

# Hospice Happenings: March 2014



WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL

## Walk in My Shoes Gala

*Walk in My Shoes*  
Celebrating 20 years of Pilgrims Hospice

DINNER & AUCTION  
FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2014

PLEASE JOIN HONORARY CHAIR  
**MISS SARAH CHAN**

AT THE 19TH ANNUAL  
WALK IN MY SHOES DINNER & AUCTION  
IN SUPPORT OF THE PILGRIMS HOSPICE SOCIETY

SUTTON PLACE HOTEL • FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2014  
10235 101 STREET

COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION: 6:00 P.M.  
DINNER: 7:15 P.M.

LIVE AUCTION WITH DANNY HOOPER  
DRESS: COCKTAIL ATTIRE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ANOTHER VERY SPECIAL EVENING  
SPONSORED BY **FLAMAN**  
Group of Companies

PILGRIMS HOSPICE PROGRAMS ARE SUPPORTED  
THROUGH YOUR ONGOING GENEROSITY

TICKETS ARE \$200  
TAX RECEIPT FOR \$125.00 PER TICKET.  
ORDER TICKETS BY EMAIL: [INFO@PILGRIMSHOSPICE.COM](mailto:INFO@PILGRIMSHOSPICE.COM)  
OR CALL DEBRA BIRKETT 780-413-9801 EXT. 302  
MONDAY – FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE BY CALLING 780-413-9801 EXT. 302

### Find us on



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### In other news

#### WISH LIST

Pilgrims' Wish List can be found updated on our website, the second Wednesday of each month... [click here](#) to see our current wishes.

### Pilgrims Hospice Society

9808-148 Street  
Ph: 780 413 9801  
Fax: 780 413 9748

If you would like to make a contribution to Hospice Happenings, or nominate a volunteer for outstanding service, please feel free to make any submissions to **Debbie Nessel**, by way of email:

[debbien@pilgrimshospice.com](mailto:debbien@pilgrimshospice.com)

Suitable additions would include such things as: stories, poems, jokes, photos, etc.

### **Forward to a friend**

Know someone who might be interested in the email? Why not [forward this email](#) to them.

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## **Volunteer of the Month**

Each month, the Pilgrims management nominates a Volunteer of the Month for their dedicated and outstanding service. Please share in the joy as we honor the following Pilgrims Hospice Volunteer, who has literally gone the extra few hundred miles for one of our clients:

**Anna Kuranicheva** is a Compassionate Companions volunteer, and has been **matched with client, Mary, since December of 2012**. Weekly, Anna will visit Mary in her care home and accomplish tasks that Mary has on the agenda; organizing the room, writing legacy letters, making phone calls, reading, steeping tea. Mary is immobile – **confined to her bed for the better part of a decade, relying on others for her every need**. Right from the first visit, Mary allowed Anna to be a part of her personal life, dictating intimate letters to family members and trusting Anna to capture every detail. This is a special match, and Anna is one of our very special volunteers, always thinking of ways to add to Mary's quality of life. Over the winter holiday Anna was away to visit a close friend in Ontario, and even though this was her vacation, she was still thinking of client Mary. Here is what Anna wrote in her monthly check-in report:

*"As I realized in January that I would happen to be very close to Aylmer [Mary's hometown], I e-mailed Mary's eldest daughter who was born there and asked about specific locations which were part of Mary's life in Aylmer and which she would still remember. The daughter told me about Mary's childhood home, two churches, and high school. When I came to Aylmer, I was able to locate and photograph all of them except for one of the churches which burnt down and was demolished several years ago. This Wednesday, I brought the photos to show to Mary on my laptop. She appeared very pleased and touched, especially seeing the photos of the house in which she grew up. Mary's enjoyment of looking at the photos was enhanced by sharing this experience with her friend [who coincidentally was visiting at the same time] from P.E.I., who also grew up in Aylmer and went to the same high school with Mary, and who was able to recognize many buildings and locations in the photos and situate them in the historical context for Mary. Mary was very grateful for the photos and for what she perceived to be a significant effort on my part: to set aside time to go to Aylmer and spend a few hours there just to capture the locations which would bear a special meaning to her. **On my part, however, I did not view it as an "effort" or doing something "out of my way". This trip to Aylmer***

***was one of the brightest highlights of my vacation: a combination of a historical tour and a pilgrimage to a place to which one of my friends had a deep connection.”***

Thank you Anna, for your consideration, compassion, and dedication - you are outstanding, and we are humbled to provide you with this recognition. Congratulations!

