We are thrilled to announce that our very own Sarah Woodard will be awarded the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award by Duke University on May 6. This award recognizes generosity, service, integrity, and deep spirituality, as well as nobility of character. We couldn’t have said it better ourselves. Congratulations, Sarah!

We need your input. In an effort to improve our planning process, this is the time of year when we poll our volunteers to see if the way we do business is conducive to your work with us. Were you trained sufficiently for the tasks you do? Are you sufficiently recognized for the work you do? Would you like to take on additional or different tasks for Duke HomeCare & Hospice? This is a chance to get your two bits in. If you have access to the internet, you can take the survey online at https://duke.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6PxNLHdrhUZD5qs. If you would like a paper copy of the survey, please call Carolyn. We appreciate the time it will take to fill out this survey.

Through all of its programs Duke Hospice strives to give extraordinary care to our patients and families. One of the ways we evaluate our efforts is through the Press Ganey Satisfaction Survey each family is asked to complete when their patient goes off service (for whatever reason). Our volunteers are sometimes well placed to encourage the family to fill out the survey form. If you have an opportunity to do so, please let the family know that these surveys help improve our service for the next family. If in the course of volunteering your patient or caregivers express any concerns about the care they are receiving, please let us know and encourage them to discuss their concerns with their team or a supervisor. Call Carolyn for information on our Strive for Five program to ensure the best possible care for our patients and families.

Focused weekend training (18 hours) for patient / family support volunteers will be offered May 13-15 (Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday). If you or anyone you know is interested, please call Carolyn for more information. And if you’d be interested in brushing up your skills in one of our training modules, give Carolyn a call to check the agenda. Current volunteers are needed to help with the volunteer panel Sunday afternoon May 15.

The complementary therapies program (see last month’s continuing education for an overview) is up and running at the Hock Family Pavilion and we are ready to roll it out at the Meadowlands. If you or a colleague are practitioners of Reiki, Healing Touch, or massage and would like to offer these services to Duke Hospice patients in our In-Patient Units, please call Carolyn for details about whether this program would be a good match for you.
The Golden Jubilee Caregiver and Senior Expos will run May 4 3 pm -7pm & May 5 9 am to 1 pm at the Jim Graham Building at the NC State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. We need volunteers to help share information about our Duke Hospice volunteer opportunities. If you have a couple of hours to give on these dates, please give Carolyn a call. For more information about the Expos, http://goldenjubileeexpo.com/index.html.

Duke Hospice Volunteer Continuing Education Opportunities:

The Duke Hospice Book Group will meet Thursday, June 23rd at 6 p.m in the Durham office to discuss Art Buchwald’s Too Soon to Say Goodbye. Buchwald’s wonderful tales of being pitched out of a hospice home because he wouldn’t die, the funeral he planned, the eulogies he commissioned early so he could read them before he died, and the usual award-winning Buchwald tomfoolery. You can borrow a copy of the book from the Volunteer Services Library. Many heartfelt thanks to Rana Davis for leading this group.

Mark Higgins, president of Hall Wynne Funeral Home of Durham, will again present Funerals 101 (talk and tour) at the office on Main Street. If you have interest in learning what death services are available here in the area, plan to attend. Date in June TBD.

Many thanks to those intrepid gardeners who have adopted the patios at Hospice at the Meadowlands. On these warmer days we are seeing new plantings out there that are bring joy to our patients and their visitors. Your special gifts lift their spirits each and every day.

Unicorn Bereavement Center is seeking a volunteer to help with maintaining the bereavement library. If you would like more information about this opportunity please call Carolyn.

Please check your Duke Hospice Volunteer badge. If it expired or is coming due in the next three months please call Carolyn today so she can get you a new badge.

