

# Storylines

A bi-monthly publication from AuthoraCare Collective

April/May 2021

## IN DIFFICULT TIMES, Look for Silver Linings.

**“My mother was a strong, competent woman who taught me that life is less about what happens to you than how you choose to respond ... it is about looking for the silver linings.”**

*– Dyan Arkin, 2021 Annual Campaign Chair*



*Pat Braden (left) and her daughter, Dyan Arkin.*

**By Jane Gibson**

This past year was a difficult one for Dyan Arkin and her family. It began with the fears and restrictions of COVID-19 and was followed soon after by her mother's surprising diagnosis of inoperable Stage 4 lung cancer. As a person who instinctively looks for the silver linings in difficult situations, Arkin was immediately grateful that a few years back, she and her husband had remodeled their home to include a private suite for her mother. She was also grateful to have a job that allowed her to work remotely from home at a time her mother needed more help.

By early October of 2020, Pat Braden was declining, and her doctor suggested they call AuthoraCare.

“I still remember the day the hospice nurse came out,” shared Arkin. “She listened carefully to my mother's concerns and asked about those things that mattered most to her.”



Braden's answer came quickly and with great enthusiasm. She wanted to live long enough to vote in the November presidential election and she really hoped to die at home with her family, in her own room, with her cat, Hoppi (pictured left), by her side.

Her first wish was accomplished easily. In fact, Braden not only voted, but was able to watch the inauguration on television. However, it was her second wish that proved to be the greatest challenge.

On October 29, 2020, the family's neighborhood experienced a storm that produced a microburst of wind. Four huge trees were toppled in their yard, one of which was a 90-foot oak that crashed through the second floor of their home. A contractor visiting a nearby home rushed to their aid, rescuing her husband from the second floor where he was trapped. Arkin pronounced this as another example of silver linings, along with the fact that miraculously none of them were injured. However, the house was not as lucky.

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# CEO Reflection

## AuthoraCare's Story Continues to Evolve

As we celebrate spring – a time of new beginnings – one can't help but feel inspired.

The vaccines have brought us hope, and all around us we are witness to nature's transformation from one season to another. It is a reminder that despite the challenges of this past year, our story continues.

For more than a year, most of the AuthoraCare staff have worked remotely to minimize personal contact and to remain healthy. Our clinical teams on the frontlines have continued to meet patients where they are, using PPE to keep all safe.



Kristen Yntema

I am incredibly proud of how all of our team members have continued to build connections with patients, families, donors, and one another despite the limitations brought by the pandemic. Hopefully, we will soon return to more traditional work routines, including in-person counseling and educational services. As nature reminds us, we must forge ahead.

In March, our Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan which provides direction and focus for AuthoraCare's next chapter. We plan to build on our hospice foundation and find new ways to expand access to our expertise. This coming year, we will continue to identify the needs in our community that we are ideally skilled to address.

Ten community leaders, six Executive Team leaders and four consultants assisted in the tremendous effort of writing this plan.

This journey has caused me to pause and reflect on our Core Promises:

- *Each story is unique – We meet you where you are to discover your distinctive story.*
- *Your voice matters – We listen because your wishes inform your care journey.*
- *Your story will be honored – We know inclusion, trust and respect form our foundation for delivering programs that impact lives.*
- *Stories unfold and evolve – We actively seek awareness of your changing needs and goals.*
- *Your story will be supported – We embrace you with expert physical, emotional and spiritual care throughout your journey.*
- *Understanding comes from knowing – We believe open, honest and transparent communication leads to informed care.*

At each step of the process, these promises were honored. We have such a rich legacy, serving people with advanced illness. And our Core Promises describe our ongoing commitment to patient-centered care. We look forward to building on these strengths to serve even more members of our community.



**Kristen Wither Yntema, MBA, MHSA**

President and CEO, AuthoraCare Collective

# Look for Silver Linings

(cont. from cover)

Friends and total strangers came to their aid. The family's three cats were boarded and hotel rooms were booked. And through those first few chaotic days, the AuthoraCare hospice team was right by their side.

"I remember sitting with our hospice social worker," Arkin said. "I had just begun to realize the extent of the damage to our home; repairs were complicated and would take months."

