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## Fun, treats and help abound at Tri-County Community Resource Center's second birthday party



Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum shows his fun side at the event as he demonstrates that he can milk a cow. The cow is a UF/IFAS Food and Nutrition Program tool used to help children understand the source of milk. Sheriff McCallum was at the event with his wife Kandy McCallum.

Story, Photos and Videos

By Jeff M. Hardison © April 22, 2017 at 7:47 p.m.

**CHIEFLAND** -- Scores of people came to enjoy fun, treats and access to a wide range of helpful organizations at the Tri-County Community Resource Center's second birthday celebration on Saturday (April 22).

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The Tri-County Community Resource Center is located at 15 N. Main St. in Chiefland, and the party was in the northern adjacent field.



**Tri-County Community Resource Center Manager Beverly Goodman (left) and President and Chief Executive Officer of Partnership for Strong Families Stephen Pennypacker, Esq., pause for a photo opportunity minutes after the start of the three-hour scheduled event**

President and Chief Executive Officer of Partnership for Strong Families Stephen Pennypacker, Esq., came to see how the event unfolded under the leadership of Tri-County Community Resource Center Manager Beverly Goodman.

The Partnership for Strong Families helps provide for many of the resource center's needs, although there are other donating entities and individuals.

The resource center is a central focal point for the complete spectrum of human services for people of all ages who may be helped in Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties with everything from guidance to hands-on care – and more.

Cookies and cupcakes were plentiful at this second birthday celebration. Popcorn, snow cones and other treats were available as well.

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Tiffany Gundrum stands near a bounce house at the event. She is one of the many people who enjoyed the celebration of the Tri-County Community Resource Center celebrating its second year.

A bounce house, face-painting and other enjoyable activities helped entertain children throughout the event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.


## K-9 SHOWS



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Chiefland Police Officer Pete Barnes stands with his CPD K-9 Bruno. In the video, Barnes and Bruno showed onlookers how the dog can detect



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drugs as the officer released the certified law-enforcement canine. Bruno found the marijuana that was hidden in a container.



Levy County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Kevin Kinik and LCSO K-9 Zombie prepare to demonstrate how Zombie captures a suspect (with CPD Officer Pete Barnes {at left in photo} playing that part as he wears a protective sleeve).

HardisonInk042217B



In the video, after the certified law-enforcement canine helps Sgt. Kinik capture the (pretend) suspect and as the LCSO sergeant is frisking Barnes, Barnes makes a threatening move on Kinik and Zombie stops that action.

## CABANAS

Cabanas might be a fancy name, but there were open tent-like structures providing shade for vendors and visitors.

Following is a brief breakdown of most of the action on Saturday in beautiful downtown Chiefland.

## CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion



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Earl Beegle, a mobile customer service representative with CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion, stand next to the van he uses to help future employees find jobs and current employers post jobs. Beegle is among the people who operate the fleet of these mobile stations to help more people have access to finding jobs in the Citrus, Levy and Marion counties' region.

### Central Florida Electric Cooperative

Central Florida Electric Cooperative sent a customer service representative to share information about this rural electric cooperative.

CFEC also gave away thin plastic "hardhats" for children. There were free cloth bags with the CFEC logo, and free CFL-low energy lightbulbs given away.

### Clyatt House Learning Center



(from left) Grace Pitts, 6, teacher and body art painter Nichole Sandquist, Patricia Gundrum and Santasia Whitson enjoy some of the fun offered at the Clyatt House Learning Center area of the event. There were at least eight teachers who came from Clyatt House Learning Center to participate in the event on Saturday. Clyatt House Learning Center of Chiefland offers Head Start, Early Head Start (birth through age 4) and afterschool programs. Clyatt House Director Vicky Pitts was present and helping visitors feel welcome to learn about the center. To find out more about how to enroll in Head Start or Early Head Start, please call the Clyatt House Learning Center at 352-493-7304 or send an email to [info@chlc.us](mailto:info@chlc.us).

