



The Edmarc Visitor

Fall 2018

Camp MAGIC Makes Memories



This August Edmarc hosted its annual family bereavement camp, Camp MAGIC. Camp MAGIC, which stands for My Active Grieving Instills Courage, provides a weekend for families to come together and commemorate their loved ones and share their memories and experiences with one another. This year 12 families came to Triple R Ranch in Chesapeake for the last weekend in August.

Throughout the weekend families took part in activities that promoted healing, connection, sharing of memories, and discussing

experiences along their grief journeys. Families also enjoyed several outdoor activities including trail riding, laser tag, canoeing and the wonderful petting zoo! Families and volunteers engaged in a large community art piece depicting a puzzle of feelings drawn on a large sheet. Families used throwable paint balls to express the feelings they have experienced since their loss. At the end of the weekend, each family received a piece of the puzzle as both a thank you from Edmarc for joining camp and to signify their part in the camp community.

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With Love, We Remember
In Memory of
In Honor of
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As the sun set, families came together to hang Mason Jar lanterns they decorated in honor of their loved ones. The day ended by the campfire surrounded with family, new friends and s'mores. On Sunday morning families came together to further memorialize their loved ones during one last family commemorating activity.

Edmarc plans for Camp MAGIC to continue as an annual event where families share in the laughter, smiles, anger and tears that everyone experiences along the journey

of grief. As one mom said this year, "you and your team make us feel comfortable, so we open up and share our trials/triumphs and create an atmosphere where we not only come together as a family but a community ... we cannot start to count all the smiles you all have brought to our hearts."

We are extremely thankful for all of our volunteers, including photographer: Daniel Jarman. Without our army of volunteers, we would not be able to make this meaningful weekend happen. We were lucky enough

to have 17 people giving 664 hours of their free time to help Edmarc over the course of the weekend. We also want to thank Lauren Blanchard with gotCUREage for providing our camp t-shirts. We appreciate the staff at Triple R Ranch and the many wonderful outdoor activities they offer. Without all of this help and support we would not be able to provide and capture the amazing experiences that Camp MAGIC provides.



Ethan's Journey to a Happy Discharge



A child's 1st birthday is a very memorable milestone, but for our son Ethan, it was the saddest day any parent could not even imagine. The day started out as any other day with Ethan going to daycare as usual while his sisters Emma and Hannah went to school. That morning we had no clue life would forever change as we knew it. My husband, Roger, and I both went to work on Friday September 19, 2014, and he worked a half day to take Ethan for his 1-year well visit with our pediatrician. After work I received a call from him to come straight home because our pediatrician wanted us to consult with a Hematology-Oncology doctor at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters (CHKD.) Being a nurse, I knew what to expect but that evening I was in complete mom mode. After dropping off the girls at grandpa's house, who they lovingly call Lolo, we sat in the emergency room waiting on repeat labs and met Dr. Anthony Villella, the hematologist-oncologist. He confirmed our greatest fear. Our sweet little boy Ethan, on the eve of his birthday, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) or cancer of the white blood cells. My husband and I were in tears holding our little boy who had no clue of why his parents were crying. What would we tell our girls - Emma who was only 7 and Hannah 5? What would this mean for Ethan? So many questions running in our heads... did we miss something? Other than some eczema or occasional cold, he was a healthy boy. Ethan had no symptoms to make us think anything different.

At his one-year appointment, the routine check of Ethan's iron level showed it was low. Chesapeake Pediatrics, our pediatrician, did a follow up and drew a complete blood count.



It not only showed his iron level was low, but hemoglobin and hematocrit were low as well; maybe he was anemic? But his white blood cell count stood out at 3 to 4 times more than the normal value, and our pediatrician told my husband what this most likely would mean. The diagnosis indeed was leukemia which was caught just by taking our son to a routine yearly checkup. Ethan



was admitted that Friday night. His birthday party that was planned for Sunday was cancelled. We brought everything along with the cake and celebrated Ethan's birthday in his hospital room that Sunday. Never would we ever imagine Ethan with his birthday cake in one hand and an IV in the other. Yet this little boy was happy to have his family around as he ate with his hands. Then Monday he was in surgery to get a central line, and his first chemotherapy started Tuesday.

We typically went to CHKD at least once a week. When going as an outpatient, we went to clinic where he got his labs and chemotherapy, and then we went home that same day. As an inpatient it meant that Ethan was admitted to the hospital and stayed a couple days. Everything did not always go as planned as it all depended on how Ethan was doing. For example, one week he had bad mucositis that gave him sores in his mouth that made it painful to eat, and he just did not feel well. This was a side effect from high dose methotrexate (chemotherapy drug), so they had to postpone until the next week to let him recover. The last time



he had this medicine in a previous cycle, he was in the hospital for 3 weeks on a pain pump and TPN (nutrition via IV) because he was not eating or drinking with bad mucositis. After that incident, we did some preventive therapy ahead of time that helped. At least he was drinking and had pain medicine, so we could keep him at home. I was on leave, so I was always available to be there for the hospital stays while Roger cared for the girls.



We have learned to look at all the many things to be thankful for during this most challenging time. It has grown our faith not only in God but has really put things in perspective. Our busy work weeks and meeting deadlines did not seem to matter. It has taught us to be grateful for the simple things. We're not going to say it was easy, because it wasn't ... it was hard! What helped tremendously was Edmarc along with our family and friends. Our nurses were amazing! The very first nurse to visit us at home was Teresa, who we met at the clinic in the hospital. She was a nurse not only at CHKD, but also for EDMARC. The care at CHKD and Edmarc was continuous. The teams knew the plan, and they spoke to each other. With Edmarc our primary nurse and our social worker would be a part of our journey over the next three years.

