

# FOUNDATION FORUM

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS  
HOSPITAL

FOUNDATION

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## NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

2008-2009

### Board of Directors:

Julie Thompson (Chair)  
Jan Boycott (Vice-Chair)  
John Metson (Treasurer)  
Rhonda Cunningham (Secretary)

Joy Cullen  
Lynn Hardy  
Ann Logan  
Christine McCleary  
Kaye Hoskin  
Robert Biron  
Diane Saunders  
Jennifer Stadtker  
Louise Stevenson  
Janet Trevail

## DONORS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE MEET DOMENICO AND FRANCESCA DEPALMA



Photo by Vince Mammoliti

Family, friends and local dignitaries gathered at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Cobourg on Saturday, January 10 to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of prominent Cobourg residents and long-time NHH Foundation donors Francesca and Domenico DePalma.

Francis and Don to many, the couple started the day at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church with a renewal of their wedding vows presided over by their sons, Frank and Paulo, and many members of their extended family.

It was a fitting tribute to a respected couple that, in MPP Lou Rinaldi's words, has played an important role in shaping this town into what it is today.

In lieu of gifts, guests were invited to consider a donation to one of the DePalma's favourite local organizations. As a result, the NHH Foundation was again the recipient of the DePalma family's generosity, with almost \$19,000 donated to NHH as a direct result of their anniversary event.

Thank you Don and Francis for continuing to nurture and support the Northumberland Hills Hospital!



## 2008 YOUTH CARES COMMITTEE



We are excited to introduce you to the members of the **Youth Cares Committee** for 2009. Students from each high school in west Northumberland come together through this energetic committee to organize an event to raise critical dollars in support of NHH. While one of the primary goals is to raise money, it is also hoped that students will develop strong leadership skills and learn valuable information in pursuit of a career in the medical field.

On Saturday, May 9th the **Youth Cares Committee** will host **"Search Party! A Scavenger Hunt for Health"**. For more information please contact John Russell at 905-372-6811 ext. 3065.

Pictured is the **2009 Youth Cares Committee**:

*Back row (left to right) Sarah Arthur (CDCI East), Kristin Ward (St. Mary's), Charlotte Gadon (PHHS), Zoe Begopoulos (PHHS), Leif Simmatis (CDCI West)*  
*Middle Row (left to right) Sam Spalding (St. Mary's), Erin Fernhout (CDCI West), Jessica Curtis (CDCI West)*  
*Front Row (left to right) Lexa Bachle (TCS), Sara Tohyama (TCS), Katie Essak (TCS).*  
*Missing from Photo: Sheilagh Jones (St. Mary's) and Emily Taylor (St. Mary's)*

## NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEERS

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. In addition to the Board of Directors, many community members serve on various committees. We're pleased to introduce you to three of our newest Finance Committee members.



**Don Knights** – Don has served as Branch Manager of the downtown Scotiabank for the past 12 years and has been in banking for over 28 years. Don holds the designation of a Chartered Financial Planner and is licensed as a Certified Financial Planner. Don is a member and past Treasurer of the Rotary Club of Cobourg and a Past Director of the

Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce and the Cobourg Soccer Club. Don is married to Jane, an RN in the ICU at Northumberland Hills Hospital and they are proud parents to two daughters, Sara and Cheryl.



**Susan Carmichael** – Susan has spent her career in the financial services arena focusing on electronic initiatives which included the development of e-commerce strategies and new banking products and services. She has over 30 years of experience as a consultant working with institutions, vendors, and

retailers from all over North America, Mexico, and the U.K. and previously as an employee of Bank of Montreal. Susan moved 5 years ago to a property north of Port Hope and is honing her gardening skills. She is currently Chair of the Port Hope House Tour and a fundraiser for the local Architectural Conservancy of Ontario.



**Rob Boycott** – Rob is a graduate of the University of Calgary, Bachelor of Social Work Program and a graduate of Queen's University where he received a Master's of Public Administration. He has enjoyed a career in the financial services industry since 1984 and is a Financial Advisor with Raymond James. 2008

marked Rob's presidential term with the Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce. He has been involved in numerous community service organizations including the United Way.

## EXTRAORDINARY GIFTS FROM EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is thrilled to announce that it has received not one but two \$1,000,000 bequests. The bequests were received from the Estate of Marjory Harris and from the Estate of Rosamond Comrie.

Ms. Harris passed away at the Northumberland Hills Hospital on December 6, 2007 – one day shy of her 78th birthday and Ms. Comrie passed away November 8, 2007.