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College of Central Florida Levy Center Manager Holly McGlashan stands near the table where CF gave away items and provided opportunities for people to register. The Jack Wilkinson Levy Campus is slated to be open in August, and McGlashan mentioned how people are still able to qualify for one of the 100 \$500 scholarships. (For more information on that, just click on the CF ad on any of the seven pages, including The [HOME PAGE](#).

## Haven Hospice

Haven Hospice sent people to the event to share with them about the services provided by this hospice.

There are two hospice entities in the area. The other one did not send anyone to the event.

## Levy County Prevention Coalition

Representing the Levy County Prevention Coalition at the event was LCPC Chief Operating Officer Jonathan Lewis and LCPC Project Coordinator Rose Wilder.

They provided visitors with information about LCPC, including the about the "No One's House" program, where underage drinking is not allowed at private residences.

Levy, Dixie, Hernando and Lake counties have formed a partnership. Lewis has said, to help parents understand the importance of not allowing underage drinking at anyone's house.

One key source for alcoholic beverages, Lewis said, is from residences.

"This is a message that no one's house is a safe place for teen drinking," Lewis said.

This program to inform everyone is through print media, daily news websites and social media, he said.

Lewis said parents will sign a pledge card. There will be a place where parents can check to see if the house their child is visiting is noted as one where the parent does not allow teenagers to drink alcohol. The online place for a parent to sign the pledge is <http://nooneshouse.com/>.

## QuitDoc, Tobacco Free Partnership For Levy County

Tobacco Prevention Specialist Katrina Zachry and members of the area's Students Working Against Tobacco were at the event.

They helped anyone who was interested in getting off of tobacco.

## Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System

Representatives from Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System (FDLRS) were at the event.

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FDLRS provides diagnostic, instructional, and technology support services to district exceptional education programs and families of students with disabilities.

Service centers include 19 centers that directly serve school districts in the areas of Child Find, Parent Services, Human Resources Development, and Technology. In addition, the FDLRS Network also includes five multi-disciplinary centers that focus on in-depth evaluations and several statewide projects offering specialized services.

## Healthy Start of North Central Florida

The goal of Healthy Start is to reduce infant mortality, reduce the number of low birth weight babies, and improve health and developmental outcomes.

Representatives from Healthy Start were ready, willing and able to provide people with information to help in this regard.

## Florida Department of Health for Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties

Wesley Asbell of the Florida Department of Health for Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties was present to help people know what the health department can do for them in the three counties.

To see a recently published article from the HardisonInk.com archives regarding the Health Department, click [HERE](#).

## House of the Happy Cats and Dogs



Sarah Hamilton holds Pattycake, a cat that was blind since birth. Robin Lynn (not pictured) is the owner of House of the Happy Cats and Dogs. She wants people to understand that disabled (or differently-abled) cats and dogs are great to adopt too.





Janet Hudor (left) holds Elsa the cat as Sarah Hamilton holds Pattycake the cat. Elsa and Pattycake are the best of feline friends, because Elsa has served as 'eyes' for the blind cat Pattycake. Another person (not pictured) who was at the event Saturday is Shawn Royce. She is known to help animals find new homes too. Another project these and other volunteers endorse is the Levy County Snip and Assist Program to spay and neuter cats and dogs.

### **Natasha Allen, Esq.**

An attorney in the area who was present is Natasha Allen. She was providing children (and adults) with opportunities to color their hair with spray on color.

### **Three Rivers Legal Services**

Three Rivers Legal Services Inc. -- a non-profit law firm dedicated to the provision of quality legal assistance to the poor, abused, disabled and neglected, and to empowerment through preventive legal education sent representatives.

Three Rivers Legal Services was established in November of 1977 after the merger of Storefront Legal Aid in Gainesville, and a legal aid component of Suwannee River Economic Council in Live Oak.

This group serves people in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Nassau, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties.