Thank you just does not seem enough. Edmarc and all the people who have come into our home have been such a blessing. So much gratitude for unforgettable experiences during this time in our life with not only Ethan, but with our girls. At times it took us away from the harsh realities of the cancer life and the "new normal." It has opened our eyes to so many organizations that are doing so much good that we did not know about until they came into our lives with such open, caring, generous and giving arms. The Yorktown Rotary Club, ROC Solid Foundation, the Noblemen, and Give Kids the World are just a few of the awe-inspiring groups of people we met.

Thank you for all the love and support! Although it was sad to see you all go, our discharge was a happy one. Ethan was able to go to school this past year and completed pre-K. He is thriving and doing well ... such a happy boy! To look at Ethan you would never know all that he has been through. I know that for me and my husband, our family will be forever changed and forever grateful for the special people we have met along the way and the families that we have come to know at CHKD and Edmarc.



Grateful for Golf



We had a truly amazing 22nd Annual Charity Golf Classic at Cypress Creek Golfers Club in Smithfield! Thanks to our amazing supporters and volunteers, we raised \$40,000! We are so lucky to have such a hard-working volunteer committee to make this happen. Many thanks to the many sponsors, volunteers and golfers for such a successful tournament.





YORKTOWN ROTARY WEEKEND - A very special weekend for Edmarc families

Every year the Yorktown Rotary Club hosts and sponsors an incredible event for Edmarc families called the Yorktown Rotary Weekend. This event allows the families a chance to attend a mini vacation in the Yorktown area with some very exciting and fun-filled activities planned over the course of the weekend! This year was no exception, and so once again Father's Day Weekend, June 15-17, two Edmarc families set off to enjoy this very special weekend. The weekend kicked off with a meet and greet picnic on Friday evening. The families spent the weekend at the beautiful Duke of York Hotel, just a few feet from the water. Saturday activities included a family fishing trip and an evening designed for families to spend some special time enjoying pizza, crafts, and the beach. Sunday included some lounging time at the pool before families headed home. The entire cost of the weekend is covered by the Rotary and is truly a treat for all in attendance! Everyone had a blast! A huge thank you to the Yorktown Rotary, for once again providing a very memorable weekend for our Edmarc families!



Spring Fling

April showers may bring May flowers, but March brought us our Spring Fling! As families arrived at our Edmarc London House, they were greeted by cheerful volunteers with empty Easter baskets and pillow cases to fill up with eggs, candy, and toys. Kids were able to play on an inflatable bounce house and slide, participate in different carnival games, and search for prizes during our Easter egg hunt. Skippy's SnoBalls served tasty treats and Chick-fil-a provided lunch along with their mascot cow. Our own mascot, Wags, as well as the infamous Easter Bunny also made appearances and took pictures with attendees. All in all, it was a hip-hoppity good time! Thank you to KPMG for sponsoring this event as well as to our many volunteers who came out to make our Spring Fling a fun event for our families.



FIFTH ANNUAL EDMARC POKER RUN RAISES JUST OVER \$4,000

Once again members of the Bayside Chapter of the Harley Owners' Group overwhelmed Edmarc with their generosity. When they put their resources and hearts together, they make such a huge difference for our families. On September 8th, bikers came out for a morning ride stopping by Edmarc along the way. Afterward folks gathered at Bayside Harley-Davidson for awards, live music, raffle prizes, tasty refreshments and a 50/50 raffle. Thanks to all the sponsors and to Bayside Harley-Davidson! Their hard work in engaging so much community support helps us spread Edmarc's message and helps us provide the valuable services that we do to children and families.





With love, we remember

Brianna B. (7/2/05-2/11/18)

Brianna was an amazing young lady who lit up every room she entered. Brianna was rarely seen without a huge smile upon her face. She touched the lives of many and was adored by all who had the privilege to know her. Brianna will be lovingly remembered by her parents, Nicole & Gerren, sisters, Camryn & Sydney, little brother, Ian, and numerous other family and friends.

Samson R. (2/18/18)

Samson was a very special baby boy who touched the lives of his family and all those around him. Though his time here was far too short, he was loved immensely by his family. Left to cherish his sweet memory are his parents, Chelsea & Grant, big brother, Lawson, twin sister, Isla Jean, as well as numerous other family and friends.

Izzy C. (3/12/18)

Izzy was a precious little girl who was cherished and adored by her entire family. Though her time here was far too short, she will be remembered warmly and often by her parents, Latoyah and Justin; her big brother, Joshua; and her big sister, Mariyah.

James P. (3/16/18)

James was a very sweet little baby boy who brightened the lives of his family and all who had the pleasure to meet him. Though his time here was very short, he was truly a blessing. James will be lovingly remembered by his parents, Angela & James, and numerous other family members and friends.

Destiny M. (1/30/03-3/30/18)

Destiny was an incredible young woman who inspired so many with her kindness and bright spirit. She fought a long battle with her cancer, but never let it hold her back. She never missed an opportunity to embrace life and enjoy it. Her smile turned heads and brightened hearts. Destiny will be lovingly remembered by her parents, Dayana & Michael, siblings, Rayquan, Antoine & Jasmine, and numerous family and friends.

Revel R. (11/17/15-4/6/18)

Revel was an adorable, playful, and tough little boy whose sweet smile and big blue eyes could light up a room. He was truly a fighter whose strength will be remembered always by his parents, Jessica and J.R.; his big sisters Ryen and Jordan; as well as countless other family and friends.