Even though each were well-known to the hospital Foundation, the gifts they left through their wills came as a complete surprise to Rhonda Cunningham, Executive Director of the NHH Foundation. “Both Ms. Harris and Ms. Comrie had a long history of financial support to the Foundation. I had the opportunity to visit with each of them on several occasions and they never shared their plans to provide for such a gift to the hospital. We were completely surprised”, says Cunningham.

### About Marjory Jean Harris



Ms. Harris, although born in Calgary, lived most of her life in Toronto, and worked in the medical profession. Both her grandfather and uncle were prominent Toronto surgeons. She retired to the Port Hope area, where her family had settled in 1793 and had always maintained a close connection, and cared for many years for her aging parents. In 1997, she moved to Cobourg and immediately established support for the NHH Foundation through an annual gift to the **Caring for Generations Society**.

### About Rosamond Comrie

Ms. Comrie and her family were long-time residents of Cobourg. Her parents (Fred and Edna) and brothers were in the construction industry, while Ms. Comrie worked her entire career as an executive assistant in Oshawa.

She was often generous to the hospital and recently purchased three electric beds to honour the memory of her parents and brothers.

Lynn Hardy, Chair of the Foundation's Planned Giving Committee, noted that these bequests present wonderful opportunities to invest in several of the Foundation's fundraising programs.

“Our Board thought it was very important to steward these legacy gifts to ensure that we honour these two extraordinary women. To this end, we will establish the **Marjory Jean Harris Endowment Fund** and the **Rosamond Edna Comrie Endowment Fund**. By doing so, this provides a substantial annual gift, in perpetuity, reflecting their interest in providing support to the hospital.”

“In addition to this, we are also able to allocate a portion of their estate to the hospital's current medical equipment needs through gifts to both the annual core equipment program and the **“Care Close to Home...Diagnostic Imaging Equipment Campaign,”** continued Hardy.

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is extremely grateful and very fortunate to be the recipient of these gifts.

### Words of Praise....

*When I was at the hospital today for my mammogram, everyone from the volunteer who greeted me at the registration to the person on the desk and the staff in the Clay and Elaine Elliott Women's Health Centre were wonderful. I was very impressed with their friendliness and professionalism in greeting and welcoming me to each area. They made that not so pleasant procedure to be actually almost a pleasant experience.*

*D. Saunders*



## "LIGHT UP A LIFE" CAMPAIGN RAISES OVER \$104,000 FOR NEW MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The annual **"Light up a Life"** campaign ended in mid-January and was a great success. During the two month campaign the west Northumberland community showed how generous it could be and donated \$104,125. The funds raised will help pay for high priority medical equipment for different areas of the hospital, including:

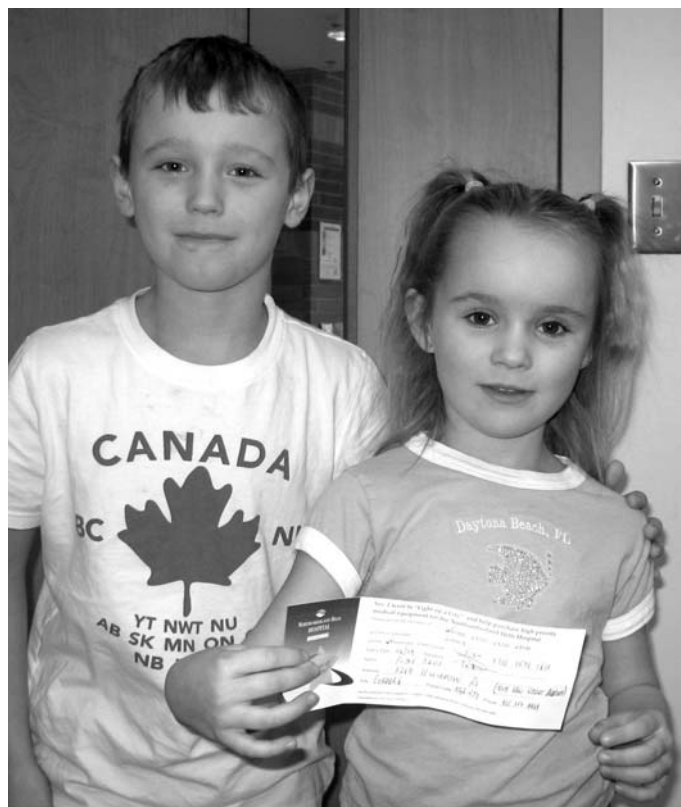
- **Fetal Monitor** (Birthing Suites)
- **Cystoscopes** (Ambulatory Care Clinic)
- **Pyxis Medication System** (Operating Room)

During the campaign a number of events were held to raise funds. On December 6th, the members of the Port Hope Fire Department collected change from shoppers at Davis' Independent Grocer while members of the Alnwick/Haldimand and Cobourg fire departments did the same at Northumberland Mall. The firefighters' combined efforts raised \$4,802.