At a time when Arkin did not have the bandwidth to sort through all the details, the social worker listened and encouraged. She reminded Arkin that Beacon Place could provide temporary respite care for her mother while Arkin focused on finding housing.

Through all these changes, which ultimately involved two more moves, Braden was so accepting. She'd often tell her daughter, "Do what you have to do ... I'll be fine." But as Braden began to decline, she needed more help and so did her daughter.

Arkin explained that her mother was a private person and was not thrilled with having others, including her daughter, care for her. At 86, Braden was still sharp as a tack and wanted to be in charge.

"Luckily, our hospice nurse was a perfect fit," Arkin said. "She was funny, quirky, open and honest - everything my mother loved! Our nurse knew what we needed, even when we didn't know ourselves."

When members of the hospice team would visit, Arkin would slip out of the room for a break and to offer her mother privacy for those visits.

"I was so impressed with the relationship each team member cultivated," Arkin explained. "Even my mother's wonderful hospice aide found a way to offer her a bath in a way she could tolerate and eventually enjoy."

Having spent 20 years with the City of Greensboro's Planning Department as a Project Manager, it is not surprising that Arkin would describe herself as a very pragmatic and analytical person. But those skills seemed to offer her little assistance as she struggled to navigate her mother's terminal illness and become a caregiver.

In the face of her mother's decline and all that was swirling around them, Arkin considered AuthoraCare their one constant and a calming, reassuring force.

"Their guidance helped make the time my mom and I had together less stressful and more meaningful. We learned that by focusing on the moment at hand, all the other unimportant things just fell away. Those were such sweet times, times that surprised us both - times I will carry with me always."



Pat Braden



## A NOTE FROM DYAN ARKIN

As a way of celebrating my mother's life and recognizing the outstanding care she received from hospice, I am lending my voice to AuthoraCare by serving as the chair of their 2021 Annual Campaign. Won't you join me in making a donation?

When you give, you will be helping AuthoraCare provide services to those impacted by serious illness, loss, and change. Your gift can also help to assure these services will be available, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.



Visit [authoracare.org/annualcampaign](https://authoracare.org/annualcampaign) to donate today!





# We Honor Veterans



## Connecting Generations

### Honoring the Rich History of the Montford Point Marines

By Linda Ann Fitts

When the United States was preparing for war in 1940, many jobs in the defense industry were being established.

However, Black people seeking to serve their country in the United States Marine Corps suffered discrimination. These first Marine recruits received their basic training in segregation at Camp Montford Point in Jacksonville, N.C. from 1942-49.

"I have been a member of the National Montford Point Marine Association Inc. for over 20 years. When I was a Sergeant in the Marine Corps, I was amazed to learn all the things they went through to serve their country," said Tammy Williamson, retired U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt., and president of the National Montford Point Marine Association (NMPMA), NC Triad-Triangle Chapter 38. "Since that time, much has changed. On June 27, 2012, former President Obama signed into law to award the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest award Congress can award a civilian, to the Montford Point Marines."

The Montford Point Marine Association is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) veterans' organization, founded to memorialize the legacy of the first Black Marines to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps.

"Out of 20,000 of the original group, only around 2,800 have been located and recognized as Montford Point Marines. They fought for the right to fight and it is important that we honor our trailblazers by educating our communities of their role in U.S. history," Williamson said. "We can also help by establishing effective programs and partnerships that will work together to enhance the quality of life within our local communities."

In January of this year, Williamson attended the AuthoraCare Collective We Honor Veterans virtual meeting and shared the history of the Montford Point Marines. She also gave an overview of how her organization supports educational assistance programs and community services, with an emphasis on improving the social conditions of the growing population of military veterans who are disabled or senior citizens.

April Herring, Community Education and Outreach Coordinator at AuthoraCare Collective, met Williamson at a Triad Veteran Coalition several years ago and has had the opportunity to partner in several events hosted by the NMPMA NC Triad-Triangle Chapter 38.

"After hearing the story of the Montford Point Marines, I knew immediately the importance of honoring the rich history and legacy of these brave Black Marines. The Montford Point Marines are a significant part of our local history and American history," she added.

Working to educate others about this group helps to connect generations. It also aligns with our goal at AuthoraCare Collective to identify, recognize, and honor all veterans.



