



HOUSTON HOSPICE

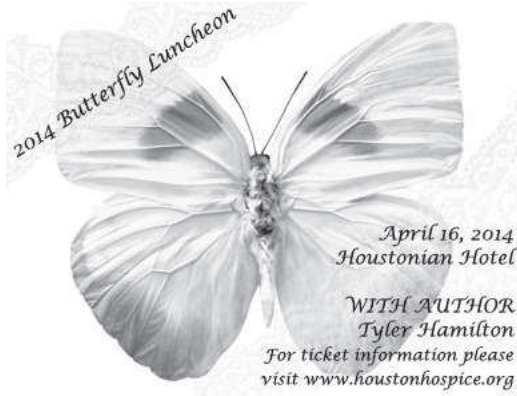
Life Matters

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The Secret Race: Inside The Hidden World Of The Tour De France

H OUSTON HOSPICE'S ANNUAL BUTTERFLY LUNCHEON features the author of *The Secret Race: Inside the Hidden World of the Tour de France – Doping, Cover-ups, and Winning at All Costs*, Tyler Hamilton. Susan and Ted McElroy chair the much anticipated event to be held at The Houstonian on Wednesday, April 16, 2014.

This year, Houston Hospice is proud to present Tyler Hamilton, New York Times Bestselling author; former professional bike racer; Olympic gold medalist and NCAA champion. He was once one of the world's top-ranked cyclists. He started his career with the U.S. Postal Service team in the 1990s and quickly rose to become Lance Armstrong's most trusted lieutenant, and a member of his inner circle.



Tyler Hamilton

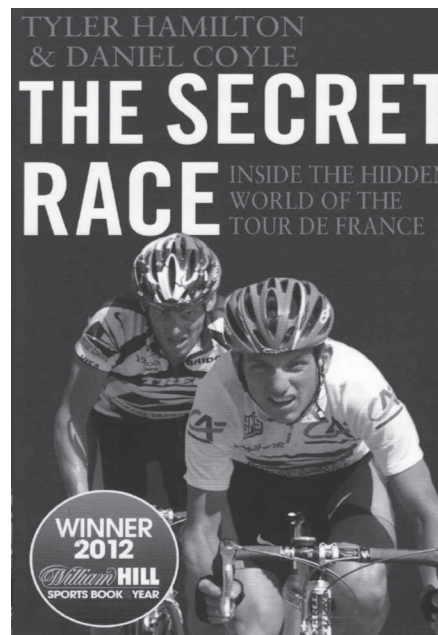
In 2012, Hamilton released his memoir, a riveting journey into the heart of a never before seen world, the stark choices that went along with his decision to compete at a world class level and his complicated relationship with Lance Armstrong. In addition to becoming an instant New York Times bestseller, Hamilton was the recipient of the prestigious William Hill Sports Book of the Year Award.

Hamilton's story is the example of how culture can drive behavior – not just in sports, but in business and in life – and how values can be easily

compromised as a consequence. He is a testament to the transformational power of the truth.

The Butterfly Luncheon is held each year and benefits the operations of Houston Hospice and provides the primary funds to support its Butterfly Program serving children. Each year, Houston Hospice brings inspiring speakers to town to share their thoughts on life's journey and to celebrate life.

If you would like to be a part of this much anticipated event and support Houston Hospice and their children's hospice program you may do so by purchasing a table or tickets online at www.houstonhospice.org; calling Cynthia Nordt at 713-677-7123; or e-mailing cnordt@houstonhospice.org.



Newsletter

Houston Hospice Main Entrance Temporarily Relocates

Call it a glimpse of Houston's grand Azalea Trail. While the first floor of the Margaret Cullen Marshall Hospice Care Center undergoes renovations, visitors and staff will enter the facility through a portion of the gardens, currently in full bloom. From late March through the estimated May completion, Houston Hospice's main entrance will be relocated from the west-side porte-cochère to the Center's east door. Parking area signage will direct visitors to the garden gate between the chapel and the Holcombe House. Through this gate, visitors may cross the paved courtyard framing the chapel. Our receptionist will greet visitors from a temporary reception desk immediately inside the door.



The elevator, adjacent to the temporary reception area, will continue to serve as the primary access for visitors and staff traveling to upper floors.

We appreciate everyone's help in directing and assisting newcomers during construction. What a joy it will be to share the full benefit of the Capital Campaign expansion and renovation with the Greater Houston community.

Expansion and Renovation Update

In 2012 the Houston Hospice Board of Directors embarked upon a \$5 million fundraising campaign to build out, furnish, and equip the third floor of the Margaret Cullen Marshall Hospice Care Center to add 12 beds to the unit. The facility was experiencing occupancy rates exceeding capacity, and for much of 2011, patients and their families were put on waiting lists because the unit was filled. With the need for hospice services increasing every year, leaving 9,000 square feet of prime, third floor space unoccupied was deemed unacceptable. In addition to building out space for 12 additional patient rooms, plans were made to renovate and upgrade the first and second floors.

