

## Save the Date



Samaritan's Annual  
Golf Tournament

South Jersey's Favorite Golf Outing!

Sponsored by  
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Monday, June 24, 2019  
Little Mill Country Club  
Marlton, NJ

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5 Eves Drive, Suite 300  
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## Everlasting Love & Dedication



Frazier Alburger and his beloved wife Marie commemorated their 40th wedding anniversary with a special blessing and celebration with the help of Virtua Rehabilitation Center staff and her Samaritan hospice care team.

Frazier sported his best ensemble – a black tuxedo. His bow tie and cummerbund meticulously matched the red roses and heart-shaped balloons that adorned the tables. Marie wore a floral dress with a light blue jacket embellished with a large red and pink embroidered rose near the lapel. Roses were Marie's favorite flower so it was only fitting to be surrounded by them.

The couple welcomed eight of their closest church friends and neighbors to celebrate this milestone. The group enjoyed fellowship and a buffet lunch while a violinist played softly in the background.

Samaritan Spiritual Support Counselor Marie Mitarotondo read from 1 Corinthians 13, a meaningful passage also read at their wedding more than four decades ago.

*Love is patient, love is kind... love bears all things, believes all things,  
hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.*

Echoing Corinthians, Frazier's love for Marie is everlasting. Marie lived with end-stage Parkinson's disease and dementia, and her devoted husband visited her for many hours each day at the rehab center. They went outside on nice days, participated in Center activities, listened to music, and watched TV.

Frazier, a retired law enforcement officer and teacher, treasured these moments. He is forever grateful to Samaritan for helping him celebrate the love he and his wife share.

Choose comfort.

Choose Samaritan.

(800) 229-8183  
SamaritanNJ.org



# HELPING HANDS

2019 Community Newsletter, Issue 1



## Hospice Nurses Advocate for Comfort and Dignity

A Samaritan hospice nurse is a vital part of your family's hospice care team. Together with physicians, social workers, spiritual support counselors, home health aides, volunteers and other specialists, hospice nurses address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of a family. **But what exactly does a hospice nurse do?**

### Coordinate Care.

A Samaritan hospice nurse focuses on providing personal, customized care and quality of life for patients who have been diagnosed with six months or less to live. Hospice nurses develop a plan of care for the entire hospice care team to follow. They work in tandem with other providers and specialists to manage pain and monitor vitals.

### Educate and Guide.

Samaritan hospice nurses ensure patients and their families understand what hospice and palliative care is, and how families can work together to follow the plan of care. They teach caregivers how to administer medicine and look for possible side effects. Hospice nurses provide insight on everything from nutrition to skin care, and are always ready to answer any questions.

**Offer a Calming Presence.** When your loved one is ill, you deal with anxiety, fear and other difficult emotions. A Samaritan hospice nurse is there to provide guidance and support by talking about what to expect as death nears.

If you're interested in learning more about hospice care, please call us at (800) 229-8183 or visit [www.SamaritanNJ.org](http://www.SamaritanNJ.org).

## Honoring Father's Wish for Comfort at Home

At 90, JoAnn Tomarchio's father was feeling as well as could be expected. But suddenly, just before Christmas, his health turned and in just days he went from the emergency department to the ICU. JoAnn was shocked and unprepared to find herself at her father's hospital bed as a priest administered the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

"His wish was to come home, even for one day," JoAnn remembers. The family was determined to honor that wish, but recognized they would need help – so they called Samaritan.

Samaritan nurses settled JoAnn's father at home, making him comfortable. JoAnn recalls how the nurses worked to help her family understand their father's prognosis, what his needs were, and what their supporting roles would be. "They were experienced, caring, gentle – outstanding," she says.

JoAnn and her family worried about the awesome responsibility of caregiving, especially administering their father's medication. "We were apprehensive, but we knew we had to help my father stay calm and comfortable," JoAnn says. The nurses spent time getting to know the family and putting them at ease. "When one nurse found out I had three college degrees, she said if I could accomplish that, I could surely give my dad's medications," JoAnn says. "So I did."



JoAnn Tomarchio and her dad

After several days at home with the help of Samaritan, JoAnn's father passed away early in the morning on Christmas day. "I thought, 'Are they really going to come here at this hour on Christmas day?'" JoAnn wondered about calling Samaritan at 2 a.m. Her question was answered swiftly – a Samaritan nurse arrived on her doorstep at 2:30 a.m. to help the family with the passing.

Looking back, JoAnn, who recently reconnected with Samaritan through her involvement with the United Way, is grateful for Samaritan's guidance and presence, especially at the holidays. "I firmly believe we did everything possible to help my dad die in peace, at home," she says.

If you're interested in learning more about hospice care, please call us at (800) 229-8183 or visit [www.SamaritanNJ.org](http://www.SamaritanNJ.org).

## Department of Health Commissioner Visits The Samaritan Center at Voorhees



Samaritan welcomed New Jersey Department of Health Commissioner Shereef Elnahal, MD, MBA to The Samaritan Center at Voorhees.

Dr. Elnahal met with key Samaritan leadership to discuss Samaritan's commitment to education and research to improve access to high quality, patient-focused, culturally-appropriate care for people living with serious illness in South Jersey.

(Left) Mary Ann Boccolini, president/CEO, Commissioner Shereef Elnahal, MD, MBA, and Dr. Stephen Goldfine, chief medical officer.



