

HOSPEACE HOUSE OF NAPLES: **Honoring Compassion and Community**

BY NANCY BALES, HOSPEACE HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESIDENT



November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, a time to honor the compassion, comfort, and dignity offered to those nearing life's end. Across the nation, hospice and palliative care programs help individuals live their remaining days with peace, surrounded by care and love.

Here in the heart of the Finger Lakes, Hospeace House stands as a cherished example of that compassion in action. This two-bed comfort care home in Naples provides 24-hour end-of-life care at no cost to residents or families, working in partnership with local hospice agencies. Within its cozy walls, families can spend those precious final days focused on what truly matters — each other.

“Hospice and palliative care is about shifting the focus from ‘working to stay alive,’ or ‘waiting to die,’ to simply ‘living each day,’” shares Dr. Robert Ostrander, retired family physician and Hospeace House Board member, who adds, “The people at Hospeace House ease the weight of caregiving, freeing families to stop worrying about the tasks of care and start sharing the moments that truly matter.”

A HOME SUSTAINED BY THE COMMUNITY

Unlike hospitals or large healthcare institutions, Hospeace House is sustained almost entirely through local support of donations, memorial gifts, community fundraisers, and grants. Every meal cooked, every light left on, and every hour of care is made possible by the generosity of our neighbors.

“Our volunteers are the heart and soul of Hospeace House. They prepare meals, hold hands, offer comfort, and bring warmth into every room. Their quiet presence transforms this house into a true home. We simply could not do what we do without them.”

- Theresa Hays, Director of Operations

In addition to volunteers, the generosity of local donors and businesses keeps the home's doors open year after year. Together, they ensure every person in our region has access to compassionate care without ever receiving a bill.

November Events

CELEBRATING CARE, COMMUNITY, AND COMPASSION

Throughout November, Hospeace House marks National Hospice and Palliative Care Month with a series of community events celebrating this mission of care. To learn more or join in any of these upcoming events, visit the Hospeace House website at WWW.HOSPEACEHOUSE.ORG/EVENTS

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MASQUERADE GALA

NOVEMBER 15 | 5:00–9:00 PM
BREW & BRATS AT ARBOR HILL

Enjoy an evening of elegance and entertainment featuring a four-course dinner, live music, and wine and specialty cocktails. Come in festive attire and help raise vital funds to support the mission of Hospeace House.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

NOVEMBER 18 | 5:30–7:00 PM
NAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

“Conversations That Matter: Planning Ahead for Peace of Mind.” A casual evening designed to help families begin important conversations about the future, long before urgent decisions are needed. Featuring Dr. Ostrander, TriciaJean Saxton (Director, Ontario County Office for the Aging), and Jennifer Lambert, daughter of a recent Hospeace House resident, the discussion will offer real-life insights and expert guidance to help bring peace of mind, reduce stress for loved ones, and ensure personal wishes are understood and honored.

HOOPS & HOPS

NAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

During November, students at the Naples Elementary School will shoot baskets, hula-hoop and jump-rope as part of this fun fundraiser that gets students active while supporting a local treasure. They’ll learn how small acts of giving can make a big difference in their own community.

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We’re so proud of how the Naples community continues to wrap its arms around Hospeace House. These events remind us that end-of-life care isn’t only about the final days. It’s about the strength of community and the love we share along the way.

Share your original stories about local heroes, community events, school achievements, or hidden gems—email your story idea to hometown@gvpennysaver.com!

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A PLACE OF PEACE AND PURPOSE

Since opening its doors in 2002, Hospeace House has cared for hundreds of residents and their families from across Ontario, Yates, and surrounding counties. Each family receives 24-hour care in a peaceful, home-like setting where dignity, comfort, and love take center stage.

Family members are always welcome to stay in the upstairs area of the home, resting comfortably while still remaining close and being present for their loved one. This unique feature helps create an atmosphere that truly feels like home, where families can share quiet moments, companionship, and peace together.

The home’s staff and volunteers work closely with hospice professionals to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual support, ensuring no one faces life’s final chapter alone. Families often describe their time at Hospeace House as a gift. It’s a place where sadness is met with grace and where every goodbye is surrounded by love.

JOIN THE HOSPEACE HOUSE FAMILY

To continue providing this care, Hospeace House relies entirely on community generosity. Whether you donate, attend a fundraiser, volunteer your time, or simply help spread the word, you become part of something profoundly meaningful. To learn more about Hospeace House, visit hospeacehouse.org or call (585) 374-2090.

HOMETOWN STORIES