

# Donor News

A publication for our distinguished donors

*Winter 2010*

## The Nightingale Society Cares

The Nightingale Society, an auxiliary of the Visiting Nurse Association of the Inland Counties (VNAIC), will provide holiday gifts to needy homebound and terminally ill patients this Holiday Season. Members of the Society presented VNAIC home care and hospice staff with 160 - \$50 Stater Bros Food Cards, quilts, space heaters and other items for distribution to patients throughout Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Members of The Nightingale Society are active year round raising funds and soliciting donations from other organizations such as Stitches For Kids, a quilting club at the Indio Senior Center in the Coachella Valley. As a collaborative effort, over 350 quilts are given during December to current and former VNAIC patients and their children.

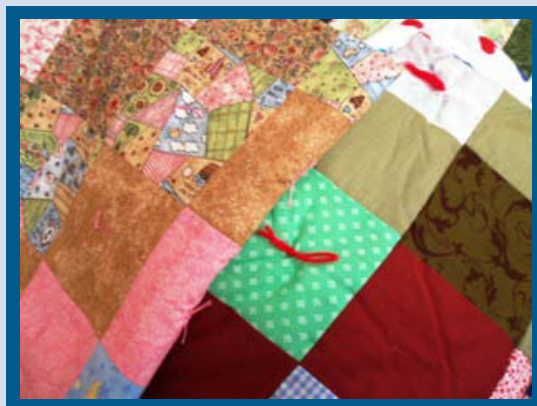
This year generated another generous donation to the Nightingale Society, the Lowe's Home Center Heroes employee giving program of La Quinta and Palm Springs stores gathered over \$2700 worth of space heaters and miscellaneous items to benefit VNAIC patients.

"The VNAIC is one of the few remaining nonprofit and charitable home care and hospice providers in the Inland Empire," said Elaine Fox, Society Member, "and giving to needy people in our communities who are also having healthcare issues is important. We're very proud to be able to help."

The VNAIC has offices in Barstow, Victorville, Banning, Yucca Valley, Palm Desert, Riverside and Murrieta. For more information on The Nightingale Society or the VNAIC, call (760) 773-6260.



*Lowe's Home Center Heroes present their donation.*



*Quilts donated by Stitches for Kids.*



*Society members present food cards to Hospice Directors.*

## Palm Desert Hospice Adds New Component

The Visiting Nurse Association of the Inland Counties (VNAIC) Palm Desert office is adding a new component to their Hospice program. The VNAIC is the first Hospice in the Coachella Valley to offer a specific Jewish component to meet the needs and concerns of the Jewish community.

As the only non-profit Agency of its kind in the Valley, the VNAIC, partnering with community agencies, have designed these services to extend spiritual care from a Rabbi regardless of level of affiliation while combining Jewish volunteers, professional staff trained with respect and sensitivity to Jewish customs and end-of-life care along with bereavement services to provide the ultimate in care for the patient's physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

The Jewish Hospice Component will also include the

VNAIC's traditional Hospice services which are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Services include professional management and coordination of care, Physician services, skilled Nursing, Social Workers, Home Health Aides, certified pet therapy, aroma therapy – all designed with the patients' needs in mind.

Hospice services are paid for by Medicare and other insurance plans. When no source of funding is available, United Way and /or donated funds can be used in special situations to pay for Hospice.

The VNAIC offers Home Health and Hospice services throughout Riverside and San Bernardino Counties with 8 branch offices. 80 years is our history, the future is our focus.

For more information, contact the Palm Desert office at 760-674-0451 or you may visit their website at [www.vna-ic.org](http://www.vna-ic.org).

## Will You Leave a Legacy?

You have already demonstrated that you care about our mission, but what happens to your support when you pass on? If you remember the VNAIC in your will or revocable trust you *leave a legacy* that helps us continue to do work that you value, far into the future.

### Why Should You Include a Charitable Gift in Your Will (Or Living Trust)?

1. It's simple to do. It can be as easy as including language stating, "I give \$20,000 to the Visiting Nurse Association of the Inland Counties."
2. You can change your mind. We won't receive the gift until after your death. During your lifetime, you can amend anything you choose, i.e., beneficiaries, amounts, etc.
3. Tax-wise, it could be beneficial. Gifts to qualified charitable organizations reduce the value of your estate for estate tax purposes.
4. It's an easy way to support the VNAIC, and we'd be grateful for your gift. Bequests of every size build our future financial strength.

How you include a gift in your will or revocable trust depends on what you want to accomplish, and what you want to give to the VNAIC. Here are some options:

1. **Give a percentage of the residue of your estate** (the amount left after taxes and expenses are satisfied and specific bequests have been paid) e.g. "I give 25% of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to the Visiting Nurse Association of the Inland Counties."
2. **Give a specific dollar amount or item of property;** e.g., "I give the VNAIC \$25,000"; or "I give the VNAIC 100 shares of IBM stock."
3. **Make your bequest contingent;** e.g., "I give the VNAIC \$25,000 if my niece and nephew predecease me."

