

# Hearts for Hospice



Summer 2023

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Gulfside's Charity Casino Night makes a stellar comeback

Pet Pageant fundraiser exceeds \$5,000 goal

Generous donation from the Bay Area Bassmasters

# Update on Lutz Thrift Shoppe

Since 2009, you have generously gone above and beyond to support Gulfside Hospice by shopping at our Thrift Shoppe location in Lutz. It is with heavy hearts we announce that as of last month, this single location has closed its doors.

We cannot thank you enough for your support through the years as you have shopped, donated, and volunteered your time in this Shoppe.

Challenges in the real estate market and rising costs have caused this consolidation in our Thrift Shoppe division.

Innovative strategies are being explored and have led to new opportunities, including our team being able to be more present in the community, both physically and virtually. We plan to continue Pop Up Shoppe options in the community, and have future plans to implement an online store. Soon you will be able to shop and support Gulfside Hospice patients from the comfort of your own home.

We invite you to also visit our other four remaining locations in Dade City, Zephyrhills, New Port Richey and Hudson.

We hope that your support and encouragement will continue as we move forward, and we thank you for making us a cornerstone of the community over the last decade.

# Great Deals for An Even Greater Cause

Whether you're a seasoned bargain hunter or just love to browse, Gulfside Hospice's four Thrift Shoppes offer you the chance to find hidden treasures with every visit. Each store offers gently used clothing, housewares, furniture and unique or vintage "finds" that can't be found elsewhere.

Best of all, every purchase you make helps make hospice care possible for more than 600 patients and families cared for by Gulfside Hospice every day.

In January, the thrift shoppes launched a Point-of-Sale system that has allowed them to modernize collections of their sales and inventory. Cashiers now ask customers to round up their purchase to the next dollar as a donation and happily, 70% of them do!

## Fun facts:

- Donations are accepted at the back door of all four Thrift Shoppe locations on Monday - Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. As a thank you for your donation, you will receive a coupon for 10% off your next purchase!
- If you have large items that you'd like to donate, such as furniture or multiple boxes, you can arrange a donation pickup.
- Volunteers are essential to our Thrift Shoppes! You can volunteer for as little as 3 hours per week and receive special year-round Thrift Shoppe discounts.
- Gulfside's Thrift Shoppes average 755 customers daily between its four locations.
- The top selling item is women's clothing, followed by housewares.
- 95% of items that are donated but not in sellable condition are able to be recycled.
- Donated eyeglasses are passed on to the Lion's Clubs and, if reprogrammable, cell phones are given to Sunrise of Pasco County Inc., Domestic & Sexual Violence Center, where abuse victims can use them for 911 calls.



Thank You from the Thrift Shoppe Team!



The Gulfside Hospice Thrift Shoppes are open 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday (not including some holidays).

For locations, donation information or to complete a volunteer application, visit [www.GulfsideThriftShops.org](http://www.GulfsideThriftShops.org) or call (727) 845-5707.

## Bay Area Bassmasters Hook a Big One for Hospice

The Bay Area Bassmasters, the largest B.A.S.S. Nation fishing club in Florida, hosted their annual Mahoney Hospice Challenge on Tuesday, February 7, and presented a record-breaking collection of donations totaling \$12,710.69 to support Gulfside Hospice patients and families.

This fundraising challenge was created in 2009 to celebrate the life of former member Ina Mahoney and to support Gulfside Hospice in gratitude for the care she received. With this year's donations, the club has now raised nearly \$65,000!

Bay Area Bassmasters' members raise funds by donating \$1 for every pound of fish they catch during their tournament season and by participating at their annual fundraiser and awards ceremony. Club leaders Tom Mahoney, Tom Craigshead, Pamela Hardy, and Carol Mahoney work tirelessly yearlong to secure amazing raffle prizes for the awards celebration. In addition, many club members reel in funds for Gulfside by making personal donations.

Gulfside is incredibly grateful to the awe-inspiring Bay Area Bassmasters.



Tom Mahoney (right) and Tom Craigshead (left) present the Bay Area Bassmasters donation to Carla Armstrong, director of philanthropy at Gulfside.