Markayla V. (3/23/18-4/22/18)

Markayla was a beautiful little girl who was beloved and treasured by everyone who was lucky enough to meet her. Her precious coos and love of all things pink and fluffy will be forever remembered by her parents, Mark and Puso; as well as countless friends and family who cherished each day they were able to share with her.

Aurora S. (5/15/18)

Aurora was a darling little girl who was adored by everyone who had the privilege of knowing her. The time she spent with her family was far too brief, but will be remembered always with love by her parents, Lindsey and Patrick; her big sister Juliana; as well as many other family and friends.

Romello C. (5/2/04-6/20/18)

Romello was a brave and wise young man who fought a very courageous battle with his cancer, never letting it dampen his spirit. He enjoyed watching his beloved Jacksonville Jaguars, playing soccer and video games, and most of all time spent with his family. Romello had a huge heart, a smile that could brighten anyone's day, and he truly lived life to the fullest. Romello was an incredible young man who will be lovingly remembered by his mother, Tasha, father & stepmother, AJ & Sharonda, grandmother, Charlene, brothers, Martrez & Taj, sister, Arianna, cousin, King, and numerous other family and friends.

Sky R. (6/22/18)

Sky was a sweet, handsome, and precious little boy who stole the hearts of everyone who met him. He was deeply loved and will be remembered tenderly and often by his parents, Nicole and Jamont; his big brother Jeremiah; and all of the people who held him dear.

Emilio H. (6/27/05-7/3/18)

Emilio was a brave, charming, and spirited young man who fought his battle with courage and resolve. He loved Star Wars, military aircraft, and most of all, his family. The memory of his bravery will live on in his community, with his friends, and with the family he loved so dearly. He will be forever loved and deeply missed by his parents Carlos and Scarlet; his older sister Sofia; as well as many other family and friends.

Analiese B. (7/12/18)

Analiese was a beautiful baby girl that blessed the lives of her parents as well as the rest of us. Though her time here was far too short, she brightened the lives of all those around her. She will be deeply loved and missed by her parents, Ursula & Eathan, and numerous family and friends.

Kyle T. (2/25/08-7/27/18)

Kyle was an amazing young man who was adored by all those who had the privilege to know him. He was rarely seen without a smile on his face, holding up a peace sign, no matter what the day brought. Kyle fought a long, courageous battle with cancer, but he never let it hold him back. Kyle loved spending time with his family, going to church, Star Wars, and his beloved Pokemon. He brightened the lives of all those in his presence. Left to cherish his memory are his parents, William & Chie "Hana", brothers, Sean & Ken, and numerous family and friends.

Raynor D. (8/8/18)

Raynor was an adorable and precious little boy whose time with his family was far too short, but will be remembered forever. He will be lovingly remembered by his parents, Claudia and Jaron; as well as many other family and friends who were able to spend precious time with him.





EDMARC DEPENDS ON VOLUNTEERS

In April, we held our annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner at the Women's Club in Portsmouth. From our beginning, Edmarc has relied heavily on volunteer support. This April we celebrated 3,245 hours of volunteer time in 2017! Amazing Glazed helped us with our donut theme for the dinner. Baxter's Catering supplied a delicious breakfast for dinner, and tables were decorated with plates of donuts as well as breakfast pun cards. The awards presentation was accompanied with personal stories of the different volunteers and companies that have helped Edmarc through the year. Thank you to Baxter, the Woman's Club of Portsmouth, Bob Harper Photography and Amazing Glazed for helping make the night special for our volunteers. Edmarc would not be able to provide all the services and events without our volunteer force. When our families and our staff need an extra hand, our volunteers are there providing support with the brightest smiles and best spirit. We truly "DO-NUT" know what we would do without our volunteers!



Over 50 Wayne Anderson
 Over 50 Joan Blanchard
 Over 50 Ainsley Boutot
 Over 50 Brian Boutot
 Over 50 Kevin Cooke
 Over 50 Ann Huff
 Over 50 Morganne Redd
 Over 50 Kristin Sales
 Over 50 Alexander Zandford
 Over 75 Mary Beth Beddingfield
 Over 75 Shirley Bloomer
 Over 75 Jeffrey Butts
 Over 75 Clare Gellene
 Over 75 Pixie Jones
 Over 75 Jamie Lubaton
 Over 75 Seth Lubaton
 Over 75 Christian Manty
 Over 75 James Seagraves
 Over 75 Carol Vaughan
 Over 150 Joan & Allen Hogge
 Over 150 Sharon Sutton
 11th Hour Blake Boykin
 Administrative Excellence Kari Corson
 Family Support Award Cara Dixon
 Edmarc's Geek Squad Ed Delaespriella
 Event Delivery Extraordinaire Ann Huff
 Event Extraordinaire Lori Strickland
 Grocery Delivery Award Andrew Kripinsky
 Helping Hand Andrews Roofing - Robert Andrews
 Helping Hand Jim Seagraves
 Holiday Angel Santa and Mrs. Claus
 Holiday Angel Joan Blanchard
 Holiday Angel Rick Hudak
 Holiday Angel Pixie Jones
 Holiday Angel The Real Estate Group
 Most Versatile Volunteer Sharon Sutton
 Organization Extraordinaire Lorri King
 Photography Extraordinaire Bob Harper Photography

