**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*The Festival of Trees will run throughout the month of December*

**Hospice of Stanly Hosts**

**Festival of Trees**

**December 3, 2021** (ALBEMARLE, NC) -- Hospice of Stanly & the Uwharrie announces its annual holiday fundraiser, the Festival of Trees, throughout the month of December at the Stanly Commons.

The Festival has been a highlight of the holiday season for the community since 1998. The event showcases 40 Christmas trees decorated by organizations and volunteers from Hospice of Stanly. The trees are themed and range from whimsical to elegant. Individual and business names are displayed by the tree they sponsor.

New for 2021, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in town and taking photos with children on Thursday, December 9 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Stanly Commons. They will return on Monday, December 13 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm for photos with pets. No reservations are required for the photos and the cost is $10 for 3 digital photos.

Hospice of Stanly volunteers will also offer a gift-wrapping service during the holiday season. Gifts will be wrapped on December 13, December 16, and December 21 from 12 noon to 6 pm each day. Donations will be accepted for the service.

“We invite the community to walk through the Stanly Commons this month and enjoy the beauty and splendor of the holiday season with us,” said Hospice of Stanly Executive Director Lori Thayer. “This community has been so supportive of Hospice of Stanly throughout the past 40 years. We are delighted to repay that kindness through the joy of Christmas.”

Tree sponsors for 2021 include Albemarle Hearing Center; Albemarle Paper Supply; B.R.S, Inc; Barbee Insurance & Associates; City Council of Albemarle; Clayton Homes (office); Clayton Homes (finish plant); Clayton Homes (construction); Clint Miller Exterminating; D&L Water Treatment Company; Dogwood Farms NC; Edwards Funeral Home; the Scott Efird family; Fiberon; First Bank; Friendly Chevrolet-Buick; H.W. Culp Lumber Company; Hartsell Funeral Home; Anonymous in honor of Stanly County Health Department Employees; the Brewer family; Anonymous in memory of David Mills; Penny Simpson in memory of Libby Simpson; J. Darrell Mansfield, DDS PA; Juneberry Ridge; Kendalls Baptist Church; Mattons Grove UMC; Ocean Boles in memory of Momma and Daddy; Southern Pipe, Inc; Spring Arbor of Albemarle; Stanly Community College; Stanly Funeral Home; Storm Technologies; the Corey Morgan Foundation; Tim Marburger Honda; and Uwharrie Bank.

**About Hospice of Stanly & the Uwharrie**

Hospice of Stanly & the Uwharrie, a nonprofit organization, was founded through the grassroots efforts of people in the community and it continues to be governed locally by a board of directors. Through the generosity of many, Hospice of Stanly has been able to provide care to more than 6,700 terminally ill residents since 1981. The organization provides compassionate care, comfort, and support for patients and their families. More information about hospice and advance care planning is available from Hospice of Stanly & the Uwharrie by calling 704.983.4216 or by visiting [hospiceofstanly.org.](https://hospiceofstanly.org/)

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