

NOVEMBER



**The
Compassionate
Friends**
Mercer Area Chapter
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

Local Chapter Notes



❖ **Candlelight Vigil 12/8/13**

Consider joining us for this international event at the RWJ Wellness Center from 6-9pm. Please RSVP by December 1st by calling 609-516-8047 or info@tcfmercer.org. Seating is limited to ten people per family. See page 2 for complete details.

SYMPATHIES

Our heartfelt condolences to the Finlayson and Stockton families. Sandy lost her grandson, Tyler to cancer on October 13th. This is the son of her daughter that also passed away. Donations can be sent to <http://www.youcaring.com/medical-fundraiser/tylers-helping-hand-fund/59435> Condolences can be sent to: Sandy Finlayson 225 Freeport Blvd, Toms River 08757

Additionally, one of our members passed away on Sunday, October 6th. Doris Stockton was a regular attendee of our annual Candle Vigil. Condolences can be sent to Gene Stockton - 6 Cynwyd Drive, Burlington, NJ 08016.

Steering Committee Meeting

Our next quarterly meeting will be held November 20th at 7pm. We meet at Panera Bread in Hamilton. Please consider attending – we would love to hear from you.

❖ **NEWSLETTER EDITOR UPDATE**

One month is left for someone to take over this critical position. Just a reminder that the newsletter will turn into a one page formatted letter with details for the upcoming meeting starting in January. Please email info@tcfmercer.org if you are interested. It is important to be an active member and attend meetings. Thanks!!

MEETING INFORMATION

WHEN:

November 4, 2013
The first Monday of each



MEETING TOPIC:

Holidays

FACILITATORS

Shannon Pope /
Rich Narcini

WHERE:

Capitol Health Systems in
Hamilton



Newsletter Mailings

Thanks to **Barbara Chiste** for mailing out the **November** newsletters.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Michelle Amantai
Tiffany Immordino

We thank you for welcoming us into your lives during such a difficult time. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting so we can get to know you and your family. Please remember that you are not alone!

*You and your family are respectfully invited to attend the TCF
Mercer Chapter Candle Lighting Ceremony.*

Please consider joining us for the TCF Worldwide Candle Lighting Ceremony, which will be held Sunday, December 8th. In addition, there will be a non-denominational service performed as we say each name of our chapter's children who are no longer with us. Children of all ages are welcome! If you have not attended a meeting in awhile this is a great chance to catch up with other members and take part in a beautiful event during a very difficult holiday season.

WHEN: Sunday, December 8th, 2013

WHERE: RWJ WELLNESS CENTER
<http://www.rwjhamilton.org/wellness/>
3100 Quakerbridge Road, Mercerville, NJ

AUDITORIUM A & B

TIME: 6 – 9 pm
The vigil will start promptly at 7pm

R.S.V.P: December 1st, 2013 609-516-8047 or email info@tcfmercer.org

Due to limited space please limit the number of guests to this event to ten. Please indicate how many people from your family will be attending.

Light refreshments will be served. We hope to see you and your family at this annual event.

Compassionate Friends Credit Card Available

Designed to promote awareness of the organization and to help as a fundraiser, The Compassionate Friends invites you to apply for your own Compassionate Friends Capital One Platinum Visa Credit Card.

There are three great branded designs to show your support of The Compassionate Friends. When you use one of TCF's designs, every time you pull out your card and make a purchase, someone will learn about The Compassionate Friends. If you prefer, you can custom design your own card with a picture of your child, your family, or any other scene or photographs. This can give you an opportunity every time you shop to talk about your child.

The card has no annual fee, a host of benefits, and the contributions from your use of the card may be tax deductible (please consult your tax advisor regarding how tax laws may apply).

For complete information on the program and to see the credit card designs, please go to

www.compassionatefriends.org and under "Donate," click on "Compassionate Friends Credit Card."

*We want to thank and acknowledge the following
for their generous support of our chapter and especially, our newsletter:*

In Memoriam

David A. Hunt
12/09 - 11/11

8th Anniversary in Heaven

“Beloved Son, Brother, Grandson,
Nephew, Cousin and Friend”

We did not see you close your eyes,
Or hear your last faint sigh,
We only heard that you were gone,

Vickie Vandewater

In memory of
James L. Vandewater IV

1/28-11/3

As long as I live, you will live. As
long as I live, you will be
remembered. As long as I live, you
will be loved.

Atahan Atay was not noted in the
October newsletter. His birthday
was October 2nd. Our apologies to
his family for this oversight.

Kathy Kriegner and Nick Barbato
in loving memory of our son

Thomas J. Kriegner
7/20 – 11/29

You are forever loved and
always missed.

Love Mom and Nick

The Compassionate Friends is a national nonprofit, self-help support organization that offers friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, grandparents and siblings. There is no religious affiliation and there are no membership dues or fees.

The secret of TCF's success is simple: As seasoned grievers reach out to the newly bereaved, energy that has been directed inward begins to flow outward and both are helped to heal. *The vision of The Compassionate Friends is that everyone who needs us will find us and everyone who finds us will be helped.*

You may need additional support beyond the help of our group...

CONTACT of Mercer County, NJ, provides 24 hour compassionate, confidential, telephone listening and referral services giving hope and reassurance to people in crisis. Please visit www.contactofmercer.org for complete information or call 896-2120 or 585-2244.

