

For additional information contact June Gunter CCH Auxiliary President 919 777-8724
CCH Auxiliary Lights of Love – A Tradition –
2017 Central Carolina Hospital Auxiliary 33rd Annual “Lights of Love” Fundraiser

In 1985 the first Central Carolina Hospital “Lights of Love” event was presented under the CCH Auxiliary leadership of President Barbara Perry and Co-Chairpersons Jane Escher and Sissy Cohen. Over 250 people came out on a chilly December 12th Thursday night at 6:30pm to watch the lighting of a 25-foot Christmas tree atop Central Carolina Hospital. Dubbed the “The Holiday Tree of Love”. The Lee Senior High School String Ensemble played carols and patrons enjoyed refreshments in the cafeteria following a short program and the official “lighting of the tree”. Joe Del Vecchio was one of the first to have the honor of lighting the lights. Since then, in December the Auxiliary has continued the tradition of the “Lights of Love” Tree. Thru the years the “symbolic lights” have been brightly shining from a tree a top the Hospital, or in front of the Hospital or in the Hospital Visitors Lobby with the names of those remembered, honored, and donors inscribed upon a scroll displayed in the visitors foyer or plaques on the visitors foyer wall, or paper scrolls decorating the tree, or personalized ornaments or in a book of remembrance. Regardless of where the tree or names have been displayed over the years during the month of December “the Lights” continue to shine brightly for those who are never forgotten and for those who give of themselves, and for those who make the Auxiliary Projects and Charities possible.

This holiday season the CCH Auxiliary continues the tradition presenting the 33rd Annual “Lights of Love”. The CCH Auxiliary “Lights of Love” Trees have special meaning to our community as a way to celebrate and remember people who have been special in our lives. The “Lights of Love” event allows individuals, groups, and businesses to recognize someone special and support of the Auxiliary by making a donation. The Auxiliary relies on fundraisers such as the Lights of Love to carry out projects that benefit CCH patients, visitors, staff, and community:

- Medications, Toiletries and Personal Items for Patients in Need
 - Pastoral Care Items and Visits available upon request
 - Toys and Comfort Items for Children and Adult Patients
 - Projects that Benefit CCH Patients and their Families
 - The Florence B. Harris Scholarship
 - CCCC CCH Auxiliary Nursing Scholarship
 - CCH Auxiliary Breast Cancer Comfort Fund
 - CCH Auxiliary Get-Away Garden

Those remembered, Honored and Donor names are inscribed in the Central Carolina Hospital Auxiliary “Lights of Love Book of Remembrance” placed adjacent to the tree in the visitor’s lobby and Christmas Eve in the Sanford Herald. All Names received on or prior to December 20th due to publication deadlines will be listed in the newspaper. The first year for the Book of Remembrance was December 2007 with each year added thereafter, this is the 11th year for the Book of Remembrance. The first year for Lights of Love Tree of Lights was 2010; this is the 8th year for the Tree of Lights in the CCH Auxiliary Get Away Garden Gazebo adjacent to the Emergency Entrance on Fields Drive.

The 33rd Annual Lights of Love Christmas Tree [located CCH Visitors Lobby] is decorated with glass ornaments symbolizing donations, and those remembered and honored. They are glass shaped Stars for “in memory of”, Doves for “in honor of”, and Bells for “donor”. The tree is topped with a gold star. Also atop the tree are American Flags; a flag in Memory of US Military Men and Women who made the ultimate sacrifice, a flag in Honor of US Military Veterans, a flag in Honor of US active Military Men and Women and a flag in honor of First Responders.

The Lights of Love “Christmas tree” in the Central Carolina Hospital Visitor’s Lobby and the Lights of Love “Tree of Lights” in the CCH Auxiliary Get Away Garden Gazebo is officially lit the first Sunday in December and will remain lit through December. We invite you to come by the hospital to view the trees and the Book of Remembrance during the month of December.

More than 5000 Lights of Love Flyers have been distributed by Lee County High School and Southern Lee High School students, members of Cheer Extreme and Auxiliary Volunteers. Flyers are also available in the Lobby of CCH near the Lights of Love Christmas Tree.

CCH Auxiliary Volunteers decorate the trees and carryout the project by promoting the Lights of Love throughout the community. For additional information contact June Gunter CCH Auxiliary President 919 777-8724 or Tracy Perry CCH Volunteer Coordinator 919 774-2100

“May our beautiful “Lights of Love” Christmas Trees located in the CCH Visitors Lobby & Get-A-way Garden bring you joy during this holiday season.”