*April Herring, Community Education/Outreach Coordinator, and Mary Manley, Director of Growth and Provider Relations, are shown at the Seventh Annual Black History Month Gospel Festival Celebrating the Montford Point Marines. More than 600 people attended the event on Feb. 1, 2020 at the Mebane Arts and Community Center. AuthoraCare Collective served as the only nonprofit exhibitor. [Photo submitted]*



# Connecting with Fellow Veterans

## VET CONNECT FACILITATORS TALK ABOUT WHAT GROUP MEANS TO THEM

By Charity Apple

Vet Connect offers veterans a way to discover resources and fellowship with one another.

Meetings are held in Burlington, Mebane, and Yanceyville. Facilitators are Hank Williams (Burlington); Kenneth "Carl" Singley (Mebane); and Fred Smith (Yanceyville.)

All three of the program facilitators have served in the military. Williams and Smith are Vietnam veterans and Singley served in Vietnam and was a part of Operation Desert Storm.

"A veteran has never met a stranger - if that person also is a veteran. They can relate to each other in a way that those who aren't veterans won't understand," Williams said.

Williams typically carries resource guides in his truck so he can hand them out, as needed, to answer general questions veterans may have.

Guest speakers participate in all three programs and the other common connection - "We don't talk about politics," Williams added.

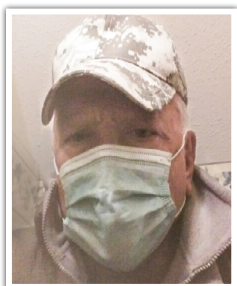
The Burlington meeting takes place at 10 a.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Golden Corral, 3108 Garden Rd., Burlington. During COVID-19 restrictions, Zoom meetings were held.

The first in-person meeting in more than a year, was held on April 7.

"It's a great resource for veterans. Some qualify for benefits they don't know about and that's where this group comes in," Williams said.

All veterans are welcome to attend. "If they have 181 days active duty, they're eligible to be a part of Vet Connect," Williams said.

Carl Singley (below), a retired minister, said that Vet Connect "reminds me a little bit of church. There's no preaching, but there's lots of fellowship and food (usually coffee and doughnuts)."



The Mebane meeting is at 9 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Mebane Arts & Community Center, 633 Corregidor St.

The meeting was suspended for a few months due to the pandemic but has since

returned to its usual spot at the Arts & Community Center.

"We all wear masks, social distance and we've had our vaccines," Singley said.

Community sponsors have made it possible for veterans to enjoy refreshments during the meetings. "We appreciate our sponsors," Singley added.

Smith said that there are three American Legion posts and one Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Caswell County so he "tries to keep the guys up on all that's happening. The Veterans Administration (VA) sends me information by email that I relay to them."

He also serves as commander of VFW Post 7316, something he has done for about 13 years now.

"I enjoy working with and helping veterans," he said.

The Yanceyville meeting is typically held at 9 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Caswell County Senior Center, 649 Fire Tower Rd., Yanceyville. However, Smith said that the date in June, when meetings will resume, may change.

Those interested in the Burlington Vet Connect program can contact Hank Williams at [hankret2018@gmail.com](mailto:hankret2018@gmail.com). For the Mebane program, text Carl Singley at 336.524.3532. And for the Yanceyville program, contact Fred Smith at 336.514.1521 or [fsmith7143@embarqmail.com](mailto:fsmith7143@embarqmail.com).

If you are interested in helping form a Vet Connect group for Greensboro, contact Teresa Reed, Director of Volunteer Services, at [teresa.reed@authoracare.org](mailto:teresa.reed@authoracare.org).