Tasty Treat Award Mary Ellen Triplett
 Tasty Treat Award Women's Club of Smithfield
 Youth Volunteer Award Christian Manty
 Youth Group Award Bishop Sullivan Lacross Team
 New Business Leadership Award
 Northwestern Mutual - Repp Lambert
 Everyday Angel Grandad Noha
 Everyday Angel Jack Pavlat
 Everyday Angel Neil Bonney
 Everyday Angel Frank West
 Business Philanthropy Award Bankers Insurance
 Printing Extraordinaire Rocket Media Inc.
 Creative Development Award Nexus Direct
 London House Award Colonial Web
 Community Impact Rob & Mary Cowling
 Community Impact Hampton Roads Community Foundation
 Camp M.A.G.I.C. Jeffrey Butts
 Camp M.A.G.I.C. Ainsley Boutot
 Peace by Piece Award Carol Vaughan
 Peace by Piece Award Bob Balcom
 Peace by Piece Award Kristen Sales
 Peace by Piece Award Kayla Keckritz
 Peace by Piece Peace Pal Debbie Evans
 Peace by Piece Therapy Dog Award Wayne & Mike
 Bereavement Community Award Peninsula Funeral Home
 Bereavement Faith Partner YMCA
 20 Year Partner Recognition Jewish Family Services
 Business Leadership KPMG
 Civic Leadership Oyster Point Rotary Club
 Edmarc Power Couple Ken and Ann Ablett
 Leadership Award Dee Pritchett
 Volunteer of the Year Jane Foster



Volunteer of the Year Jane Foster with Executive Director Debbie Stitzer-Brame



Bob Harper recognized for being behind the lens for Edmarc

ATTENTION PLEASE:

SANTAS, ELVES AND TURKEYS!! WE NEED YOU...

BECAUSE THE HOLIDAYS WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

Dear Friend of Edmarc,

This year we need your help more than ever! With the holidays fast approaching, please consider how you can sponsor or volunteer to help our Edmarc families.

As you can imagine, the holidays can be a very challenging time for the parents and siblings of a child battling a life-threatening illness. With your help, we can ease the burden of preparing holiday meals and lessen the load of holiday shopping!

Last year, over 80 Edmarc families enjoyed a much brighter holiday season with the help from community members in Hampton Roads. The number of children and families Edmarc cares for is rising, and support is in great demand for the opportunities listed below:

HOLIDAY DINNER BASKETS

- Contribute food and fixings for a holiday meal
- Deliver holiday meal baskets to the families

HOLIDAY GIFTS

- Sponsor a family for gift donations
- Help wrap gifts in preparation for the Santa's delivery
- Join Santa for delivery

Did someone say PARTY?!

- Support the annual Holiday party with needed items

We rely on the generosity of folks like you to lighten the load and brighten the holidays for our Edmarc children and families! Your contribution is priceless and appreciated beyond measure.

Details for the above opportunities are provided on the Sponsorship Form. We hope that you will consider contributing to these worthwhile endeavors. For more information, you may contact Adelaide Clemens-Cooke at (757) 967-9251 or clemensa@edmarc.org.



EDMARC HOSPICE FOR CHILDREN 2018 SPONSORSHIP FORM

Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Fax _____

Please indicate with which project your group will participate:

THANKSGIVING DINNER BASKET – Due by Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

A “shopping list” of food items will be provided to assist you in completing the needed items per basket.

Number of families you wish to sponsor: _____

Size of Families: Small (2-3people) Medium (4-6people) Large (More than 6 people)

THANKSGIVING DINNER BASKET DELIVERY – Delivery on Saturday, November 17, 2018.

Number of cars delivering _____

GIFT DONATIONS – Due by Monday, November 26, 2018.

A family’s “wish list” will be provided to help with your purchases. For the majority of our families, the Christmas gifts provided by donors like you are the only gifts they will have for Christmas morning.

Number of families you wish to sponsor: _____

Size of Families: Small (2-3people) Medium (4-6people) Large (More than 6 people)

GIFT WRAPPING – Saturday, December 1, 2018 (Must be 18 years or older to participate.)

Join with co-workers or friends and come to the North Pole, a.k.a. Edmarc’s office, and wrap the gifts that have been donated. You must RSVP for gift wrap days. This is first come, first serve and fills up fast.

Time Slots: 10am -12noon_____ 12noon-2pm_____ 2pm-4pm_____ 4pm-6pm _____

GIFT DELIVERY – Sunday, December 9, 2018 (Must be 18 years or older to participate.)

Join Santa and the Edmarc staff in delivering gifts to the families

Town you prefer to catch the Santa Express (first come, first served basis):

HOLIDAY DINNER BASKET – Due by Wednesday, December 12, 2018.

A “shopping list” of food items will be provided to assist you in completing the needed items per basket.

Number of families you wish to sponsor: _____

Size of Families: Small (2-3people) Medium (4-6people) Large (More than 6 people)

HOLIDAY DINNER BASKET DELIVERY – Delivery on Saturday, December 15, 2018.

Number of cars delivering _____

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY – Thursday, December 13, 2018.

Donations needed include decorations, drinks, paper products and other items to help make this evening a fun time for our bereavement support group, Peace by Piece.

Please return this form to: **Adelaide Clemens-Cooke, Community Resource Coordinator**
516 London Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704
Fax: 757.967.9124
Phone: 757.967.9251
Email: clemensa@edmarc.org

Thank you for offering to help children in Hampton Roads. Have a happy holiday!