Besides choosing how your bequest will come to us, you also have a say in how it will be used and acknowledged by the VNAIC:

- Make the gift unrestricted to be used where most needed.
- Make the gift restricted, i.e., to support a specific area of interest such as hospice and Mourning Star Center.
- Memorialize or honor a loved one, "This gift is made in memory of my loving husband."

We can provide the Visiting Nurse Association of the Inland Counties' correct legal name, as well as suggested wording for the various bequest types and methods mentioned above, to assist your attorney in finalizing your will.

**If a gift through your will (or living trust) is of interest, please contact our Development Office at:  
42-600 Cook Street, Ste 202 Palm Desert, CA 92211 (866) 333-1424**

# Mourning Star Center Calendars and Notecards Now Available

Mourning Star Center calendars and notecards are now available for purchase. Both of these items feature artwork created by the Mourning Star kids, and are a great way to share your support for our Mourning Star Centers with others! Proceeds will benefit local programs.

The calendar and notecard packets are available for \$10 each, plus \$2 for shipping. Please call (760) 773-6260 if you are interested in purchasing either of these items.

Calendar - \$10



Notecards - \$10



## Camp Erin 2010

Our 4th annual Camp Erin was held the weekend of July 23-25 in Big Bear, California. This was our largest camp ever with 68 campers ranging in age from 6-18. While at Camp Erin, campers participated in many activities designed to help them remember the person who died and help them cope with their grief. On Friday night, each camper decorated a photo of their loved one that was placed on a memory board in a special ceremony. On Saturday, the children and teens created memory boxes and decorated luminaries in memory of their person. The luminaries were lit and put on a canoe on Saturday night while music was played in the background. As they lit their candle, each camper was given the opportunity to tell the rest of the group about their loved one. On Sunday, both the campers and their parents wrote messages on balloons that were released in the closing ceremony. In addition to grief related activities, campers played sports, danced, swam, rode in canoes, and went fishing. There were also six therapy dogs at camp to offer comfort to the children and teens. For more information about Camp Erin, please contact Camp Director Pamela Gabbay at (760) 836-0360.



Camp Erin is a community service of the Visiting Nurse Association of the Inland Counties provided at no cost to children and teens who are grieving the death of a parent, sibling or other close loved one. This is made possible through the generous donations of individuals and businesses as well as foundation grants. For more information on how you can make a donation to Camp Erin, please call the Development Department at (760) 773-6260.

# save the date

The Mourning Star Center of the VNAIC and  
Paul & Carrie Stone present

9th Annual

# heart of fashion

Sponsored by McKesson Medical-Surgical

To benefit Palm Desert Mourning Star Center

Thursday, February 10, 2011 • 6 - 9 PM  
**Evening Reception & Fashion Show**  
Melissa Morgan Fine Art on El Paseo

Featuring designs by  
Michael Costello from Project Runway and  
jewelry by Angela Valente Romeo

To ensure you receive an invitation  
or for more information call (760) 773-6260.

## Special Thanks to Just Cruzin' Productions

Our Mourning Star Centers have benefited from the proceeds of two recent events sponsored by Just Cruzin' Productions, LLC. The two events combined raised over \$5000 in proceeds for Mourning Star.

The Cruisin' Yucaipa car show was held Saturday, October 23 at Yucaipa Regional Park. The event featured classic cars, food, live music and a special auction of artwork created by the Mourning Star Center kids. The Wagon Wheel Country Music Festival took place in Lake Elsinore over the weekend of November 13 & 14. The festival's lineup included many well known country music stars. Mourning Star Center benefited from an auction of auto-graphed guitars held Saturday night on the main stage.

Thanks again to Just Cruzin' Productions for all of their support!



## A Tradition of Caring

A Tradition of Caring was held at the Riverside Art Museum on Saturday, September 11th to benefit community service and charity care programs in Riverside. Our first fundraising event to be held in Riverside, the evening included wine, music, a silent auction, and a presentation from the Riverside Station 1 Firefighters. Special thanks to the Riverside Art Museum, the Nightingale Society committee members, and all of our event sponsors and attendees.

### Foundation and Community Support

**City of Palm Desert** - \$5000 for Palm Desert Mourning Star Center.

**Sunset Hills Children's Foundation** - \$10,000 for Victorville Mourning Star Center.

**Willmas Charitable Trust** - \$30,000 for Victorville Mourning Star Center.

**Verizon Foundation** - \$28,000 for Victorville Hospice Point of Care.

## First Annual Holiday Bazaar

Our first annual Holiday Bazaar took place November 4-6 in our Palm Desert office. The three day event featured more than 20 local artists and vendors, who donated a portion of sales to benefit Palm Desert Mourning Star Center. The bazaar included a unique variety of art, jewelry, accessories, candles, clothing and handcrafted items. Special thanks to everyone that participated and attended. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