Special thanks to Sabic Innovative Plastic's employees, who made a significant donation and to the Lakeshore Lions Club of Cobourg, who gave \$2,000 to the campaign.

Another highlight of the campaign was the lighting of the Rotary Club of Cobourg Courtyard on December 10th. The fun-filled family evening featured refreshments, cookie decorating for the children and entertainment by The Good Lovelies.

The Foundation would like to say a big "thank you" to Dr. Barnard-Thompson, who did an outstanding job as the Chair of this year's **"Light up a Life"** campaign.



Joseph and Hannah Davis visited the Foundation Office to present their family's donation to the 2008 **Light up a Life** Campaign. (Absent from the photo is their sister Sarah)

*"On behalf of the medical staff I'd like to thank everyone for their generous support. It's truly encouraging to see that our community understands the value of a well-equipped hospital."*

*Dr. Kathy Barnard-Thompson, Chair, 2008 "Light up a Life" Campaign*

## SPOTLIGHT ON...THE CARING FOR GENERATIONS SOCIETY

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation receives financial support through a variety of fundraising programs throughout the year. All of these programs, when added together, result in an average annual program that generates approximately \$1.2 million.

One of the Foundation's core programs is called the **Caring for Generations Society**. Introduced in 2002, this annual giving **Society** has grown significantly as a result of dedicated donors and volunteers. Last year, funds raised through the **Society** exceeded \$130,000 and supported the purchase of medical equipment such as a portable ultrasound unit, specialized support mattresses, cystoscopes, and the list goes on.

Featured below are some commonly asked questions and answers that have been developed to increase awareness about this **Society**.

### What is the Caring for Generations Society?

The **Caring for Generations Society** is comprised of donors who make an annual gift of \$1,000 or greater in support of the hospital.

Gifts to the Foundation on an annual basis are cumulative and will help you reach the \$1,000 level to obtain **Society** membership.

Medical equipment typically requires upgrading every five to ten years. Our goal is to create a strong philanthropic program that will allow us to keep our hospital on the leading edge well into the future. The funds raised through the **Society** help provide the hospital with an ongoing stream of financial support that they can depend on.

### How will my donation be used?

Each year the hospital develops a priority medical equipment list and donations to the **Society** help to meet these equipment needs.

### Is it possible to make my donation monthly?

**Yes.** At the present time, many of our current members chose to make their donation on a monthly basis. As a matter of fact, donors can choose their own timetable for donations (i.e. monthly, quarterly, irregular, annual).

Many of our members have opted to make their commitment through a pre-authorized debit of \$83.33 a month.

### If my financial situation changes, can I cancel my pledge?

**Yes.** Membership in the **Society** is completely voluntary and can be changed at any time.

### How will my gift be recognized?

Each year, eligible **Society** members will be recognized on our **Caring for Generations Society** donor wall. In addition to this annual recognition, members will be permanently



Pictured are members of the **Caring for Generations Society** volunteer committee including Julie Thompson (left), Karen Parker (centre), and Louise Stevenson (Chair).

recognized on the Foundation's main donor wall (prominently located inside the main entrance of the hospital).

Throughout the year, members are also recognized at a special annual reception along with invitations to attend public hospital and Foundation events.

Of course, if **Society** members wish, they can remain anonymous. It is important to note, that in many cases, your recognition will inspire other like-minded individuals to consider a gift in support of the hospital.

### Will I receive a donation receipt?

**Yes.** All gifts are tax deductible.

### Why does the hospital need my on-going financial support?

While funds are provided by the provincial government to build and operate hospitals, the acquisition of capital equipment – the tools that are fundamental to patient care – is increasingly the responsibility of the community.

Our hospital is considered state-of-the-art. Our goal now is to ensure that we keep pace with technology and its many advancements. Gifts through the **Society** are one way that we can help our community the most.

### How is a gift to the Society different than a gift to the Light up a Life campaign?

Every gift in support of the hospital helps to purchase equipment. The **Light up a Life** campaign is only different in the fact that this campaign focuses on a specific item or items urgently needed by the hospital. This campaign is launched in mid-November and ends in mid-January.