Edmarc Board of Directors

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 Debbie Stitzer-Brame, *Executive Director*

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: CHRISTIAN MANTY



Christian came to Edmarc as a youth volunteer back in January 2017 and has become one of the most enthusiastic and spirited volunteers we are blessed to have. He has helped at many different events and even dressed up as our mascot Wags. Most recently he was our youngest facilitator at our Peace by Piece community grief group. He approaches new volunteer opportunities with a smile and confident attitude. He loves to be of service no matter what the task might be. Christian recently remarked, "Edmarc is bigger than all of us and has given me happiness

through purpose. There's no gratification that can compare to seeing kids forget about their troubles and appreciate the moments that Edmarc gives so selflessly." We are grateful to have Christian as part of our Edmarc family. As he embarks on his next chapter in college, we wish him all the best!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: GEORGE HAMANN

In our community, there are many tender souls who always seem to be helping others. At Edmarc, we are lucky enough to encounter many of these individuals as we walk with our amazing kids and their families on their journeys. One such person is George Hamann. In his work at both Peninsula Funeral Home and Claytor Rollins Funeral Home, he encounters families during what might be the most challenging time in their lives, and he treats them with ceaseless grace and compassion. He is a trusted advisor to our staff when questions about funeral plans arise and is always willing to help families in need. We want to offer our sincerest thanks to you, George, for everything you do for our kids, their families, and our staff.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Amie Baty

Amie Baty is a Research Analyst and Assistant Portfolio Manager at Wilbanks, Smith & Thomas Asset Management. In her role, she serves on the firm's Investment Committee and is responsible for investment research, account management and client relationships on the wealth management side of the business. Prior to joining WST, Amie worked at Waypoint Advisors, an RIA in Norfolk, conducting

research on various asset classes.

Amie was born and raised in Franklin, Virginia. She earned from Longwood College a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a minor in Economics, and a Master of Business Administration from Old Dominion University. She also holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and is a member of CFA Virginia.

Amie is a member of the LEAD Hampton Roads class of 2013. She enjoys tennis, running and spending time with her husband and two daughters.



Robert Cowling

Rob is Vice President & Trust Officer for Old Point Trust & Financial Services. He graduated from Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) in Wilson, NC, and earned his CLU Designation from The American College in Bryn Mawr, PA. 1972, Rob entered the insurance business with the John Hackney Insurance Agency in Wilson, NC. He then embarked upon

a 25-year career with Northwestern Mutual, serving in home office, field management and personal production. Currently Rob's duties with Old Point include Account Management, Estate and Trust Administration and serving as specialist for Life Insurance products held by trust company.

Rob is actively involved in serving his community. He is a past president of the Peninsula Estate Planning Council, the Newport News Rotary Club and the Denbigh Rotary Club. He is also a past president of the Peninsula Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association. Rob has been the chairman of the Children's Fishing Clinic for the past 23 years.

Rob's hobbies include fishing, boating, civic projects, charity work and live music production. He has been very active in live sound reinforcement working with Slapnation Band and Craft-Work Sound for over 30 years at many festivals and concerts throughout the region. Rob has been happily married to Mary Cowling for nearly 35 years, with 3 sons and 4 grandchildren. He and Mary stay very active in the community, working with charities and nonprofits that make our local world a better place.



Linda Nelms Minnix

Linda Minnix is a retired educator. Through her thirty-four career she taught first grade, second grade, Kindergarten, and Pre- Kindergarten. In 2011, she started a company to help Realtors and Homeowners stage their homes to sell - Stage One Home Staging and Interior Design. In 2017, she was called by Norfolk Public Schools to be a part-time Teacher Mentor, and she supports

and helps new teachers in the Norfolk system.

Born and raised in Suffolk, Linda graduated from Suffolk High School and Elon University. She received her BA in Early Childhood Education. After college she took a job with Chowan University as Assistant Director of Admissions and was responsible for recruiting high school Seniors to attend Chowan. In 1980, Linda began her teaching career. Linda is involved in community activities and clubs. She is a member of the Westover Garden Club, The Nansemond River Garden Club, past Chairman of the Historical Garden Week in Suffolk, past Co-Chair Flower Guild, Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts. Linda is also a member of The Magazine Club, Bridge Club and The Suffolk Book Club. Linda's desire to serve on the Edmarc Board matches her philosophy of "a friend in need is a friend indeed."

Jasna Krispinsky

I am so excited to be part of such an amazing organization here at Edmarc as a nurse! I graduated from Western Kentucky University with a Bachelor's in Nursing. I worked at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in Nashville, TN for 4 years in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit before moving to Virginia and joining the wonderful nursing team here at Edmarc. I am currently pursuing my Master's in Nursing in Pediatric Acute Care, Primary Care, and Palliative Care. Pediatrics is such a magical field that I am so honored to be part of, and more importantly it is truly an honor to be part of these beautiful journeys. Outside of work, my life is filled most importantly with family time. I have two beautiful stepdaughters, a goldendoodle named Penny and an amazing husband!



Shannon Henry

Hello, Friends! My name is Shannon Henry. I am happily married to my husband of 10 years, Robert, and the mother to an awesome nine-year-old girl, Nicole. It gives me great joy to join the Edmarc team as a Patient Care Coordinator, providing clinical services to our pediatric population. I value effective communication as the key to establishing trust, providing clarity and reassurance and making an emotional impact. I want to provide the greatest and most positive impact on my patients that I can. If that is not possible, it is my goal to support them in the best way possible, whether that method entails providing clinical, emotional, or secondary support. When I am not providing awesome care to my patients, I enjoy spending quality time with my family by vacationing, dancing and listening to music. I look forward to the wonders we will share together on the road ahead!



In Memory of Edmarc Hospice for Children gratefully acknowledges the outpouring of support in memory of family members and friends.