## Hittin' the Road for Hospice Raises Nearly \$20,000

Motorcycle riders from near and far came together on Feb. 18 to enjoy the 11th annual Hittin' the Road for Hospice, a motorcycle poker run fundraiser. This year, the event raised nearly \$20,000 to help Gulfside Hospice patients and families.

Bikers enjoyed a scenic cruise through Pasco and Hernando Counties, beginning at the Harley-Davidson of New Port Richey and ending at the Moose Lodge in Zephyrhills. Throughout the ride, bikers visited poker stops along the way to collect their cards to make the best poker hand. Cash prizes were awarded to the top three poker hand winners: Vance McCutcheon (first), Frances McCutcheon (second) and Robert "Buff" Ralston (third).

The "Wings & Wheels Award" was given to the top fundraising team and the Golden Eagles Motorcycle Club took home the trophy for the sixth year in a row by raising \$2,555.

Please join us in thanking these generous sponsors for making this event possible:



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# Gulfside's Pet

The votes are in! Two furry friends have been named winners of Gulfside Hospice's 2023 Pet Pageant, hosted by the Women for Gulfside to support the Pet Peace of Mind® program at Gulfside Hospice. This fundraiser exceeded its \$5,000 goal by raising \$6,737!

More than 25 pet contestants featuring dogs, cats, a bird and even a hedgehog vied for two chances to win the Best Pet Pal of Pasco award in one of two categories - Most Popular and Most Photogenic.

The award for "Most Popular" goes to Thaddeus, a 10-month old orange tabby cat. This award is voted for by the community through donations, and Thaddeus alone brought in \$1,500 in votes. The award for "Most Photogenic" goes to Teddy Bear, a 4-year-old Shih Tzu dog, as determined by

a volunteer committee of Women for Gulfside members. Both winners will receive a prize basket donated by community sponsors.

The Virtual Pet Pageant is an annual event put on by the Women for Gulfside to raise funds for the Pet Peace of Mind® program, which supports Gulfside Hospice patients and their pets during the end-of-life journey. This extra support helps to relieve stress and anxiety for hospice patients and improve their overall quality of life. This program relies entirely on donations to make this support possible.

For more information about the contest or the Pet Peace of Mind® program, feel free to contact Carla Armstrong, Director of Philanthropy, at 727-845-5707 or [carla.armstrong@gulfside.org](mailto:carla.armstrong@gulfside.org) or go to [GulfsidePets.org](http://GulfsidePets.org).

**More than 25 pet contestants featuring dogs, cats, a bird and even a hedgehog vied for two chances to win the Best Pet Pal of Pasco award.**

## And the winners are...

**MOST POPULAR:  
THADDEUS**



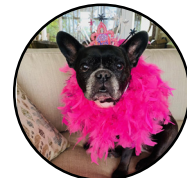
**MOST PHOTOGENIC:  
TEDDY BEAR**



# Congratulations!



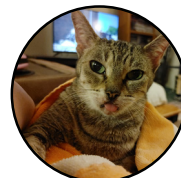
Applejack Snap



Bubbles



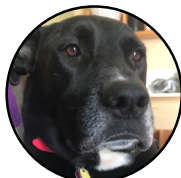
Chance



Heather



Jasmine



Jersey



Red



Rona



Rosie

# Pageant Exceeds Goal



**Pet Peace of Mind**<sup>®</sup>

Keeping Pets & People Together  
During Hospice Care

## Thank You, Sponsors:

### LEADER OF THE PACK SPONSORS:



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### PURR-FECT SPONSOR:



### GIFT BASKET SPONSOR:

**FUR BABIES  
DOG SALON**

**Your gift can help  
pets find their  
forever home.**

Gulfside's program is designed to assist with the routine care for pets of Gulfside Hospice patients by covering the cost of grooming care and routine veterinary appointments, providing pet food, cat litter and routine preventative medication and more.

Gulfside will even provide assistance with finding a "forever home" for the pet if needed.



Would you like to make a donation to the Pet Peace of Mind Program?

All you have to do is scan this QR Code with your smart phone!