### **Florida Department of Children and Families**

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Millie Petrie and her 6-month-old baby girl Sandy Petrie decorate a cookie at one the Florida Department of Children and Families booth. The DCF had a strong presence at the celebration of the Tri-County Community Resource Center, with several fun activities and many brochures with information. Among the DCF leaders who came to the event was DCF Regional Managing Director Patricia Medlock, who drove from Jacksonville to help celebrate the second birthday for this center.



This is the final artistic cookie made by Millie Petrie. Children, parents, grandparents, guardians, vendors, guests and visitors all seemed to enjoy the fun, food, camaraderie and kindness shared at this event.

### Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

FWC Officer Paul Schulz was available to share with listeners how the FWC serves

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### **Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office**

Capt. Sheryl Brown of the Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office was present to assist her colleagues in law enforcement, and to answer any questions about the GCSO.

One upcoming event she spoke about is the program titled "Bridging The Divide, Re-imagining Police-Community Relations."

Gilchrist County Sheriff Robert D. "Bobby" Schutz III invites all interested people to meet at the Train Depot in Trenton. This event is a community walk. This will be a community discussion to engage law enforcement officers and the community leaders to devise new ways to reduce crime and build public trust.

One goal is to increase the safety and security of police officers and the people in the communities they serve. It is the goal of the Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office to harvest and maintain a positive, ethical image while earning the trust of the people that the GCSO is sworn to protect and serve.

Community trust is the key to effective policing, Sheriff Schultz said, and the GCSO encourages participating in group discussion, training activities and community events. The GCSO contact for this event is Capt. Brown. Her email address is sbrown@gcso.us.

### **North Central Florida Alliance For the Homeless**

The North Central Florida Alliance For the Homeless serves people in Alachua, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and Putnam counties who are homeless.

Executive Director Theresa Lowe is working with Tri-County Community Resource Center Manager Goodman to help improve services for homeless people in Levy and Gilchrist counties through the Resource Center.

Lowe said the significant homeless problems in Gainesville are the main place currently for the North Central Florida Alliance For the Homeless' resources.

### **Alachua County Women, Infants and Children (WIC)**

Candi Morris of the Florida Department of Health's WIC program in Alachua County said WIC helps women, infants and children in Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties too.

The Tri-County Resource Center is an excellent starting point for any persons or families in need.

### **Meridian Behavioral Healthcare Inc.**

#### **– Supporting Services For Veteran Families**

When people hear Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, they generally think of the mental health services or the drug rehabilitation services.

Another aspect of Meridian Behavioral Healthcare is one that finds houses for homeless veterans.

This particular part of the group has helped about 400 homeless veterans to find places to live in 11 counties – Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Putnam, Suwannee and Union.

The Tri-County Community Resource Center is a good starting point for homeless veterans in Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties to seek help.

### **University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Family Nutrition Program**

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Katie Trimm (left) and DeeDee Smith, both program assistants with University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Family Nutrition Program for Dixie, Gilchrist and Levy counties, help children make ice cream in a bag. Carol West of Dixie County said the UF/IFAS Family Nutrition Program is excellent, and that Trimm, Smith and others in this program are excellent teachers. West said she knows the Family Nutrition Program teaches parents and children about healthy eating, and to focus on fresh ingredients. West said Trimm and her colleagues are making a positive impact by teaching classes at the Resource Center. West said she is hoping to see a class like this for teenagers in the near future.

### Florida Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation



Jacqueline Barber (left) and Kassi Knopp of the Florida Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation program were available to tell people about how they assist disabled individuals in finding and retaining employment. Barber focuses on clients in Citrus, Levy and Marion counties and Knopp focuses on clients in Gilchrist and Dixie counties, although they work together across the invisible geographic boundaries in the area whenever that need arises.

### CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services Inc.

Representatives from CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services Inc. were available to speak with people.

CDS fulfills its mission by offering a wide variety of programs to the community.

Most programs fall into one of three areas:

Youth Shelters, Counseling and Prevention.

CDS has been an excellent source of help the Levy County Prevention Coalition over the past several years.

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## Gateway College

Representatives from Gateway College were present.