February 1, 2018 to August 31, 2018

IN MEMORY OF

IN MEMORY OF	FROM
Ann Abernathy	Betty Bunch Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Jerolene Crusenberry Mrs. L. Carrol Umphlette
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 Jackson Memorial Baptist Church
 Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson
 Kaufman & Canoles
 King's Grant Presbyterian Church
 Kiwanis Club of Beach Combers
 Kiwanis Club of Mercury 64
 Kiwanis Club of Norfolk Inc.
 Kiwanis Club of Poquoson
 Kiwanis Club of the Virginia Peninsula at Oyster Point
 Kiwanis Club of Virginia Beach
 Knicely Solutions
 The Knights Templar, SMOTJ
 Monitor & Merrimack
 KPMG
 KRJ Agency, Inc.
 Kroger Community Rewards
 Landstown High School
 Lane Construction
 Laurence Arnold Boyd Charitable
 Lead Annuity Trust
 LifeNet Health
 Little Creek Bargain Shop
 MAP Communications, Inc.
 MD Masonic Homes
 Meaghan C. Herry
 Charitable Foundation
 Mizell's Hauling, Inc.
 Mode5
 Morgan Stanley
 Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia
 Moving On! Services, LLC
 Nansemond PreCast Concrete Co.
 Naval Civilian Managers Association
 Neighbors Purpose
 Network for Good
 The Noblemen of Virginia Beach
 Norfolk Drifters
 Norfolk FOP #3 Bingo
 Norfolk Rotary Charities
 Northam Inaugural Committee
 Northern Shores Elementary School PTA
 Northwestern Mutual Foundation
 Order of the Eastern Star Salome Chapter 7
 Orlando's Landscaping

Parham's Welding & Fabrication, Inc.
 PC&A
 Peninsula Networking Exchange Club
 Pilot Club of Suffolk
 Pomoco Group, Inc.
 Port Norfolk Church
 Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, Inc.
 Portsmouth Service League
 Portsmouth-Chesapeake Lodge No. 82
 Presbyterian Women
 Presbytery of the Peaks
 Priority Auto Group
 Q.E.D. Systems
 The John Quadrino Foundation
 Rebekah 24 Order of the Eastern Stars
 Red Knights Motorcycle Club
 Rencon Door & Glass
 Richard Bennett Trust
 Rite Aid Foundation KidsCents
 Rotary Club of Hampton Roads
 Rotary Club of Suffolk
 Sales System, LTD
 Smithfield Rotary Club
 Smithfield VA Events
 Somerton, USFW
 Southeast Virginia Community Foundation
 Squires Memorial Presbyterian Church
 St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Philoptochos
 Stublen Roofing
 Suffolk Insurance Corporation
 Suffolk Presbyterian Church
 Target
 Taurus Telesys, Inc.
 TE Connectivity
 Third Presbyterian Church
 Thomson Family Foundation
 Tidewater Officers' Spouses' Association
 Tidewater Streeters, LLC.
 TowneBank
 Trinity Episcopal Church
 United National Free & Accepted Masons
 UPS

Violet Greco Foundation
 Virginia Beach Shag Club
 Virginia Sigma Alpha Delta Kappa
 W.F. Magann Corporation
 Wallace and Donna Nunley Charitable Gift Fund
 Wampler Charitable Fund
 Windsor Congregational Christian Church
 Woodrow Wilson High School Class of 1954 Reunion
 The Woman's Club of Portsmouth
 The Woman's Club of Smithfield
 Yorktown F.C.
 YourCause, LLC.

Workplace Giving and Matching Gift Programs

Benevity Causes
 Bank of America Matching Gifts
 Combined Federal Campaign
 Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign
 Franklin-Southampton Area United Way
 JC Penney
 KPMG Community Giving Campaign
 Norfolk Southern Charitable Match Trust
 QVC Partners in Giving
 SunTrust United Way Campaign
 Truist, Inc
 United Way of Greater Atlanta, Inc.
 United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey
 United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg
 United Way of Lancaster County
 United Way of South Hampton Roads
 United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania
 United Way of the Virginia Peninsula



EDMARC
 Hospice For Children

Hope for the Journey.

TAKE ACTION: These are the ways you can help Edmarc!

- Like Edmarc on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/EDMARC516>
- Help us expand our reach on social media. Share our posts!
- Do you shop at Kroger? Register your Kroger Plus Card online and designate Edmarc! You will raise money for our organization while you shop. <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>
- Designate Edmarc as your Rite Aid KidsCents charity at www.kidscents.com with your Rite Aid Wellness card member number. Then all you have to do is shop and round up!
- Edmarc is a certified United Way Agency. Designate Edmarc during your company's United Way campaign.
- Want to volunteer at Edmarc? Email volunteer@edmarc.org for more information!
- Is your family or company hosting a party? Think about raising money for your favorite charity, Edmarc, in lieu of gifts!



EDMARC
 Hospice For Children

EDMARC CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Past and current Edmarc staff and leadership enjoyed the Anniversary Celebration of Edmarc (40 years) and the Children's Center (35 years) on July 15th at Suffolk Presbyterian Church.

In 1978, two members of Suffolk Presbyterian Church, Dr. Allen Hogge and his wife, Joan, approached the pastor, the Reverend Edward Newell Page, with an idea for mission: Creating a system of care and support for families with terminally or gravely ill children. Within months, Edmarc, Inc., the nation's first pediatric hospice was created to provide home healthcare, hospice care and bereavement support for families.

By the middle of 1983, a federal grant provided funding to create the Children's Center as a separate nonprofit focusing on early childhood education and high-quality childcare. For a time, the two agencies shared staff and space in Suffolk Presbyterian Church until the Children's Center moved to Franklin and Edmarc moved to Portsmouth.