### If I want more information, who do I contact?

Rhonda Cunningham, Executive Director  
Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation  
(905) 377-7767

## THE NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION'S GOOD NEWS PAGES

*Good News*



### **"Thanks for Life" Ride A Great Success**

Congratulations to Grahame Woods who raised over \$20,000 during his **"Thanks for Life"** Ride. Grahame rode 2,254 kms between April 25 and October 23, 2008 and collected pledges along the way in support of a new defibrillator for the Emergency Department. Joining Grahame in the photo are Agnes McNab – who made a generous contribution to the ride (*left*) and Linda Calhoun, RN – Program Director for Emergency Services at NHH.



### **Miracle Day**

Lynn Agueci (*centre back*) and Gord Ley (*right*) of CIBC Wood Gundy – The Ley Investment Group, were pleased to see one of two sleep chairs and bassinets they recently donated, in use at the hospital. Their donation of \$7,300 was made possible as a result of CIBC World Markets Children's Miracle Day program. Each year, on the first Wednesday of December, commissions earned are made available to more than 350 children's charities across Canada. Also on hand for the photo were Brenda Eakins, RN (*back left*) and new mom Jacklyn Numminen. Baby son Troy is enjoying his sleep in the bassinette.

*Good News Good News*



# Good News Good News

## LIUNA Local 183 Training Centre and LIUNA Local 183

Since 2001, the Labourers International Union of North America (LIUNA) and LIUNA Local 183 Training Centre have contributed over \$78 000 in support of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation. Representing over 30,000 unionized members, Local 183 and the Training Centre have continuously supported a variety of Foundation programs over the years. The Training Centre made a \$25,000 pledge to help pay for the CT scanner and recently John Poirier (right), Training and Facilities Coordinator – Eastern Campus, presented Foundation Chair Julie Thompson with the final payment of \$5,000 on this pledge.

The LIUNA Local 183 Training Facility, located on Dodge Street in Cobourg, has been home to the Foundation's annual gala ball since 2004. The dedication and co-operation extended to the gala's volunteer team by the Training Centre's staff during the set up and take down of this event is extraordinary.

The Foundation would like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to the LIUNA Local 183 Training Centre and the members of Local 183 for not only their outstanding financial support but for all the assistance they provide in ensuring the gala is a success.



## In Loving Memory....

In memory of her father-in-law John "Jack" Jones, Teresa Jones (*left*) made a quilt to raise money in support of cancer patients and donated it to the Northumberland Hills Hospital. Jack, after battling prostate cancer, passed away from the disease at only 61 years of age on July 4, 2008. Jack was a patient of the Chemotherapy Clinic and the family was grateful for the care that he received. The Jones family, along with hospital staff, sold tickets on a raffle that featured the quilt as a prize and raised over \$1,100. Congratulations to Jan Monteith on winning the coveted prize. Wrapped with Teresa in the quilt is Jack's wife Cathy Jones.



## Quote of the Month

*"Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need."*

- Kahlil Gibran

## IN REMEMBRANCE OF BOB MACCOUBREY AND NICK HATHWAY



In the month of December, the Northumberland Hills Hospital family mourned the loss of two dynamic volunteer leaders. Hospital staff and volunteers wish to extend their condolences to the families of Bob MacCoubrey and Nick Hathway. Both Bob and Nick were valued volunteer leaders and they will be greatly missed.

## WELCOME TO ROBERT BIRON



The Northumberland Hills Hospital welcomes Robert Biron as its new President and CEO. Formerly a Vice-President, Diagnostics and Support Services with Guelph General Hospital for ten years, Robert joined NHH in November 2008. His professional credentials include a Master's of Health Science, Health Administration degree from the University of Toronto and a Canadian Health Executive designation. He is a Chartered Accountant with a designated specialty in information technology. **Welcome Robert!**

## VOURNEEN "BUFF" JACK MEMORIAL CENTRE

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation is pleased to recognize and thank the Board of Directors of the Vourneen "Buff" Jack Memorial Centre for its recent donation of \$4,100. We sincerely appreciate the support extended to the hospital.

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### PRIVACY STATEMENT

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting privacy. We do not rent, sell, or trade our mailing list. The information you provide will be used to keep you informed and up-to-date on the activities of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation—including programs, services, special events, funding needs, and opportunities to volunteer or to give—through periodic contacts.

If at any time you wish to be removed from any of these contacts simply contact us by phone at (905) 377-7767 or via e-mail at [rcunningham@nhh.ca](mailto:rcunningham@nhh.ca) and we will be pleased to accommodate your request.