Formerly named Lake City Community College, Florida Gateway has satellite campuses in Dixie and Gilchrist counties.

## Birthday Celebrations Coming



This was a second birthday celebration for the Tri-County Community Resource Center. There is another birthday celebration planned. Bill Brown (left), the founder and leader of The Children's Table, is celebrating his 88th birthday with a fundraiser for The Children's Table's new building fund. Verna Brown, his wife of 37 years, said the group needs about \$100,000 more to construct what they want on the vacant land next to the current site in northeastern Bronson on Thrasher Lane (State Road 24). Verna Brown said the birthday party is set for April 29 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Bronson Elementary School Cafeteria. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children aged 10 years and younger. A cake auction, raffles and a country band are part of the planned activities.

For more information about the Tri-County Community Resource Center, please look at its webpage by clicking [HERE](#).

## Haven Hospice shows appreciation to volunteers

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**Haven Hospice Chiefland Care Center Administrator Patrick Allen (left) shakes hands with Jerry Walters. Jerry Walters and his wife Edit (at right in the photo) earned the 2016 Dr. Raymond Fitzpatrick - Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.**

#### **Story and Photos**

**By Jeff M. Hardison © April 15, 2016 at 4:07 p.m.**

**CHIEFLAND --** Haven Hospice held its annual luncheon to honor volunteers on Friday afternoon (April 14).



**The theme for the luncheon this year was 'We Treasure Our Volunteers.' There were trinkets on every table, including treasure chests and mock gold coins. On this table, there was also a pirate's flag.**



**A table full of door prizes reflects donations by business interests to show appreciation to Haven Hospice volunteers. These prizes came from the whole Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties.**

Volunteers for Haven Hospice received a meal, gifts, door prizes and thanks from the administration and staff of the institution during the yearly special and fun event.

Volunteer Coordinator Vondla Sullivan organized the event, which included the presentation of many honors to the volunteers.

Patrick Allen the new administrator for the Chiefland Care Center of Haven Hospice. Allen is a returning administrator here, and he was warmly welcomed back by many volunteers.



**Haven Hospice President Gayle Matteson tells everyone that she found a lot of happiness in the past few weeks by having the chance to meet so many extraordinary volunteers from across the 18-county service area of this hospice organization.**

In June of 2016, Haven Hospice and Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of the Florida Keys announced the appointment of Gayle Mattson as president.

President Mattson was at this event as well, and she shared information and words of thanks to the volunteers as well.

Among the other significant Haven Hospice leaders at the event this year were Director of Development Courtney Quirie and Manager of Volunteer Services Susie Finfrock.

As Volunteer Coordinator Sullivan opened the program, she shared with the audience that this year's celebration of volunteer service by Haven Hospice in Chiefland was dedicated to the memory of Jan Ladu, Pamela Rivett and Jordan Elmore.

Ladu was from Dixie County. In the past few years, she was not an active volunteer due to health reasons, Sullivan said. At the end of Ladu's life, she was able to be served



at Haven Hospice.

Rivett, who had been among the volunteers at The Attic in Chiefland, passed away this year.

Elmore, an active volunteer, died this year at the age of 18, Sullivan said.

"Jordan had volunteered with us since she was like 2 years old, when I was here back in the '90s, and I was a volunteer coordinator here," Sullivan said. "Her grandmother would bring her, and she became a volunteer later at the age when you could become one."

The young lady would join her grandmother as she delivered lap quilts, blankets and the like. Her grandmother is very active making red, white and blue lap throws for veterans, Sullivan said.

Elmore died from a congenital heart defect. She had graduated high school and died in 2016.

Another person Sullivan recognized early in the program was Norene Cooper, who she said was her "right hand" and that if a person gets a call from Cooper, they should consider it as if Sullivan was calling.

Cooper, by the way, was the recipient of the Haven Hospice Volunteer of the Year Award for the Chiefland service area during the volunteer appreciation luncheon and awards event, when it was held at First Baptist Church on April 4, 2014.