*Hank Williams, facilitator of the Burlington Vet Connect program, is shown in a pre-COVID-19 meeting at Golden Corral in Burlington.*



*Fred Smith, facilitator of the Yanceyville Vet Connect program, is shown in a pre-COVID-19 event at the Caswell County Senior Center in Yanceyville. [Jeannine Everidge]*





# What's Happening?

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Mindfulness

*A virtual workshop for grieving adults*

**Thursday, May 20**

**6 – 7:30 p.m.**

### Remembering Our Fathers

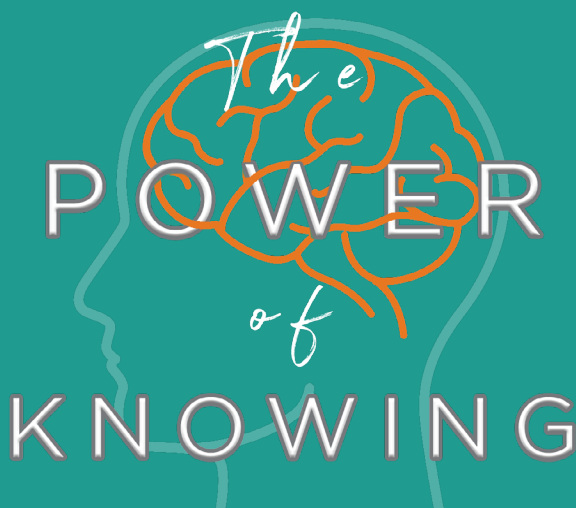
*A virtual workshop for those who have lost a father or father figure*

**Thursday, June 10**

**6 – 7 p.m.**

To register and receive information, contact 336.621.5565 or email [griefsupport@authoracare.org](mailto:griefsupport@authoracare.org).

Visit [authoracare.org](https://authoracare.org) for our most current calendar.



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### UPCOMING WEBINAR

#### **Risks and Resources When Caring for Veterans**

Veterans have made tremendous sacrifices on our behalf. At AuthoraCare Collective, we believe it is never too late to thank a veteran for their service. We participate in the national We Honor Veterans program, a commitment which has inspired us to partner with the Veterans Administration to highlight the fact that veterans in our community are at higher risk for mental health issues, including suicide. Many people are not comfortable having conversations about mental health and suicide and are unsure of when and how to find available resources. This webinar can help.

**Tuesday, May 18, 12 - 1:00 p.m.**

Register at [authoracare.org/knowning](https://authoracare.org/knowning)

#### ***Did you know?***

**Veterans are 1.5 times more at risk to die by suicide.**

Here are the latest statistics from The Department of Veterans Affairs:

- An average of 20 veterans die every day by suicide, with the highest age group being those ages 18 to 34.
- 58 percent of veteran deaths by suicide had a diagnosed mental health or substance abuse disorder.
- 70 percent of all veteran suicide deaths involve guns as compared to 48 percent of civilian suicide deaths involving guns.
- A vast majority of veterans that die by suicide are not seeking services from the Veterans Administration (VA).
- More deaths by suicide occur among those active duty military who have never been deployed.

# STOCKING THE PANTRY

## Miss Tarheel State Elementary Second Grade Collects 402 Items for AuthoraCare

By Charity Apple

**M**adaline “Maddy” Richardson, Miss Tarheel State Elementary Second Grade, along with her mother, Latosha “Tosha” Richardson, delivered 402 items to AuthoraCare Collective on April 5 for our patients and their families.

Canned food, paper products, soap and toiletries, and dog and cat treats were collected by the Richardsons to stock the pantries on the two campuses.

Maddy helped tote the items (some which were bigger than her) to the sidewalk for Cathy Lohr, Volunteer Coordinator for Kids Path, to sort through. Half of the items were delivered to the Burlington campus the next day.



Cathy Lohr and Maddy Richardson

“I like helping people!” Maddy said, enthusiastically, “smiling” with her eyes.

The donation drive began Feb. 18 with a social media campaign. Maddy and her mom documented the donations they received

on Maddy’s Facebook page, Maddy’s Place.

Tosha said the idea for the donation drive began when she contacted hospice aide Marichia Perkins and “asked if there was anything we could do to help. We are aware of AuthoraCare, but I think that sometimes people forget that there are things you can do to help – especially during this pandemic.”

Maddy encouraged her classmates at Shining Light Baptist Academy to participate in the donation drive.

“The first-grade class who got the most donations got a pizza party,” Maddy said. “My class won!”



From left to right: David Wall, in Maintenance on the Burlington campus, and Dianne Smith and Carol Story, Volunteer Coordinators on the Burlington campus, are shown with the items Maddy donated.



Madaline “Maddy” Richardson, Miss Tarheel State Elementary 2021 Second Grade, poses with the 402 items that she donated to AuthoraCare Collective on April 5 on the Greensboro campus.

