendly and caring. Aimee was with me when my husband died and was superb in her help in such a surreal situation.*

- ♥ *Thank you all for your support. It is a hard time...*
- ♥ *May God bless everyone of you for the wonderful help you give.*





Dates to Remember



Birthdays

January:

Barb Dixon, RN, 4th
Fran Hilliard, HHA, 13th
Brandy Wood, HHA, 13th
MaryJane Dengler, 20th

February:

Kelly Jo Bourne, HHA, 1st
Sophie Hall, LPN, 1st
Vicki Binns, HHA, 7th
Sara Middleton, LPC, 10th
Greg Wolfe, Clergy, 19th
Heather Harrison, LPN, 22nd
Joni Champion, RN, 24th

Events

♥ Desserts and Memories-last Tuesday of each month @ Der Dutchman

♥ **Jan 14** last day to submit "Dress Up Your Pet Day" photos to Tiffany.

♥ **Jan 30** last day to drop off soup cans for the National Soup Month employee challenge.

♥ Annual Membership Meeting. **6-8 PM, March 10, 2015** @ Maranatha Community Fellowship, Lucas Rd., Plain City.