**Haven Hospice Chiefland Care Center Administrator Patrick Allen speaks to the volunteers.**



**Haven Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Vondla Sullivan puts rolls in a basket. When the coordinator was asked why she did not have a volunteer perform this job, she said the luncheon was to honor and thank the volunteers.**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE VOLUNTEER AWARD**

The 2016 Administrative Volunteer Award was earned by Sandy Reed, who is another person that Sullivan mentioned as being very helpful to her, and who she sees as an upcoming "right hand" person. Reed, who is said to be very humble, was not present to accept the award.

#### **CATERING AWARD**

Although there was no official award, the caterer for 2016 was invited to return.

Jed Mitchell Catering was the provider of food again this year, having received such rave reviews from last year. Delicious, boneless barbecue chicken, tossed salad, green beans, prepared potatoes, rolls, and a wide assortment of desserts were served by people, including Mitchell, who took time out from his other work to serve the volunteers of Haven Hospice (and one journalist).

Haven Hospice Chaplain Janice Kirk provided the prayer before people went to accept food provided to them.

There were many door prizes awarded randomly to volunteers at the luncheon, which was held in the Haven Hospice Community Building. The door prizes were donated by several business interests in the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties.

Among those prizes were a diamond necklace valued at \$525, a reclining lawn chair, gift certificates to The Attic, and a couple of \$50-off certificates for reduced room rental at The Putnam Lodge – Hotel And Spa of Dixie County.

Administrator Allen let the volunteers know that they are very special to Haven Hospice, and to the hospice industry. Hospice grew out of the volunteer movement, he said.

In fact, he added, hospice is required by Medicare to have a certain percentage of volunteer hours as part of the staff hours, or that federal agency will not pay for other



services.

### MEETING THE MISSION

For the Chiefland Care Center to accomplish its mission in this region of Florida, it depends on each and every volunteer, Allen said, and their dedication and donation of their time is greatly appreciated.

"We could not do what we do," Allen said, "without you guys. So I want to sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart."

There were 21,788 total volunteer hours recorded in 2016 for Haven Hospice at its Chiefland center, Allen said.

That translates to money that is in excess of \$513,330 as a result of the donation of time by those individuals.

President Mattson echoed Allen's sentiments.

"Thank you very much on behalf of the leadership team at Haven, on my behalf," President Mattson said, "for the work that you do every day. We really couldn't do it without you."

The leader of the organization said she has been very happy during the past few weeks as she visits communities where volunteers are serving the patients and families served by Haven Hospice.



**(from left) Jerry Walters, Edith Walters and Patrick Allen pause for a photo opportunity after the presentation to the Walters of the Dr. Raymond Fitzpatrick - Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award.**

### DR. RAYMOND FITZPATRICK AWARD

The Dr. Raymond Fitzpatrick - Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award is the highest annual honor bestowed upon a Haven Hospice volunteer.

It was established in 1993.

Jerry and Edith Walters earned the distinction for their work in 2016, Sullivan said.

From 1979 to 1984, Dr. Fitzpatrick was the medical director of Haven Hospice.

This award recognizes an exceptional person who has shown outstanding leadership in several areas and has served as a role model, Sullivan said.

This husband and wife team has demonstrated their leadership by sitting with patients, to demonstrate their belief that no person should die alone, Sullivan said.

Sullivan said this couple has served in especially critical 23 and 36-hour periods as they stayed with individuals. She mentioned that the couple occasionally returns to Wisconsin and then they return to Florida with cheese for several of their friends.

They've provided respite care for family members. They have helped with the annual veterans' luncheon. For last year's veterans' luncheon, Edith Walters spent seven hours ironing table cloths when Sullivan told her she needed that help the day before they were needed to be on the table.

They have been volunteers for Haven Hospice during the past eight years, Sullivan said, and they have dedicated about 4,000 volunteer hours.

They help in civic groups in Dixie County as well, including the Dixie County Senior

Center, Sullivan said.



