



Nonprofit Residence for Hospice & Palliative Care

February 17, 2020



[Celia's House](#)  
217 S. Modoc Ave.  
Medford, OR 97504

**Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice**

**Advanced Care Plans**

**Palliative Care**

**Hospice**

**Physical Comfort**

**Social Comfort**

**Spiritual Comfort**

**Grief**

**In the News**



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**Visit HUB** at 1618 Ashland Street, Ashland



*Upscale Resale*

1618 Ashland St, Ashland, OR 97520

541-488-7805

Hours: Mon - Sat: 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Donations accepted daily until 4:30 p.m.

Check out new weekly items and photos on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HospiceUniqueBoutique/>

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## Hopewell Delegation Visit: Bringing Reflection, Inspiration, Reassurance, and Gratitude

*by John Forsyth, Volunteer*



For over thirty years, the Hopewell House in Portland has been Oregon's epitome of a facility dedicated to excellence in hospice and end-of-life care. Sadly, in the fall of 2019, for a variety of reasons, it was closed by the Legacy System which had owned and operated it for many years. Now, a small group of visionary Portland Leaders is working to reopen its doors, hopeful of establishing a more collaborative and sustainable organization on the same site, a grand old house similar to Celia's.

Thus, last week, a small delegation of these leaders spent two full days at Celia's House meeting with over thirty members of our staff, board, volunteers, and hospice partners, investigating every nook and cranny of the multidimensional creative effort which has made Celia's a remarkable success story over the last few years.

Among the myriad of insights which emerged, the following stood out to me:

1. The Hopewell visitors encouraged us to reflect on our own extraordinary history, a community-wide chain of events, persons, generosity, and plain hard work which has, over ten years, resulted in the sustainable collaboration (Celia's House) we now appreciate so deeply.
2. A renewed awareness that what we have begun, here at Celia's is now a well-established working entity, worthy of our long-term hope of creating a respected model of excellence in end-of-life care one which might inspire and

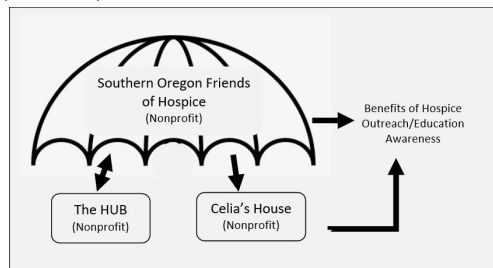
- contribute to better end-of-life care across our region.
3. A sense of deep gratitude for the deeply-rooted collaborative nature of our local community, perhaps the unsung key to Celia's emergence in such a short time.
  4. The knowledge that we here at Celia's are part of a much greater community of kindred spirits, like our new friends from Hopewell House, which transcends all manner of geographical, professional, organizational, and even spiritual boundaries.

We wish the Hopewell House every success in their difficult endeavor over the next months and years.

## Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice: The Organization

*By Cheryl French, Communications Volunteer*

Several readers asked us about the relationship of our nonprofit organization Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice to its programs, Hospice Unique Boutique (The HUB) and Celia's House in Holmes Park.



**Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice**, nonprofit 501(C)3, is the umbrella organization that sponsors and supports Hospice Unique Boutique (The HUB) and Celia's House in Holmes Park. Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice has a 14-member board actively involved in all aspects of its programs. Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice's mission is twofold:

- Create and sustain a hospice residential care facility.
- Educate the community and provide financial support for end-of-life care programs through collaboration with our Rogue Valley partners.

### **Celia's House in Holmes Park**

To fulfill its mission, Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice completed a capital campaign, renovated and constructed the addition, opening Celia's House in Holmes Park in 2018. Celia's House is the first nonprofit 12-bed residential care for hospice and palliative patients in southern Oregon. The Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice Board is actively involved in fundraising to sustainably operate Celia's House into the future.

### **Hospice Unique Boutique (The HUB)**

The HUB is an upscale resale shop located in Ashland that provides support to Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice and Celia's House in Holmes Park. Whether you shop at the HUB or donate your gently used clothing and household items, you are helping Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice provide end of life education and outreach to our community as well as support Celia's House.

**Interested in learning more about the architecture of Celia's House? Check out this new [Documentary on Paul R Williams from PBS](#).**

**Volunteer Spotlight:**

## David Strother One of Our First Volunteers

by Sue Carroll, Volunteer Coordinator

David Strother is a multi-talented man who has selflessly shared his talents with SOFOH since our story began. He is part of our organizational roots, 'wheels', history and founding story which involved a yard sale in the Ashland Elks Club parking lot in 2008. He and his wife, Kay Atwood, collected items in David's old yellow 1971 Dodge pickup truck and stored them for the sale. Kay was part of the initial grass roots steering committee that was to become Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice. David said, 'I'm not a meeting kind of a guy, but I wanted to be involved.' The yard sale raised a whopping \$2,000 that was eventually used to open the Hospice Unique Boutique.

Since then, David has volunteered close to 2,000 hours. Even though he was still working full-time, David continued to pick up and deliver furniture donations for the HUB. After he retired in 2016, he kept volunteering at the HUB working in the warehouse on Fridays, but began to volunteer at Celia's House as well. His first act of service was to install our locking mail box!

He took our 10-hour Celia's House Cultural Orientation and now comes to Celia's House every Tuesday to lend a hand in the kitchen helping to prepare and serve lunch for up to 12 residents.

Karen, our Kitchen Manager, said, "He's so thoughtful. He texts me on the way in and asks me if I need anything from the store. He not only helps with lunch and cleanup, he offers his handyman skills to fix stuck drawers and other things that



David Strother with Karen Amarotico, Kitchen Manager

aren't working." He then comes back every Wednesday morning to work with the team of garden volunteers to help keep the lush gardens surrounding Celia's House looking beautiful.

What inspires David's dedication to Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice? "I like the culture of kindness. I like what's being done here for people. I like the hands-on volunteer work. I'm not a cook, but I have enjoyed learning more about cooking. I'm not a gardener. I knew a little bit about what a weed was but not necessarily a flower!" he humbly said with a smile. "What I really like are the people I work with. They are a great team of people. I feel useful. It's a way I can contribute that I feel good about."

## HUB HAPPENINGS

**This month's winner of the \$20 gift card is Marta Tarantsey.**

\* Monthly drawing - anyone can sign up at the HUB store to receive the Celia's House newsletter and be entered to win a \$20 gift certificate. Winners will be announced in the newsletter. If your name is not drawn, you remain eligible to win during each drawing.

\* Monday is reset day. Our reset team starts early in

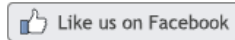
the morning, so that when you arrive at The Hub everything is transformed with new items. Like us on Facebook and you can see the photos of what's new every Monday.

\* Wednesday is senior discount day. All seniors 62 and over receive a 20% discount on all items in the store.

\* Student Discount: 10% off with your student ID.

\* Spring has sprung at The HUB. Come see all the fabulous new spring items coming out daily!

\* With over 160 amazing items and unique collectibles listed online, The HUB's eBay store is a fantastic way to shop online for antiques, vintage clothing, gifts, keepsakes and one-of-a-kind items. When you shop at <https://www.ebay.com/str/hospiceuniqueboutique>, your items are shipped fast, free and 100% of the proceeds go to support Southern Oregon Friends of Hospice.



541-500-8911, [info@sfriendsofhospice.org](mailto:info@sfriendsofhospice.org)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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