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## **Adult Bereavement Support**

We each experience loss and grief in a unique way, and likewise, our responses to the process of healing are as individual as we are. As we grieve, it is helpful to connect with others for support, to process the feelings of grief and loss, and explore the tools available to us as we cope, reconcile, and begin to heal.

**Grief Journeys**, the adult bereavement group, is open for spring registration. It will run on Monday evenings April 28, 2014 – June 23, 2014, 6:30-8:30pm.

Please contact Jesse McElheran at (780) 413-9801 ext 307, [jessem@pilgrimshospice.com](mailto:jessem@pilgrimshospice.com), if you would like more information or to register in the group.

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## **Hearts for Hospice**



On February 9, 2014, the third annual *Hearts for Hospice* charity dinner, packed the house with 80 individuals in support of Pilgrims Hospice Society. Hosted by Anna Muze, owner, of [Il Forno Ristorante](#), this fun event raised over \$15,000. We are very grateful for our friends of hospice: the Muze family; local talent, Tenor Power, for outstanding entertainment; and the superb Il Forno staff, who donated their time to provide an exquisite dining experience. The lasting relationships with

our community allow us to support those in need - we are all part of the bigger picture, and we thank you for sharing your hearts with hospice.

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## Dream Interrupted: Child Loss Conference

The Pilgrims Hospice BriarPatch Centre for Grieving Families is honored to host [Dream Interrupted](#), an important gathering for grieving parents and family members, as well as community support professionals, and trained volunteers; exploring the loss of a child through the eyes of parents and professionals. Highlights of this event include two days of healing experiences for the parents and family members who attend, collaborative networking opportunities for the professionals, and educational and interactive workshops for all.

The conference will take place October 2 - 4, 2014, at Festival Place in Sherwood Park, Alberta. Please save the date, spread the word, and watch our website events for further details and upcoming registration announcement.

[Abstract](#) submissions are now being accepted, and we look forward to hearing from those who have talent or expertise to support or guide those attending the event.

For further information please contact Cheryl Salter-Roberts, [cherylsr@pilgrimshospice.com](mailto:cherylsr@pilgrimshospice.com)

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## Fabulous Entertainers



**Tenor Power**, performing at the 3rd annual Hearts for Hospice charity dinner.

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## Celebrate our 20th Anniversary



In this 20th year of offering supportive hospice programming to our community, we are celebrating through partnership with individuals, families, and businesses.

Sponsorship packages allow our anniversary partners to be recognized in various ways, such as, plaques adorning our entranceway, mention within our external communications, features at multiple prestigious Pilgrims events, as well as reserved VIP attendance at our annual gala.

**Principle Partner \$20,000**

**Major Partner \$12,500**

**Supporting Partner \$5000**

**Community Partner \$1000**

**Sunflower Partner \$500**

There are limited opportunities at each partnership level, and they are selling out fast. Please contact Sebastian Panciuk, Executive Director, for more information [sebastianp@pilgrimshospice.com](mailto:sebastianp@pilgrimshospice.com).

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## **Writing Your Ethical Will: An Introduction**

This **FREE** introductory session is for Volunteers and Staff of Pilgrims Hospice Society, taking place on the evening of March 27, 2014.

Writing an ethical will is an ancient tradition used to pass on personal



values, beliefs, blessings and learned wisdom to future generations. Created at any age or life circumstance, it is a way to leave behind a legacy of values rather than of valuables.

In this presentation, Carol Kodish-Butt will introduce different approaches to creating this document which examines two of the most fundamental questions of life: who am I now? and what do I hope to leave behind?

For those wanting the full experience of creating an ethical will, a Thursday afternoon, six-week, group series is scheduled to commence in April. Registration fee \$50/person.

Please contact Debbie Nessel, [debbien@pilgrimshospice.com](mailto:debbien@pilgrimshospice.com) for more information or to sign-up for either opportunity. Space is limited.

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## Picture Perfect



A few attendees of Hearts for Hospice 2014.

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