## New Board of Trustees Officers Elected



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## Engaging the Muslim Community

Shaykh Dr. Tahir Wyatt (left), United Muslim Masjid director of Islamic education, and Dr. Stephen Goldfine, Samaritan's chief medical officer, led a conversation with Muslim community leaders about the importance of honoring the goals, values, and faith teachings of people facing the end of life.

Starting this important dialogue will provide ongoing opportunities to learn about the Muslim faith and how best to care for members of their community living with life-limiting illness.

## Addressing Spiritual Needs at the End of Life



Brother Tom Osorio, chair of Samaritan's Catholic Ministry Advisory Committee and executive director at St. John of God Community Services, presents Marge McGinley, Virtua chaplain, a token of appreciation for her years of volunteer service to Samaritan's Via Lucis Ministry for Catholic Patients & Families.

McGinley served on the Catholic Ministry Committee for more than a decade and played a key role in creating Samaritan's spiritual support kit offered to Catholic hospice patients and their families. The kit contains a holy water bottle, prayer cards, bedside crucifix, rosary, and Catholic devotional to help families find hope, grace, and the solace of prayer as they support each other on their sacred journey. She also championed Samaritan's *Way of Light* Catholic hymns CD.

## Partnering with NJHA and AARP



Samaritan partnered with the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA) and AARP New Jersey to host a workshop for healthcare professionals and community members about the important of advance care planning.

The thought-provoking morning included presentations about POLST (Practitioner Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment), the differences between hospice and palliative care, the challenges of caregiving, and related legislative updates.

(Left) Mary Ann Boccolini, president/CEO and Cathy Bennett, NHJA president/CEO

## A Lasting Way to Remember Your Loved Ones



Robert T. Hoey taking a photo of the paver donated in memory of his grandmother and long-time Samaritan volunteer, Marie Hoey.

Samaritan now offers a unique opportunity to place a lasting gift at The Samaritan Center at Voorhees. Memorial pavers are a beautiful way to remember a loved one or honor an individual or family. These lasting expressions of support are installed as borders on the walking paths around the gardens at The Center.

Samaritan's memorial pavers are available in three sizes. Their respective price – as well as total number of lines and characters (including spaces) are as follows:

- 6"x6" Paver with 4 lines, 10 characters each (including spaces) – \$350
- 6"x12" Paver with 5 lines, 15 characters each (including spaces) – \$700
- 12"x12" Paver with 6 lines, 15 characters each (including spaces) – \$1,000

If you have any questions about our memorial paver program, please contact Samaritan's Development Office at (856) 552-3205 or email Marcy Di Blasio at [mdiblasio@SamaritanNJ.org](mailto:mdiblasio@SamaritanNJ.org).

## Successful Gala Benefits Patients & Families



Samaritan's TEAM Gala, presented by **Holman Enterprises**, welcomed more than 350 guests and raised more than \$195,000 for programs and services that benefit seriously ill patients and their families.

► This year we honored three families for their dedication to Samaritan - The Gladdens, Buehlers, and Mancines. (left) Darryl & Andrea Gladden; Carl & Mary Beth Buehler; Cliff and Kathy Mancine.

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More event photos  
at [SamaritanNJ.org](http://SamaritanNJ.org)



**Gala Committee:** Committee Chair Lindsey Watson McCarthy, Debbie Troy, Theme Chair Kathy Dugan, Jamie Bratton, Anita Bremer, Fran Herr, Linda Delamar, and two professional football cheerleaders



Samaritan President/CEO Mary Ann Boccolini, Emcee Jon Runyan, Board Member Michael McCarthy, Gala Committee Chair Lindsey Watson McCarthy



Board Chair Phillip Heath and wife Marché



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**Give the Gift of Comfort**

Choose Samaritan.

## Make a Real Difference in the Care and Lives of Your Family, Friends, and Neighbors: Give the Gift of Comfort

The origin of the hospice movement was rooted in philanthropy and volunteerism: neighbors joining together to care for one another. Today, local, community-based, not-for-profit hospices (like Samaritan) make up about one third of the nation's hospices; and – thanks to the support of the communities they serve – are able to go above and beyond; carrying on this local tradition, and providing additional and expanded services and programs, which are un- or under-reimbursed, and, consequently, often not offered by for-profit hospices.

The charitable support of generous donors like you allows Samaritan to better care for our patients and their families, providing such services as grief support, palliative care, hospice care for Veterans, music and massage therapy, two inpatient hospice centers, and end-of-life care planning and educational outreach.

Whether by making an outright annual or monthly gift, naming us as the beneficiary of memorial gifts in lieu of flowers, supporting our gala or golf outing, placing a memorial paver, naming a patient room in Voorhees, or joining the Legacy Society by including Samaritan in your will or estate plan, your generous support will have a deep and lasting impact today, right here, in your community, providing comfort, dignity, and peace for your friends and neighbors. Our donors also give for many reasons: to say thanks for the care their loved ones have received, to leave a legacy or lasting memorial, or to ensure the continued availability of hospice for generations to come.

To learn more about the many ways you can give the gift of comfort, contact Chris Rollins, CFRE at [CRollins@SamaritanNJ.org](mailto:CRollins@SamaritanNJ.org) or (856) 552-3287, or visit [www.SamaritanNJ.org/giving](http://www.SamaritanNJ.org/giving).