**NATIONAL CHAPTER
INFORMATION**
The Compassionate Friends, Inc.
P. O. Box 3696
Oak Brook, IL 60522-3696
TEL: 877-969-0010
FAX: 630-990-0246
Regional Coordinator: Camille Williams
cwilliams33@hotmail.com
Website: www.compassionatefriends.org

With loving remembrance of our children not here but always in our hearts

November Birthdays

Andrew "Drew" Apai	Son of Nancy and Gregory
Philip "Pablo" Andrew Branham II	Son of Heather
Robert "Bobby" DeLoach	Son of Trisha
Justin Falkowski	Son of Rob
Aliscia Renae Ball	Daughter of Melinda and Jim
Kenneth G. Keim, Jr.	Son of Roberta and Ken
Audrey & Gracie Linkowsky	Daughter of John and Lisa
Haskel Lunsford	Son of Michelle
Kristopher Klaus Muench	Son of Carol
Ahad M. Muzaffar	Son of Abroo and Basit
Andrew Gottfried	Grandson of Angela



November Anniversaries

David A. Hunt	Son of Katherine & Arthur
Brielle Childs	Daughter of Gwendolyn and Stepdaughter of Arti
Thomas J. Kriegner	Son of Kathy and Stepson of Nick
Audrey Linkowsky	Daughter of John and Lisa
Haskel Lunsford	Son of Michelle
Naren Raghuraman	Son of Usha and Krishnan
Patrick Honsinger	Son of Ellen
Theresa Marie Rivera-Cruz	Daughter of Donna and Ruben
James L. Vandewater IV	Son of Vickie
James Whitehouse	Son of Linda and Jim
Quantanette Wise	Daughter of Devoura Wise and Orlando Peterson



REMEMBRANCE TABLE

Be sure to bring in a photo or special memento each month so that we can celebrate the memory of your son or daughter together!

LOVE GIFT DONATION FORM

A **LOVE GIFT** is a donation given in memory of a child who has died. It can also be in honor of a happy event that you would like to acknowledge. Your contributions can be in any amount, are tax deductible and are a source of income for our non-profit chapter. **Checks can be made out to**

TCF Mercer and sent to: The Compassionate Friends, PO Box 3203, Mercerville, NJ 08619.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Child's Name _____ Relationship to child _____

Birthdate _____ Anniversary Date _____

Amount \$ _____ Dedicate the newsletter in the month of _____

If you would like a picture of your child in the newsletter please email it to info@tcfmercer.org
Please fill out the following for a two-line message that will be printed in the newsletter:

Every effort will be made to include your dedication in the month that you specify - please be sure to mail your information before the newsletter mailing. The newsletter is typically mailed one week prior to the monthly meeting. If your poem or message is lengthy please email to info@tcfmercer.org.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
Chapter Leader:	OPEN	
Meeting Facilitators:	Various	
Remembrance CardCoordinator:	Gwendolyn Karro	Since April 2013
Correspondence Secretary	Toni Nowalinski	Since April 2012
Newsletter Editor:	OPEN	
Treasurer:	Shannon Pope	Since May 2013
Event Coordinator	Shannon Pope	Since February 2012
Librarian:	Michael Stathis	Since January 2013
New Member Coordinator	Linda Silverstein	Since October 2012
Chapter Delegate:	Toni Nowalinski	Since January 2013
SCM Minutes:	Rich Narcini	Since February 2008
Web Master/Editor	Wil Hitchman	Since March 2009
Media Coordinator	Toni Nowalinski	Since December 2012

TCF Mercer Chapter Address:
 PO Box 3203, Mercerville, NJ 08619 **609-516-8047** info@tcfmercer.org or visit us online at
www.tcfmercer.org

Capital Health System of Hamilton, 1445 Whitehorse-Mercerville Road, Hamilton, NJ

From the North (New Brunswick and Princeton):

Follow Route 1 South to Quakerbridge Rd. Take the Quakerbridge Rd. Exit East. Go through approximately seven lights before you come to Route 33. Go through the intersection of Route 33 (Applebee's Restaurant will be on left corner). Street name changes to Whitehorse-Mercerville Rd. Go through three lights. CHS in Hamilton is on the left, immediately following third light.

From South Jersey:

Take Route 295 North to Exit 61 (Arena Drive). At the third light, make a left onto Whitehorse Avenue. Whitehorse Avenue changes to Whitehorse-Mercerville Road. Proceed on road for three lights. CHS in Hamilton is located on the right after the fourth light (#1445).

From the East (Freehold/Jackson):

Take Route 195 West towards Trenton. Exit at Hamilton Square. At the traffic light, make a left onto Kuser Rd. Follow Kuser Rd. for approximately two miles. The K-Mart Shopping Center will be on your left. Make a right onto Whitehorse-Mercerville Road. Proceed on Whitehorse-Mercerville Rd. through one more traffic light. CHS in Hamilton is on the right.

From the West (Ewing/Trenton):

Follow Olden Ave. East to Whitehorse Ave. Make a left onto Whitehorse Ave. Proceed on Whitehorse Ave. to Kuser Rd. (K-Mart Shopping Center). Go through the intersection of Whitehorse Ave. and Kuser Rd. The name of the road will change to Whitehorse-Mercerville Rd. Proceed on Whitehorse-Mercerville Rd. through one more traffic light. CHS in Hamilton is on the right.

From Pennsylvania (Route 95):

Take Route 95 North to Route 295 South to Route 33 East (Mercerville Exit). Follow to traffic light. Make a left onto Nottingham Way. You will need to be in right lane on Nottingham Way Make a right onto Quakerbridge Rd. Go through traffic light at Route 33 (Applebee's Restaurant will be on left corner). Street name changes to Whitehorse-Mercerville Rd. Go through three lights. CHS in Hamilton is on the left, immediately following third light.

When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and helps others better assist the grieving family.



The Compassionate Friends

Mercer Area Chapter

Supporting Family After a Child Dies

PO Box 3203 Mercerville, NJ 08619



Upcoming Meeting Dates

11/4

12/2

1/6

Meetings start at 7pm!