**Eleanora Orlando holds up a certificate for \$50 off of room rental from The Putnam Lodge – Hotel And Spa of Dixie County. She also won other door prizes as part of that package. She also accepted her 3-Year service pin and the award for 2016 Spiritual Care.**

#### **DEVELOPMENT AT HAVEN HOSPICE**

Director of Development Courtney Quirie said she was very happy to be part of the activities in the Community Building of Haven Hospice in Chiefland.

She said hospice would not exist without volunteers. Haven Hospice was started by volunteers, she said.

Quirie spoke about the entire Haven Hospice success in 2016 in regard to volunteers.

In the 18 counties served by Haven Hospice, there were 124,911 volunteer hours in 2016, Quirie said.

Medicare requires hospice organizations to show at least 5 percent of the hours for patients, families and friends come from volunteers, Quirie said.

Chiefland reflected a 12 percent donation of all of the time in 2016 that was dedicated to patients, family and friends, she said.

Agency-wide, Haven Hospice showed 10 percent of its time coming from volunteers. Therefore, Chiefland was a couple of percentage points better than par.

There were 66 percent of all patients in 2016 received some sort of care from volunteers – whether it was a telephone call, a visit or some other form of help, Quirie said.

The donation of help provided by volunteers for Haven Hospice in 2016 was equal to \$2.9 million. The cost savings is greatly appreciated, she said.





**Elke Roach (above) is one of the 10-Year pin award winners. Eirlys Rawcliff was not present to accept her pin this year.**



**Two of the 5-Year pin recipients are seen above.**



Two of the 3-Year pin award recipients are seen above.



Above are some of the 1-Year pin award winners.





**Haven Hospice Volunteer Services Manager Susie Finfrock hold one of the Haven Hospice lunch bags that were given to each volunteer at the luncheon.**

#### **MANAGING VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

Haven Hospice Volunteer Services Manager Susie Finfrock also thanked everyone for their service to others.

She mentioned that every volunteer would be given a Haven Hospice lunchbox that day too.

Finfrock said she loves visiting in Chiefland, because thanks to the friendly nature of Volunteer Coordinator Sullivan, this team makes everyone feel like they are part of a happy family.

Before Finfrock presented pins for years of service, she shared a quote from Edith Wharton (1862-1937) – “There are two ways of spreading light – to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.”

Not all of the volunteers were in attendance Friday.

The 10-Year pins went to Eirlys Rawcliff and Elke Roach.

The 5-Year pins went to June Aitchison, Nicholas Ferguson, Mary Ann Griner, Arlene Lang, Nyla Lockwood, Lorina Lucas and Marie Lucas.

The 3-Year pins went to Maria DeLeon, Emanuel Harris and Eleanora Orlando.

The 1-Year pins went to Jill Boyer, Bethanie Coats, Mary Courtney, Patricia Ellwood, Melanie Fernandez, Kaye Gaither, Michael and Honey Gaither, Judy Hite, Gloria Jones, Diane Lewis, Mikki Listemann, Sandy Reed, Jackie Stevens and Bobby Stickles.



**Haven Hospice Chaplain Janice Kirk (left) and 2016 Spiritual Care Volunteer Award winner Eleanora Orlando are seen here at the luncheon.**

#### **SPIRITUAL CARE VOLUNTEER**

Haven Hospice Chaplain Janice Kirk spoke about the 2016 Spiritual Care Volunteer of the Year.

Kirk has been the chaplain at Haven Hospice in Chiefland for seven years now.

The 2016 Spiritual Care Volunteer of the Year is Eleanora Orlando, and she has been a volunteer at Haven Hospice for three years. She retired from Haven Hospice, where she had served as a nurse.

After retirement, Orlando even worked during weekends, "So we know she has a great understanding of what it means to be in the trenches," Kirk said.

She has served patients at other institutions in Dixie County and Gilchrist County as a volunteer for Haven Hospice as well as at patients' homes, Kirk said of Orlando.

Orlando served 81 volunteer hours in 2016, Kirk said, and she made 121 visits to patients in transition.



