

Hospice Golf rained out but still deemed success

Rain can call off a game of golf, but not the spirit of generosity.

The 128 participants in Hospice of Orleans' 18th Annual Golf Scramble got about halfway through their event on Wednesday when lightning and heavy rain compelled organizers to call off the contest at Hickory Ridge Country Club.

Golfers made the most of the soggy situation by gathering at the party house, enjoying drinks, camaraderie, and bidding on baskets and other prizes. By the time dinner was served (a half-hour early) and awards were distributed (based on eight holes, not 18), the group had netted nearly \$14,000 to help Hospice continue serving seriously and terminally ill residents of Orleans County.

Winning golfers were:

- Men's team and overall winners, score of 26: Matt Stawicki, Darryl Wenner, T.J. Sarratori and Alexx Christie.
- Mixed team, score of 29: Gary and Mary Ann Liese, Kim and Stephen Gifaldi.
- Women's team, score of 30: Barb Budde, Sandy Renouf and Mary Guzik.

Major sponsors of the tournament were Christopher-Mitchell Funeral Homes, Dr. Thomas Madejski, Sanzo and Sons, and Don Davis Chevrolet, Buick, GMC of Albion. Additional sponsors included Kast Farms, Wells Fargo Advisors -James Barrett, Western New York Energy, and 135 more.

"What impresses me most about this event and Hospice in general is the sheer number of people willing to say 'yes' to supporting what we do," said Marsha Rivers, Development Director. "Our services are local, they are crucial, and they are deeply personal. Hospice of Orleans is truly about neighbors helping neighbors, and the golf tournament demonstrates that every year."

Hospice has two upcoming events which are open for public and support and participation: The 2nd Annual Car Show hosted by Merrill-Grinnell Funeral Homes of Albion will take place on Sept. 13. And the Annual 5k Memory Run/Walk will be at Brown's Berry Patch on Oct. 11.