Sunday, July 15th was a time of celebration when Rev. Julie Anna Sterling and current members of Suffolk Presbyterian Church welcomed guests for a service celebrating both nonprofits. Executive Directors Debbie Stitzer-Brame from Edmarc and Rosalind Cutchins were present, along with families served by both agencies, to share current mission updates and testimonials. Afterward everyone enjoyed fellowship during a wonderful reception.



Valerie Culley

I am currently a senior at Old Dominion University working toward a B.S. in Human Services and am happy to be serving as Edmarc's administrative intern. My goal is to work in community service and advocacy once completed. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I plan to one day take a family trip around the world. I also enjoy music and once played in a steel pan ensemble which I hope to return to in the near future.



Stephanie Gunter

Hi! My name is Stephanie Gunter and I am a social work intern here at Edmarc. I am currently working on my Master's degree in Social Work and I will be graduating in May 2019. When I am not in class, interning, or working, I am spending time with my family, relaxing, or studying. I have a 10-year-old son that keeps me busy, so there is never a dull moment. I chose the Social Work field because I love working with people. Through working with people, I get to learn so much about different cultures, family styles and traditions, and how our community comes together to serve one another. I am excited to be here at Edmarc and I look forward to all that I will learn.



HAPPY GOODBYES

We at Edmarc rejoice that Brody W., Sadie E., Daphne R., Sage T., Levi M., Bravyck K., Kaiden S., Sapphire D., Logan A., Kimber P., Bryce C. and Jordan W. are doing well and are currently not in need of our services and Macie M. moved.

CHARGE IT!!!

Did you know you could easily set up a monthly donation to Edmarc with your credit card?

Edmarc gladly accepts donations made using a Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Diners Club card on our website. You can make a one-time donation or set up a monthly giving amount. You can even call our office at (757) 967-9251 and charge your donation right over the phone. We'll mail you an acknowledgement letter with the date and amount. Minimum donation by credit card is \$25.00. Edmarc thanks you in advance for your kindness and generosity!

Thank you ... for supplies, toys, special event tickets and items for Edmarc families,
February 1, 2018 – August 31, 2018



EDMARC
Hospice For Children

Hope for the Journey.

