

Hospice Headlines

Spring/Summer 2025

Working Towards a Cure for Alzheimer's

Over 7 Million Americans are currently living with Alzheimer's and one in three older adults will die from some form of dementia. The Alzheimer's Association is working relentlessly to lead the charge in care, support, research and advocacy for those affected.

"Alzheimer's and other dementias are diagnoses we see frequently in hospice care. This type of disease can have a devastating affect on both the patient and their family. Finding more ways to battle it, or even cure it would be phenomenal," said Circle of Love Patient Care Coordinator Stephanie Smith, RN.

Until there is a cure, hospice is able to help in a variety of ways, They provide medications to relieve pain and other symptoms, give emotional support, supply volunteers to provide respite for caregivers and offer the assistance of a chaplain, pet therapist and music therapist. Hospice also has a call nurse available 24/7 to help with issues in the middle of the night.

Meanwhile, The Alzheimer's Association is fighting tirelessly to find a cure. Their annual walks held across the country help fund their mission. Hospice Circle of Love staff and volunteers will participate in the Enid event. It is scheduled for October 25th at 9:30 AM starting on the courthouse lawn by the gazebo. To join a team as a walker, or to donate to the event go to enidwalk.org.

There have been some recent developments in the efforts to fight Alzheimer's. This includes a new blood test recently cleared by the FDA. It measures two proteins that indicate the disease.

If it is detected, the patient can take advantage of treatments that slow the progression of the disease at an earlier stage. There is also a new medication given in the form of a monthly infusion doctors can prescribe that slows progression for a larger percentage of patients than previously existing drugs. Nearly half of the participants in clinical studies for this new drug, Donanemab, showed no clinical progression of Alzheimer's at the one year mark of taking it. In contrast, an older drug staved off progression for 27% of users.



George
Stover (top)
and John
Foster are
both living
with
Alzheimer's.
Alicia
Hughes, LPN
and other
Circle of
Love staff
are honored
to help care
for them.

In this issue:

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Volunteers are a Priceless Commodity



Volunteer Mickey Chapman has served 15 years at Circle of Love.

Hospice Circle of Love Volunteers provide companionship, comfort and compassion to patients at such an important time.

One such volunteer, Mickey Chapman has been with the organization for 15 years. As a former nurse, her knowledge and passion for caregiving comes naturally. Mickey was recognized for her service at the annual volunteer dinner in April.

"Knowing I bring comfort to a patient on this part of their life's journey and easing the caregiver's work is the reason I am a hospice volunteer," said Mickey.

"Volunteers are vital to our mission of helping patients and their families to live life to its fullest. Each year they give between 5% and 10% of the care that the paid staff provides," commented Volunteer Coordinator Julie Nelson. "We so appreciate all they do."

Hospice Sale, a Great Place To Shop for Books

Customers lined up early, then poured through the doors and started their book sale shopping right at 9:00 AM on April 25th. They had so many great books to choose from, including the most mysteries the sale had ever had. Great finds also included non-fiction, westerns, sci-fi, puzzles and much more.

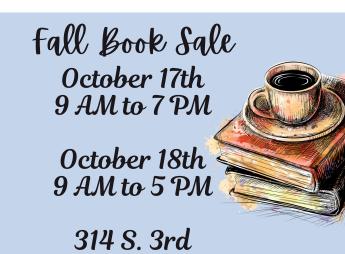
The annual Fall Book Sale will be the next chance for customers to stock up on their reading. That event is scheduled for October 17th and 18th at Hospice Circle of Love.



Hospice Volunteers sort books and work each sale.



Customers look through their favorite genres at the spring book sale.



Run for the Roses Leads to Fun Event



Top: Mint Julep Jubilee participants dress the part Above: Circle of Love Director Chad Caldwell poses with Andy and Kelly Ward who "purchased" the winning horse.

The most exciting two minutes in sports did not disappoint this year. The 151st annual Kentucky Derby was as exciting as ever and while it rained at the track, the participants at the annual Mint Julep Jubilee watched the race in the comfort of Oakwood Country Club. Participants at the annual fundraiser did dress as if they were at Churchill Downs including donning big hats and bow ties.

In addition to watching the race, participants tried to guess the race winner for the chance at some great prizes, enjoyed southern food and drinks and played casino games.

Next year's Mint Julep Jubilee Fundraiser will be held May 2nd.



The night was capped off with some casino games.

fall grief group

If you are grieving the death of a loved one, consider attending Hospice Circle of Love's Fall Grief Group. The sessions are open to anyone 18 and over who is interested in meeting others going though something similar. The group will meet the first four Tuesdays in October from 5:00 PM until about 6:00 PM. Because grief has no timeline, it doesn't matter if the death was recent or some time ago. The sessions will each focus on a different aspect of the grieving process. Call Circle of Love Chaplain Shelby at (580) 234-2273 to sign up.





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October 25th 9:30 AM Courthouse Lawn

To sign up or donate: EnidWalk.org

24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900