The Elementary America system’s national platform is BRAVE (Building Relationships and Valuing Everyone) and Tosha said that Maddy enjoys encouraging young people to help others.

Last year, Maddy gave Pearl Monroe “Roe Roe” Tucker (daughter of WGHP anchorman Brad Tucker) a sash and crown. Roe Roe is battling cancer and her journey has been documented on Facebook by her father.

“Maddy wants to help kids who are struggling, by encouraging them to be brave and confident in themselves,” Tosha said. Tosha and Maddy are currently working on a book series, for ages 4 to 8 years old, called “Your Big Day.”

“Our goal is to teach these kids resilience, make kids strong proactively by preparing them for whatever that big day may be – the first day of school or as in Roe Roe’s case, the first day of cancer treatments,” Tosha said. “We want to help kids prepare for tragedies and successes.”

Maddy and Tosha will travel to Little Rock, Ark. June 20-25, where Maddy will compete in the Miss Elementary America Pageant. The pageant is for those in kindergarten through sixth grade.



# Backbone Behind the Beauty

## Gardening Volunteers Love What They Do

By Charity Apple

Whenever Sally Cobb, AuthoraCare Collective's Horticultural Therapist, is complimented on the gardens, her response is - "It wouldn't be like this if it weren't for our volunteers. They're the backbone behind the beauty here."

Pandemic restrictions have prevented large numbers of volunteers from being in the garden at the same time, but Cobb has continued to enlist the help of volunteers, two at a time, each day that weather permits.

True Campbell, an AuthoraCare Collective volunteer, said that Cobb will typically text her at the beginning of the week to check on her availability.

On sunny days, Campbell said that "as many as five visitors will be seated on the benches in the gardens. It's a wonderful place to peacefully contemplate what's going on. It was also a brilliant plan to have a multitude of bird feeders around the gardens for patients and family members to watch the birds."

Mike Evans, a community gardening volunteer, is one of the people responsible for distributing birdseed. It's something he's enjoyed doing for about nine years now.

"My mother was never one of those people who was particularly interested in birds, until she came to Beacon Place. She talked about how the birds were going about their lives - despite the pain and suffering that's going on in the world," Evans said of the birdfeeder that was located outside of her room.

Filling the feeders, he said, "makes me feel like I am staying in touch with my mom in some way. It's a real joy for me to think I helped bring an ounce of joy to someone else."

Sally Cobb and volunteers were working in the garden one day when Carl Wilson walked up to them and said, "these gardens have been a respite for me - keep

up the good work." While Wilson's mother was at Beacon Place, he would sit outside in the courtyard and watch the birds come and go.

After his mother died, Wilson inquired about becoming a community gardening volunteer.

"My wife and I have always enjoyed working in our own yard," he said. "I love working outdoors and always come in feeling like I am tired in a good way. That's how it's been volunteering at the gardens - I am tired in the best way."

For 17 years now, Andres Mosquera has enjoyed volunteering in the gardens.

The pandemic has prevented him from being there, until recently.

"Everybody there is so wonderful. They're a very special group of people," he said. "There's something spiritual about plants and flowers. I enjoy knowing that all of the gardening work is very much appreciated by both the patients and their families at AuthoraCare."

Meg Rudd met Cobb through a garden tour 10 years ago.

Gardening, Rudd said, "is one of the few things you can do during this pandemic. It makes you forget what's going on in the world around you. It just makes my day to get out there and work. Sally is such a good inspiration for everyone, too. The gardens look marvelous and a lot of work has gotten done, despite the pandemic."



Gardening volunteers Meg Rudd and Sherry Sedam pose for a photo. [Sally Cobb]



The view from room 6 at Beacon Place. [Sally Cobb]

continued on pg 10

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Corks for Kids Path Planned As Virtual “Party in Place”

By Paul Russ

Due to continued uncertainty caused by the pandemic, Corks for Kids Path will be a “Party in Place” this year. On Wednesday, June 23, participants will gather from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Zoom to raise their glasses and toast the important work of Kids Path.

