

First Monday Memo December 2010



A Message from Michael

Dear Friends,

I wish I could share this news in person, but time and distance do not allow. Shortly before Thanksgiving, I was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. I am currently receiving chemotherapy, and other than some fatigue, am feeling fine.

I am blessed to be surrounded by so many ministering to me physically, mentally and spiritually:

- A loving family
- The excellent treatment team at Little Rock Hematology/Oncology
- Many physician, nursing and counselor friends
- Tremendously supportive board members, staff, volunteers and friends of Arkansas Hospice
- Ministers and friends from church
- Great neighbors

Thank you for all the kind thoughts and words of encouragement I have already received. My bride, Sharon, and I have been uplifted by the outpouring of love and support from everyone around us. We are truly blessed and grateful for your prayers as we continue this journey together.

Best wishes to you and yours for a Holiday Season filled with rich experiences of family, faith and friends. May you also experience, as I do, a warm and heartfelt gratitude for so many blessings of life and love.

— Michael Aureli, President & CEO



Michael Aureli

River Valley Home Receives Grant

The Arkansas Hospice River Valley Home, an eight-bed hospice home located in Russellville and scheduled to open in 2011, received a \$30,000 grant from Entergy's Nuclear 1 plant on November 18, 2010.



The grant was designated to equip the building with oxygen and suction in the walls.

This means that patients requiring oxygen therapy will be able to access this without the need for noisy and bulky canisters and condensers at the bedside. As this facility nears completion, we have been uplifted by the continued support from the Russellville community, which continues to enhance the quality of service that will be available to the citizens of the River Valley.

The Russellville Rotary Club has been a driving force with this request to Entergy, and Arkansas Hospice is grateful for the relationship we have enjoyed throughout the years with the members of Russellville's various Rotary groups.

Arkansas Hospice Sparkles



Friends from our presenting sponsor, Little Rock Funeral Home, stand in front of an Arkansas Hospice Sparkles holiday tree. The event, which was held on Thursday, Dec. 2, at Geyer Springs Baptist Church, was an opportunity for families of our patients to gather in remembrance or share in honoring those who have made a difference in our lives. Special thanks to Little Rock Funeral Home, Snell Prosthetic & Orthotic Laboratory, U.S. Pizza, Caper's, About Vase, Michael's and Geyer Springs Baptist Church for making the evening a success.