From the Desk of William Holloman, Manager, Duke Bereavement: Camp ReLEAF 2011

The 20th annual Camp ReLEAF will run May 21st -22nd. Help spread the word by sharing information about Camp ReLEAF with your friends, family, or the hospice families you serve. Information about Camp ReLEAF is available on our website--www.dhch.duhs.duke.edu. If you belong to a group who would like to hear about Camp ReLEAF or would be interested in learning about opportunities to provide financial support, please let us know. Applications are being accepted for campers on our website. Thank you for all that you do to support the work of Duke Community Bereavement Services in the community.

Generally at this time of year we have passed through the bad weather for a while—no more icy roads, no hurricanes for a few more months. But this year the whole “in like a lion / out like a lamb”, “April showers bringing May flowers” business has been just a little too intense. Most of us have a wind and hail story worth telling about the Saturday that the tornadoes blew through our area. It may be redundant to say this, but we’ll say it nonetheless: Please put your safety first when you are out and about on hospice business—visiting your patient, covering a shift a one of the IPUs, or working in the office. Postpone your errands until you and the roads are safe. Please stay home if there is severe weather in the forecast and let your patient/family or the staff you were scheduled to work with know you will not be coming.
Join other volunteers at our **care shawl meeting** at Chapel Hill Bible Church on Thursday, May 26 at 7 p.m. Our shawl program continues to grow and our patients continue to tell us how much the shawl mean to them. Thank you to all those who share their gifts of knitting and crocheting.

### The next Admission Packet Assembly

Workday is coming up, Saturday June 4 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Durham office. Call Carolyn if you and a friend or two will be coming for the fun. In addition to the good time we have, this monthly chore is critical to the smooth functioning of Duke HomeCare & Hospice, and our clinicians thank you profoundly. Please join us.

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**News from the DHCH Development Department:** The **9th annual “Oh, What a Night!” Gala** will be held Saturday, June 4, 2011, at Treyburn Country Club. This annual event raises much needed funds to support hospice services. ABC 11 Lead Anchor Larry Stogner will once again emcee this year’s event. Your $100 ticket includes dinner, dancing to the music of Gaston, drinks, and live and silent auctions filled with an array of great trips, jewelry, unique experiences, gift certificates, and much more. Each attendee will receive a gift bag filled with goodies and prizes to take home. For tickets, please contact Michael Lowery at michael.lowery@duke.edu 479-0319 or Dale Horton at dale.horton@duke.edu 479-0318. Tables for 10 are also available for purchase. Come out and enjoy an evening on the town while supporting patients who need end of life care. More info at [www.dhch.duhs.duke.edu](http://www.dhch.duhs.duke.edu).

Keep an eye out in some upcoming publications to see promotions about the Oh, What a Night! Gala. Our media partners include: Durham Magazine, Boom Magazine!, Money Mailer of Durham/Orange, Seniors Guide, Senior Living Guide and Fairway Outdoor Advertising. Billboards will be up in early May promoting the event on I-85, Hwy. 70 and I-40 (in Raleigh).

HBO will premier “**How to Die in Oregon**” on May 26. This award-winning (Sundance Film Festival) documentary deals with the death with dignity law in Oregon. The trailer for this conversation provoking film: [http://www.traileraddict.com/trailer/how-to-die-in-oregon/trailer](http://www.traileraddict.com/trailer/how-to-die-in-oregon/trailer).

If you have interest in watching and discussing this film with other hospice volunteers, please let Carolyn know.

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**A RESOURCE FOR YOU** Continuing Education for May—A new essay by Stan Goldberg, PhD. **“Caregivers: We’re Not Mother Teresa”**

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For more information contact:
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Website dhch.duhs.duke.edu

One of the [hospice] volunteers told me, “The cream of volunteering is contact with patients, and being able to communicate to them that another person cares about their dying.” He said one of the most gratifying moments he had experienced was when a patient said, just before dying, “Thank you for caring.” --Art Buchwald, *Too Soon To Say Goodbye*

And thank you, as always, for everything you do for our patients and families. Carolyn

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Mission Statement: Duke HomeCare & Hospice will provide innovative, thoughtful care, using an interdisciplinary team approach, to achieve the best possible outcomes for the patients, families and communities we serve.