“The kids need our support and we cannot continue to postpone our efforts,” said Jessica Ketner, chairperson for the event. “We remain cautiously optimistic as COVID vaccines offer a ‘light at the end of the tunnel.’ But due to the unpredictability of another pandemic wave, and everyone’s safety being an utmost concern, we plan to make this year’s event a virtual celebration of Kids Path.”

The volunteer planning committee is arranging a brief, yet exciting, program that will include an inspiring video and raffle drawing. Organizers are aware that a virtual toast doesn’t compare to the traditional Corks For Kids Path experience. But it is imperative to move forward with raising critical resources for the program.

While the pandemic is affecting the way we gather, it has also made coping with illness and grief more challenging than ever, especially for children.

Patti Gasparello, Director of Kids Path, said that “the Kids Path team and I appreciate all the work that goes into organizing the evening. The losses that kids have experienced from the pandemic have added a layer of complexity to their losses of loved ones. Regardless of a number of personal losses and changes due to the pandemic, our Kids Path team has remained passionate and committed to doing all we can to help children and families coping with illness and loss.”

This year, ticketholders will receive a small bottle of sparkling wine along with log-in instructions to participate.

“We hope to create a sense of community in these unprecedented times,” Ketner said. “Family and friends can still gather in their homes. We can all log on and raise a glass together to support Kids Path.”

There are some silver linings to a Party in Place. Guests can dress to impress or wear their comfy clothes, and the abbreviated event is on Wednesday night, leaving one’s weekend open for other activities. The best silver lining of all is that we get to support Kids Path while staying safe and healthy!



Longtime event partner Zeto will curate some of their best loved wines for sale. They plan to donate 100 percent of the profits from any sales to Kids Path. They are calling it a Case for the Cause. Cases (12 bottles) can be preordered for \$250 each. Whether attending the event or not, anyone can order a case of reds, a case of whites or a mixed case. Cases will be available for pick up or delivered locally the week of the event.

Another way people can participate is to take a chance in the Experience Raffle.

“We are selling 100 raffle tickets for \$100 each for a chance to win a wonderful experience,” said Ketner. The winning ticket will be drawn at the event on June 23 and the winner will be able to choose their prize from among three different experiences. There is an in-home Italian wine tasting, a trip to Louisville, Ky. featuring a tour of the Kentucky Bourbon Trail and admission to the Louisville Slugger Museum, and a Nashville trip that includes a Grand Ole Opry House backstage tour. The trip selections are redeemable through December 2022.

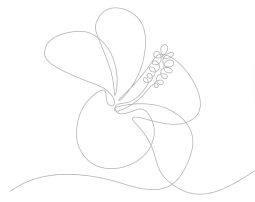
Anyone looking to sponsor or participate in any way can learn more at [www.corksforkidspath.org](http://www.corksforkidspath.org).

Su Peterson and Penny Demetriades, co-owners of Zeto, at Corks for Kids Path 2019.



# Gardening Volunteers

(cont. from page 8)



Sherry Sedam has been an AuthoraCare Collective volunteer for 25 years, with 10 of those years as a gardening volunteer. John Van Hine, who is developmentally disabled, has been Sedam's work partner for more than 24 years.

"We started working together when he was 17," she said. "I have been a part of their family for so long." Van Hine has been unable to volunteer during the pandemic, but Sedam has helped out a few times.

"I like the people I work with and everyone does such great work," she said. "It was the best decision I ever made - volunteering for Hospice."

Judy Aydelette is the "official weeder." She has been a gardening volunteer for two years now. Both her mom and dad were gardeners and "I swear it's in my blood," she said. "I do it for my self-satisfaction. It's rewarding knowing I'm helping somehow."



*Judy Aydelette coerced this tangled root out of its comfortable spot. [Sally Cobb]*

Amber Huntsinger, a student at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, has been a gardening volunteer since November 2019.

During the pandemic, she has volunteered about once or twice a month.

"I have been able to carry on with my normal gardening duties during the pandemic such as watering, trimming and weeding," she said. "I enjoy working outside, and also interacting with other volunteers while gardening."

In May, Amy Greeson and her husband, Greg, will celebrate five years volunteering in the gardens.

Her mother was at Beacon Place for six weeks and although it was during the winter at the time, Amy said she "could tell that the garden was special."

