



PHOTO CAPTION:

Phyllis Stormant arranging a display of clothing at one of Hospice of the Nature Coast's Thrift & Gift Shoppes.

HELPING PEOPLE BY VOLUNTEERING

HIGH SPRINGS, Fla. – “It’s the best thing that ever happened to me since my retirement,” says Phyllis Stormant of the time she spends volunteering at one of Hospice of the Nature Coast’s Thrift & Gift Shoppes. “It thrills my heart to know that I’m helping people.”

Like many retirees, Stormant knows that being a hospice volunteer keeps her active and gives her purpose. But you don’t have to be retired to volunteer and make a difference. Volunteer opportunities are available throughout Alachua, Bradford, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy and Union counties.

Volunteers assist patients and families by running errands and visiting. Other volunteers visit with their therapy dogs or provide art therapy or spiritual support. Some volunteers participate in community activities or get involved with camps for kids who have experienced a loss. Like Stormant, many volunteers choose to help out at the organization’s Thrift & Gift Shoppes.

The next orientation class for new volunteers is July 19. Those who attend will become acquainted with Hospice of the Nature Coast’s services. Teens are welcome to attend. Contact Emily Hines, volunteer manager, at 386/454-1338 or 866/463-1385 or email ehines@hospiceofthenaturecoast.org or visit www.hospiceofthenaturecoast.org

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