

NEWS

from

LONDONWOOD GARDENS

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LONDONWOOD GARDENS HOSTS HOSPICE MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Lendonwood Gardens was the scene of a somber, yet beautiful “Remembrance Celebration” Saturday, April 26, honoring patients of Grove’s Good Shepherd Hospice who have passed away in the past year.

Friends and families gathered in the garden’s Japanese Pavilion to remember their loved ones and reconnect with some of the hospice care-givers.

Good Shepherd Hospice, located at 2084 South Main, provides end-of-life care for patients who are terminally ill, said Kimberly Freshour, a Hospice consultant. “We offer comfort and care, both to the patients and their families. We have chaplains, social workers, nurses, home health aides and a wonderful group of volunteers who become very close to the patients and their families.”

She said the memorial ceremony has been held annually since the hospice was established 13 years ago. Hospice Director Jonell Gibson welcomed the families and staff members in opening remarks. Lunch was provided by Grandwood Assisted Living in Grove. The program also included songs, readings, and a presentation of names by chaplains Larry Hendren and David Rycroft and social worker Darwin King.

“The Good Shepherd Hospice wishes to thank everyone who made this ceremony possible, including Lendonwood Gardens, Grandwood Assisted Living, and the entire community,” Freshour said.

At the end of the program, participants walked through the garden to gather near Lendonwood’s Angel of Hope statue for a prayer and placement of white flowers at the

statue's base. Rhododendrons and azaleas blossoming throughout the garden provided a color-filled backdrop for the remembrance ceremony.

The Angel of Hope statue was dedicated in Lendonwood Gardens in 2004 to provide a special area for honoring lost children or other loved ones. At the base of the statue are memorial bricks, many inscribed with messages from families and friends who purchase the bricks in honor of their loved ones. For more information on the memorial brick program, contact Lendonwood Gardens at 918-786-2938.