"It was unseasonably warm that year and Sally brought her flowers," Greeson said. "It meant so much to my mother and it meant so much to me."

Last summer, Amy and Greg went once a month to water or "do whatever Sally needs us to do."

"I always planted flowers for Mom on Mother's Day," she said. "This is my way of continuing to plant flowers for her. Hospice did such a phenomenal job of caring for Mom. I'm so happy that we can give back in this way."



*Amber Huntsinger recently trimmed back the ornamental grasses that will conceal part of this boulder during the spring and summer months. [Sally Cobb]*



*Amy and Greg Greeson, gardening volunteers, pose for a photo in the gardens. [Sally Cobb]*

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## AuthoraCare Collective in the News

### Organization and Team Members Recognized

By Charity Apple

AuthoraCare Collective has been recognized both locally and nationally in the last few months.

The organization won first place in the 2021 Aging Media Network's (AMN) Aspect Awards for its Multimedia Campaign in the Hospice & Palliative Care category.

"In rolling out a whole new brand, it's very affirming to have independent healthcare marketing experts acknowledge the power of our messaging for the AuthoraCare Collective kickoff campaign," said Stan Massey, Partner/Chief Branding Officer with Transcend Strategy Group.

The first-ever marketing awards program recognized excellence in marketing and advertising in the senior housing and care industries.



Mary Manley, Director of Growth and Provider Relations, was selected to the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's (NHPCO) Diversity Advisory Council.

She is one of 15 people chosen from across the United States to provide information, guidance and

expertise to the NHPCO and its members related to serving diverse communities. The council supports the Inclusion and Access Tool Kit for creating inclusive organizations. The kit will focus on culturally competent outreach and care for people of color.



Mary Manley

"Meaningful change begins from within an organization and is reflected in how we treat each other. It is the foundation required to honor every patient's story and to offer every individual dignity and respect," she said.

Before joining AuthoraCare in 2018, Manley worked for more than 20 years in sales and marketing within the senior health care industry. Born and raised in Greensboro, Manley graduated from North Carolina State University. She and her husband live in Browns Summit and have two adult sons.

The Triad Retirement Living Association recognized Maura Barber, Homecare RN, as the Elder Caregiver of the Year in the Home Health Hospice and Homecare Category during its Facebook Live event on March 18.

Terri Dickson nominated Barber. "She has such a caring heart and a calming spirit," Dickson said in her nomination.



Maura Barber

Barber's infant daughter, Lucy, died from bacterial meningitis. While in grief counseling at Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro (HPCG), she felt guided to a second career. She began as a volunteer with HPCG before taking a paid position, which eventually led to nursing school and a career as an RN with Wesley Long Hospital. While at Wesley Long, Maura worked in oncology before joining the team at AuthoraCare.

During her time at AuthoraCare, Barber has helped numerous people through the process of facing the end of life, and the grief that accompanies this.

AuthoraCare Collective strives to honor our patients' stories and this is exemplified through the recognition our organization and team has received.



*Your Story.* Our Expert Care.

Palliative | Hospice | Grief Support | Kids Path

914 Chapel Hill Rd, Burlington, NC 27215  
2500 Summit Ave, Greensboro, NC 27405  
authoracare.org

Formerly Hospice & Palliative Care Center of Alamance-Caswell  
& Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro

## Our Mission

AuthoraCare Collective empowers people to be active participants in their care journey, enabling them to live on their own terms through personalized support for mind, body and spirit.

## VIRTUAL 5K | CEREMONY ON JUNE 5

# THE HUMAN RACE



SUPPORTING LOCAL NONPROFITS SINCE 1994

AuthoraCare participates in the annual Human Race to raise support for our Elizabeth “Clay” Smith Patient Assistance Fund - a fund that is used to cover basic needs for patients without the ability to pay. This support may be in the form of assistance with emergency housing and utility expenses. It may also be used to creatively support more unique needs of patients such as paying for veterinary expenses to keep a patient’s beloved pet close by or helping to fulfill a patient’s dying wish.

**More information about this virtual event will be available soon on the [Volunteer Center Website](#). In the meantime, we invite you to join AuthoraCare for this year’s Human Race by donating or joining our team.**

**[DONATE OR JOIN OUR TEAM TODAY!](#)**

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