**The Attic Store Manager Malesa McCleery (left) stands with Joyce Maxwell, a volunteer who brightens the day for everyone around her as she adds laughter to their lives.**



### **TOP VOLUNTEER AT THE ATTIC**

The Attic Store Manager Malesa McCleery spoke about the volunteers serving in this retail thrift outlet in 2016.

The Attic in Chiefland is located in the Save-A-Lot shopping center, which is on the northeast corner of U.S. Highway 19 and U.S. Highway 129 in Chiefland (caddy-corner from Chiefland High School).

This was the fourth Haven Attic Resale Store to open for this hospice organization that serves 18 counties.

(Haven Hospice is not connected with the Hospice of Citrus County, which is also known as the Hospice of the Nature Coast. It also has a thrift shop and accepts donations, but the Citrus County hospice has no care center in Levy County. They are two separate hospice organizations.)

McCleery said that in 2016 there was a gross income at The Attic of Chiefland in excess of \$360,000. During the past five years, The Attic of Chiefland has brought in a gross amount that is in excess of \$1 million to help Haven Hospice's patients, families and friends.

"The volunteers are the backbone of The Attic," she said as she thanked every volunteer who has served there.

The 2016 Volunteer of the Year for The Attic is Joyce Maxwell.

Maxwell dedicated more than 1,500 hours in 2016, and has been a volunteer there for two years now, McCleery said. This volunteer is always happy, and she makes people laugh a lot with her humor.



**(from left) Volunteer Coordinator Vondla Sullivan, Debbie Hamon and Chiefland Care Center Administrator Patrick Allen are seen soon after the presentation of the award to Hamon.**

### **PATIENT CAREGIVER AWARD**

The winner of the 2016 Patient Caregiver Award is Debbie Hamon.

Hamon was noted for serving Haven Hospice families and friends in several different capacities, including working at The Attic on occasion.

### **PATIENT/FAMILY CARE CENTER – VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD**

The person who earned the 2016 Patient/Family Care Center – Volunteer Service Award was Judy Roche.

This award goes to the person who has qualities of showing compassion in caring for Haven Hospice's patients as well as being conscientious about their duties at the Chiefland Care Center.

Roche has volunteered for nine years at Haven.

### **THE ARNOLD DITTENBER COMMUNITY OUTREACH/AMBASSADOR – VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD**

The late Arnold Dittenber was well-known for his positive attitude and he was often noted to be an ambassador for Haven Hospice.

The 2016 Arnold Dittenber Community Outreach/Ambassador Award was earned by Michael, Kaye and Honey Gaither.

Honey is a medical service dog that helps Michael, a disabled American veteran who suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other health issues.

The Gaithers earned this award for their outreach in 2016, where they visited

schools and other facilities to help students and adults know more about hospice care, to recruit other volunteers and promote Haven Hospice's services.

## LCI and GCSO to help Special Olympics Torch Run

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on the Community Page of [HardisonInk.com](http://HardisonInk.com)

**GILCHRIST COUNTY** -- Lancaster Correctional Institution and the Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office are helping the Special Olympics Torch Run with a **fundraiser on April 27 and a 5K walk on May 4**, LCI Correctional Officer Anita Barrow said.

Everyone is invited to the Tip A Cop program at Hobo's Restaurant, 115 N.W. First St., in Trenton, from 6 to 9 p.m. on April 27. Part of the night's proceeds from this event will help the Special Olympics.

On May 4, starting at 8 a.m. in front of Lancaster Correctional Institution (LCI), 3449 S.W. State Road 26, near Trenton, there will be a 5K Special Olympics Torch Walk, she said.

The participants will be walking along the Nature Coast State Trail, which runs parallel with SR 26 between LCI and the City of Trenton.

Barrow said one part of raising funds is the purchase of tee-shirts to support the Special Olympics. These shirts cost \$13 each, and she anticipates having many of them in every size during both the Tip A Cop and the Torch Run events.



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