## More contestants from the pageant:



Diesel



Dukino



Ellie



Frankie



George



Mallie



Lucy



Patrick



Princess & Professor



Raven



Roxy



Skye



Sunnie & Luke



Sushi



Winston

# Charity Casino Night Update



It was all fun and games at this year's Charity Casino Night on March 31, but the real winners are Gulfside Hospice patients. This favorite annual fundraiser roared back after a 3-year hiatus due to COVID-19 to raise more than \$26,000 to help hospice patients and their families!

Guests had a blast playing casino-style games, such as Black Jack, Craps, Roulette, Poker and Texas Hold 'em with fun money. At the end of the night,

the fun money was redeemed for chances to win several prize drawings. Another favorite game was Restaurant Roulette where guests made a \$10 donation and walked away with a mystery restaurant gift card worth at least \$10. The cards sold out in under an hour!

All proceeds raised at the event help provide hospice care and bereavement support right here in our local community.

Please join us in thanking the generous sponsors who made this event possible!

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# In Loving Memory

Gulfside offers a variety of ways to remember your loved ones on our Walls of Caring, in our Butterfly Gardens and with memorial gifts.

From January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023, generous donations were given to Gulfside Hospice from families and friends in memory or in honor of the following loved ones, who will remain in our hearts forever:



## Butterfly Garden

Debra Dowling	Darby Corwin	Mary Hill	Betty Newman	Brandon R. Smith
Lawrence J. Feeney	Helen M. Cozzini	Joanna Gallo Importuna	Edna Obruba	Cyndee Smith
Robert Gayle	Curtis Crosson	Diane Jennings	Jean Oleksa	James Spencer
Camille Kelly	Ronald Cunningham	Stan Kell	Joseph Payne Jr	Johnnie Stanley
Keith Mapes	Vivian H. Davis	Leonard Kemp	Kenneth Payton	Melvin Starkes
	Deann L. DeLong	Mary V. Kent	Zaida M. Pelaez	John Stewart
	Ruth Desjardins	Patricia J. Killoy	Elizabeth Peters	William Strode
Patricia A. Anderson	Denia Dieguez	Corinne Kozlowski	Marie Picone	Harold Thomas
Thomas Andrews	Martha Fleigner	Miloslav Kraus	John Pierce	Gail Uetrecht
Natalie K. Babb	Regina Forster	Teresa Leveille	Patricia Pinson	Patricia V. Van Ess
Aseeyah Baksh	Joan Fournier	Eunice MacAvoy	Joe Polo	Florence Walpole
Linda Baverstock	Myrtle O. Francis	Ina Mahoney	Zoia A. Prosnikova	Matthew G. Walsh
Dorothy J. Beevers	Maria Fratto	Eileen Marshall	Larry Rabon	Phyllis Wheeler
Salvatore Bianco	Sheila Friedman	Floyd May	Charles Reynolds	Robert Williams
Mary Blomgren	Michael J. Friedt	Robert Mayfield	Charles L. Roberts	Jean Witte
Austin P. Bondi	William Fyke	Mildred Mayfield	Gayle Salamone	Tillian Worley
Kelly Bouffard	Lois Gainer	Robert H. McCrary	Alma Salsman	
Elizabeth L. Bower	John H. Geiger	Arthur McDonald	Diana Santore	
Basil Brooks	Lloyd Gellineau	Betty McGinnis	Patricia Santoro	
Tommy Brown	Patricia Gilligan	Philip M. Mikoda	Thomas L. Schafer	
Jerry Buckley	Wilma Guerra	Gillian Milewitz	Jeffrey H. Scharfeld	
Clara M. Burlbles	Jane Haire	Neal J. Minsberg	Gail Schindler	
Peggy J. Cain	Lynn E. Harrington	Michael Mitchell	Mark Sebacher	
Donna Carr	Jeanette Hauser	James Montgomery	Deborah Seeger	
Athena Chester	Wallace E. Heiden	Miriam Murphy	David Shores	
James R. Clark	Patricia Herzberg	Fidelina Murphy	Patricia Sims	
Lee Ann Cohen	Karen L. Hile	Albin Nivelos	Eleanor Smith	

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memorial gift.





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