



Caption 1



Caption 2



Caption 3

Hospice of the Nature Coast Honors Volunteers

HIGH SPRINGS, Fla. – To Celebrate National Volunteer Week, Hospice of the Nature Coast honored over 100 volunteers and guests from its Alachua and Chiefland teams with a Mystery Theater Dinner Party at the Great Outdoors Restaurant in High Springs. Making the evening extra special, The High Springs Community Theater volunteered its performance of “Murder on the Love Boat.”

During the event, Volunteer Services Manager Emily Hines presented Outstanding Volunteer Service Awards for 2010 to Ira Clark of Gainesville, Mary Jane Wight of High Springs and Mary Richardson of Chiefland.

Clark donates his time visiting patients and their families. Retired from the University of Florida as professor emeritus of English, he has volunteered with hospice for more than two years. "Patients visited by Ira not only benefit from the time and attention generously shared, they also are fortunate to spend some time with someone who is a very good listener, an interested conversationalist and an appreciative audience," explained Hines. "He helps our patients feel good about themselves."

Wight has volunteered for over two years with the organization's High Springs Thrift & Gift Shoppe and was honored for her ability to perform every function in the shoppe from evaluating and displaying merchandise to assisting customers. "In addition to all of her dedication and energy, Mary Jane brings experience from a long and varied career. She has worked in various retail establishments and acquired a lot of knowledge about antiques and vintage glassware," Hines told the assemblage.

Richardson's first work experience is as a volunteer at the new Chiefland Thrift & Gift Shoppe, where she has been for close to a year and has provided almost 1,000 hours of service. "Mary never hesitates to try something new or take on an additional task," Hines said. "She is industrious, a consummate team player, does everything well and is basically unstoppable."

To learn more about hospice volunteer opportunities, contact Emily Hines at 386/454-1338 or 866/642-0962 or email ehines@hospiceofthenaturecoast.org.

Hospice of the Nature Coast, a program of Hospice of Citrus County, Inc., licensed 1985, is a not-profit charitable organization providing comprehensively responsive and compassionate end-of-life services to terminally ill patients and their families in north-central Florida.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

- No. 1 Ira Clark receiving his Outstanding Volunteer Service Award from Volunteer Services Manager Emily Hines.
- No. 2 Mary Jane Wight (center) accepts her Outstanding Volunteer Service Award from Volunteer Services Manager Emily Hines (left) and Bonnie Presnell, High Springs thrift shoppe manager.
- No. 3 Mary Richardson (center) is presented her Outstanding Volunteer Service Award by Volunteer Services Manager Emily Hines (left) and Millie Yazel, Chiefland thrift shoppe manager.