- Mr. & Mrs. Ken & Anne Ablett for providing crochet octopi
- ADS, Inc. for providing paper supplies
- Advanced Design Fabrication for providing signage for golf classic
- Altmeyer Funeral Home for providing items for golf bags
- Amazing Glazed for providing donuts for volunteer appreciation
- Apostles Lutheran Church for providing quilts for Edmarc kids
- Atlanta Hawks Basketball Club for providing an Atlanta Hawks basketball signed by Kent Bazemore
- Mr. & Mrs. Faye & Timm Bailey for providing a TV and CD video player
- Laurie Barbaro for providing a shelf, chairs, & ottoman for family
- Baron's Pub & Restaurant for providing a gift certificate
- Dana Bates for providing books and group therapy activity items
- Battlefield Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Baxter's Sports Lounge for providing dinner for the golf classic
- Bide-A-Wee Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Mrs. Shirley Bloomer for providing fingerprint kits and a TV
- Bob Harper Photography gift certificates, staff portraits, family photo sessions and photography for the golf classic
- Lynnette Bolton for providing coloring books, crayons, markers and pencils
- Ms. Cristina Bouchard for providing school supplies
- Bow Creek Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Mr. & Mrs. Blake Boykin for providing a propane tank and certificates for golf
- Mr. Jeff Boynton for providing a cooler
- Mr. & Mrs. Arthur L Brame, Jr. for providing rocks glasses, a Bill Murray painting, gift certificates and gift cards for the golf classic
- Rhonda Branan for providing 2 desktop computers
- Mr. & Mrs. Rekha & David Brehell for providing toys for children
- Mrs. Mary Briley for providing school supplies for families
- Shelley Brooks for providing school supplies for families
- Buoy 44 for providing a gift certificate
- Mr. Mat Burton for providing a video cassette collection
- Cahoon Plantation Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Cedar Point Country Club for providing 4 golf passes
- Chick-fil-A Portsmouth for providing dinner for Mom's and Dad's support groups and food for Spring Fling
- Mr. & Mrs. Harry Christie for providing 6 baby blankets
- Cloud 9 for providing Cloud 9 passes
- Compassion Advocacy Network for providing goodie bags
- Cara Cotter for providing birthday cards and Father's Day cards
- Mrs. Linda Cotter for providing birthday cards
- Court Street Baptist Church for providing stuffed animals
- Mrs. Mary Cowling for providing school supplies
- Mr. Robert T. Cowling for providing sound services for the golf classic
- Cox Communications for providing for providing golf bag items
- Cypress Creek Golfer's Club for providing 8 green fees
- Cypress Point Country Club for providing 4 green fees
- Ms. Mary Davis for providing a hospital bed
- Ms. Mary Doobie for providing hats and scarves
- Patty Dwyer for providing school supplies
- E.T. Gresham Company for providing paper products and cleaning supplies
- Mr. & Mrs. Frank & Deborah Edwards for providing 2 burial sites
- Elf Patrol, Inc. for providing Easter toys and kites and party supplies
- First Team Toyota Automotive for providing golf bag items
- Franklin Presbyterian Church for providing 6 baby blankets
- Pat Frohman for providing Camp M.A.G.I.C. supplies
- Girl Scout Troop 310, 1097, 1229, 1443 and 322 for providing Girl Scout cookies
- Green Meadow Point Garden Club for providing paper products
- Greenbrier Country Club for providing 4 golf passes
- Linda Haley for providing large stuffed animals
- Cameron E. & Mary Harper for providing a Wii-Fit
- Hell's Point Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Heron Ridge Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Mr. Thomas J. Hewitt for providing hand print memory kits
- Karen Hibbard for providing a framed photography print
- HK on the Bay for providing a gift certificate
- Holiday Ice for providing ice for golf tournament
- Home Depot for providing a grill
- Honey Bee Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Ms. Kimberly Hutto for providing Father's Day cards
- Amanda Ingram for providing 2 Warped Tour tickets
- Jeff's Flowers of course, Inc for providing flowers for a child's memorial service
- Jimmy Da Greek's Deli for providing 3 \$25 gift certificates
- Jolliff United Methodist Church for providing travel shampoo and make-up
- Mr. & Mrs. Windy & Pixie Jones for providing hamburger rolls, and food prep items, tables, tents
- Kaufman & Canoles for providing items for golf bags
- Ms. Arlene Kavitz for providing a laptop
- Kempsville Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Kingsmill for providing 4 rounds of golf with carts
- Vivian Kujawski for providing toys
- Mr. & Mrs. Fred & Beverly Kurasiewicz for providing a flight experience for auction
- LA Clippers for providing LA Clippers DeAndre Jordan Jersey
- Mariann Lambert for providing 15 super hero capes
- Lamberts Point for providing 8 green fees
- Laurel Machine Co., Inc. for providing custom Edmarc fire pit for auction
- Lucky Oyster for providing a gift certificate
- Michelle Marino for providing various cards
- Massimo Zanetti Beverage USA for providing a coffee gift basket and coffee for golf bags
- Mermaid Winery for providing gift certificate
- Ms. Deborah Merryfield for providing baby books
- Mr. Marvis Mills for providing Christmas decor
- Mrs. Linda Minnix for providing various household items and decorations
- Mode5 for providing marketing giveaways for golf
- Ms. Lorraine Murphy for providing Camp M.A.G.I.C. supplies
- Nansemond River Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Norfolk Drifters for providing birthday cards and twin sheets
- Mrs. John & Carol Novak for providing a wagon
- Oceanview Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Kathleen O'Connor for providing a tent
- Paradise Ocean Club for providing a 1-year membership
- Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Barbara Pavlat for providing supplies for Camp M.A.G.I.C.
- Curtis Peters for providing note cards
- Pinehurst Resort for providing 4 golf passes
- Portsmouth Service League for providing 20 potted plants from First Citizen of Portsmouth
- Q.E.D. Systems for providing golf bag items
- Red Wing Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Riverfront Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Rocket Media Inc. for providing printing services
- Jarred & Meagan Roenker for providing hand print memory kits
- Ms. Johanna Rowe for providing school supplies
- Wanda M. Sannicandro for providing stuffed animals
- Frances Sansone for providing a printer
- Mr. & Mrs. James M. Seagraves for providing a Portsmouth gift basket
- Seascape for providing 4 green fees
- Sewell's Point for providing 4 green fees
- Mr. Michael Sierra for providing 24 dozen Edmarc pens
- Signature at West Neck for providing 4 green fees
- Mr. & Mrs. Josh & Rebekah Sizemore for providing supplies for Camp M.A.G.I.C.
- Sleepy Hole Golf Course for providing 4 rounds of golf
- Smithfield Little Theatre for providing tickets for auction
- Southwest Airlines for providing 4 one-way airline passes to auction
- Mrs. Kimberly Stone for providing 4 casseroles and cookies
- Stumpy Lake Golf Course for providing 4 green fees
- Suffolk Golf Club for providing 8 green fees
- Sharon C. Sutton for providing books for our bereavement program and school supplies
- Ms. Marion Swaim for providing beanie babies
- Target for providing a gift certificate
- TCC for providing a family with a laptop
- The Drifters Incorporated for providing school supplies
- The Pointe Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Thermo King Truck Refrigeration for providing an ice truck for golf tournament
- Ron & Terry Tong for providing a wooden entertainment stand
- Mary Ellen Triplett for providing food for families
- US Navy N6 Department for providing pantry food
- Veteran's United Home Loans Amphitheater for providing 4 tickets for an Edmarc family
- Mr. & Mrs. Johnny & Katherine Villanueva for providing school supplies, stuffed animals and crochet blankets
- Virginia Beach National Golf Club for providing 4 green fees
- Charity Volman for holiday decorations
- Mr. Frank West for providing a laser range finder for our golf silent auction
- Western Branch Middle School Walking Club for providing meeting supplies
- Women's Club of Smithfield for providing frozen casseroles

Making Things Happen...

Fall Wish List—

- Grocery store gift cards
- VISA gift cards
- iTunes/Xbox Live/PlayStation Network gift cards
- PlayStation 4 games
- Xbox One games
- Gas gift cards
- Bath & Body Works gift cards or items
- Fun nail polish colors
- Gel pens
- Adult coloring books
- Fun board games
- LEGO sets
- Barbies
- Superhero action figures/toys
- Toddler toys with lights/sounds

The Edmarc Visitor is written by the staff of Edmarc Hospice for Children.
Steve Spencer, Nexus Direct, layout.

VROOM! BEEP! BEEP! SPLASH!

Thinking of selling your old car, truck, boat or RV? Why not donate it to Edmarc Hospice for Children? We have a Car Donation Program available. Your donation is tax deductible and free towing is available. For more information, please call Edmarc at 967-9251. Why not choose this easy way to help yourself dispose of a vehicle you no longer need, and help our children and families in the process? Thanks for thinking of us!

