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Southeast Hospice Recognizes Volunteers

DECEMBER 08TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Cape Girardeau, Missouri - Southeast Hospice honored its dedicated volunteers at its 20th annual appreciation banquet held in November. McCombs Funeral Home and Cremation Center has sponsored the event since its inception.

Volunteer Joy Galentine of Jackson received the 2015 Cherub Award. The Guardian Angel Award went to Carolyn Pickens of Jackson, and Mark Kiblinger Cape Girardeau received the Gabriel Award.

The Cherub Award recognizes any volunteer or group of volunteers who offer support primarily in the areas of fundraising, office support and public relations. The Guardian Angel Award is given to a Hospice volunteer who expresses dedication to patients and families. The Gabriel Award is the highest award and recognizes a volunteer who has shown dedication to patients and families in a variety of ways, both directly and indirectly.

Galentine joined Southeast Hospice in 2011. "She spends a considerable amount of time in the Hospice office, putting in 237 hours this year through her almost weekly visits to the office," says Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Pearla Smith.

Pickens started volunteering with Southeast Hospice in 1997. "She has been known to serve two patients at a time. She relates well with patients and families, often delivering casseroles to families who have lost a loved one," Smith notes. Pickens also is trained as an 11th Hour Volunteer and Spiritual Volunteer. Including on-call hours, Pickens donated 1590.75 hours in 2015.

Kiblinger began volunteering with Southeast Hospice in 2007. Smith says, "Mark is considered a very good listener and is usually asked to by our social workers to visit our Veterans Administration patients." Kiblinger was saluted for his willingness to assist with special projects, office work and the Recollections Program which allows Southeast Hospice patients to share treasured stories and memories on a video.

All told, Southeast Hospice volunteers donated 12,573 hours of service to assist terminally ill patients and their families this year.

Volunteer Helen Hunt, who makes pillows for Hospice patients, reached a milestone of 4,134 donated hours this year.

Tina Bles was recognized for donating the most direct care hours, 118.5 and Phyllis Lee was recognized for donating the most on-call hours, 1,520. Ten-year volunteers Bles and Linnie Harris also were recognized.

Southeast Hospice welcomed new volunteers Jim Day, Maci Daniel, Erika Kropp and Cindy Moore.

Pictured are three Southeast Hospice volunteers who were recognized for outstanding service at the organization's recent appreciation dinner. From left are Joy Galentine, recipient of the Cherub Award; Carolyn Pickens, recipient of the Guardian Award; and Mark Kiblinger, recipient of the Gabriel Award.

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