



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Local Leaders Installed as Officers on Hope Hospice Board of Directors**

DUBLIN, CA – (February 3, 2010) Hope Hospice is pleased to announce the installation of its new officers effective January 1, 2010. Charles Crohare, vice president, Tri-Valley Bank, has been elected president of the Board of Directors. Crohare, who joined the board in 2005 says, “I was invited to attend a board meeting and heard a member mention that the Hope Hospice staff considers it a privilege to serve a patient at one of the most important times in their life. That is something that has carried with me ever since.”

Margie Perry, vice president, Community Bank of the Bay, Danville, continues as vice president of the board and has supported fundraising efforts in her former position at Heritage Bank (formally Diablo Valley Bank) by hosting *Lights of the Valley* Holiday Memorial Tree Lightings in Pleasanton for the past several years. David T. Karlsson, CPA, with Brown and Cold has been elected as the board’s new treasurer. Mary Prishtina, RN, OCN, of the ValleyCare Health Library and Ryan Comer Cancer Research Center continues as the board’s secretary.

New board members include Stephen Oppenheimer, MD; James Kohnen, retired engineer and educator ; Susan Micheletti, chief operating officer; San Ramon Regional Medical Center ; and Kirsten Barranti, Esq., JD, RN, BSN of the Barranti Law Group.

Ms. Barranti states that she joined the board for two reasons : “Based on my past life in nursing, I believe in the hospice approach to managing the end-of-life process in a caring environment. Also, I have had friends whose families have used Hope Hospice and had high praises for the care provided.” Susan Micheletti shared, “I have seen Hope Hospice at work, and have long considered them one of the hospital’s most important partners in the provision of care to our community. I am hopeful that my background as a hospital administrator will allow me to serve Hope Hospice and its Board of Directors well. I know that my own life will be enriched through the value of volunteerism for an organization of such high integrity and compassionate care.”

Dr. Oppenheimer commented, "I've been a practicing physician in the community for 41 years and have seen the beginning of the hospice movement in the United States. I've witnessed the immense improvement in quality of life for patients as a result of hospice care and have shared many patients with Dr. Peter Wong, medical director of Hope Hospice. I have a high respect for both his knowledge and his compassion. So the opportunity to assist a quality

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organization with an important mission seemed exciting and rewarding to me. I'm looking forward to contributing to the ongoing activities of Hope Hospice."

Terms of service have been completed by Tim Neal, retired chief of police for the City of Pleasanton; Sandra Ryan, marketing manager, San Ramon Regional Medical Center; Jennifer Thaete, Attorney at Law at Abramson and Thaete; and Daven Sharma, CPA with Davis and Company CPAs.

Helen Meier, executive director of Hope Hospice states, "The four board members who completed their terms have helped the organization move through a period of dramatic growth. Their dedication to the mission of Hope Hospice is greatly appreciated. We welcome new board members who will bring unique skills as we develop our Strategic Plan for 2010 – 2012."

### **About Hope Hospice**

Hope Hospice, a 501 ( c ) 3 non-profit organization since 1980, provides compassionate care, insight, and guidance as families navigate through the end-of-life process. The team of professionals, many with hospice and palliative care certification, provides emotional and spiritual support and state-of-the art methods of pain and symptom control to maximize quality of life. Hope Hospice serves families in Alamo, Blackhawk, Castro Valley, Diablo, Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, Sunol and the surrounding communities in the East Bay of San Francisco.

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