Thanks to enthusiastic and generous response to the campaign, construction of the third floor is now complete. Additionally, the second floor has been remodeled and improved with new, state-of-the-art equipment, restrooms, flooring, paint, ceiling tiles, millwork, doors,



plantation blinds, signage, upgraded lighting, and a redesigned nurses' station. Patients and their families are enjoying new beds, furniture, flat screen televisions, and a remodeled family room. The same improvements are planned for the first floor, including the reception area,

snack bar, and conference room with completion slated for the end of May 2014.

On behalf of the patients and families served by Houston Hospice, we thank you for your generosity! Our care facility has been the best in Houston, and these improvements and expansion will make Houston Hospice the premier hospice care facility in the state. The campaign has raised \$4.2 million toward its \$5 million goal. We're almost there! If you would like to help us meet the campaign goal and finish the project, please contact Cynthia Nordt at 713-677-7123 or cnordt@houstonhospice.org. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Appreciation for Unparalleled Level of Care at Houston Hospice

December 12, 2013

This letter has been a long time coming, but its delay does not diminish the gratitude it wishes to convey. On behalf of myself, my daughters and our respective families, I would like to convey our sincere, heartfelt appreciation to your organization and your staff who were so caring, compassionate and attentive to the needs of my wife during her recent struggle with cancer.

The organization and staff of Houston Hospice were unsurpassed in their delivery of care for my wife in her days of greatest need. Oh, my daughters and I were there every day to tend to her immediate needs and provide the family love and attention that are so important; but Houston Hospice was amazing. Her nurse, O'Keima Terrell, and personal aide, Patricia Toussaint, were outstanding in every way.

From the very first day, Houston Hospice was organized and ready. From Dr. Gary Erwin to the social workers, Jodie and Mandy, to Chaplain Jim to the pharmacy to the office staff, Tony and Francis, it was just a complete operation that was there at any point of need at any time of day. I cannot say enough about how impressed I was with the level of care provided. It was unparalleled.

And speaking of dedication and devotion to duty, it brings me back to nurse O'Keima and personal aide Patricia. Both of these young ladies are special. Through their dispositions, empathy, knowledge of their jobs, and gentle encouragement for my wife to keep trying and stay positive, they were both simply wonderful. They were more than medical care providers; they became friends of the family.

Right away, Patricia helped my wife do things that earlier in the day she hadn't cared about or didn't think she could do. Then she felt better for it. She began to look forward to Patricia's visits each day... not because of getting treatment but because she enjoyed seeing Patricia and knew the feeling was mutual.

Both of these ladies and the others mentioned above must be MADE for this kind of work. Chaplain Jim would even stop by just to check on all of us. They made a wonderful difference for me, my family and especially my wife in her final days. This is an unusual organization staffed with very dedicated and unique people. Thank God for all of you.

Sincerely,

Patient Husband

Houston Hospice Welcomes New Board Members

Three individuals joined the Houston Hospice Board of Directors at the Annual meeting of the Directors. They are James A. Reeder, Jr., Judson W. Robinson, III and Arthur L. Smith, CFA.



Jim Reeder is the Leader of Vinson & Elkins' Antitrust Practice Group. Although his extensive antitrust practice extends to many industries, including

commercial aviation, energy and entertainment, he also has experience in the healthcare and chemical industries. He earned his J.D. at The University of Texas School of Law. Reeder has served on the Advisory Board of Teach for America; on the Board of Directors at The Jung Center of Houston; and the Boards of Trustees at the Legacy Community Health System and the San Jacinto Museum of History Association.



Judson Robinson is the President & CEO of the Houston Area Urban League. Prior to joining the League, Robinson served as Deputy Commissioner for

Sylvia Garcia and served on the Houston City Council. He is involved with the Houston Wellness Association, Mental Health of America of Houston and the Uptown Redevelopment Authority.



Art Smith is President and Managing Member of Triple Double Advisors, LLC, an investment advisory firm focused on the energy industry. He

is the former Chairman and CEO of John S. Herold, Inc., the Norwalk and Houston-based petroleum research and consulting firm. Smith serves on the Board of Directors of PAA Natural Gas Storage, L.P. and Pioneer Southwest Energy Partners, L.P. He has served on the board of Dress for Success Houston and is active with the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University.

Houston Hospice
1905 Holcombe Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77030-4123

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Phone: 713-467-7423

web site: www.houstonhospice.org

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The newsletter is published by Houston Hospice, a nonprofit organization providing comprehensive end-of-life services and education to the greater Houston area and surrounding communities.

Houston Hospice is a member of the Texas Medical Center

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Mission Statement

Houston Hospice provides uncompromising, compassionate end-of-life care to patients and families in our community.

Through the efforts of specially trained and highly skilled interdisciplinary teams of health care professionals and volunteers, Houston Hospice patients and their families are guided through the process of illness, by receiving clinical care, psychosocial support, spiritual guidance and volunteer assistance.

Donors, Shoppers and Volunteers Unite! Celebrating 14 Years of Thrift Shop Partnership

In the early 1960s, the ladies of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Houston, Texas recognized many needs for their newly formed church. However, with very few dollars, they decided to organize a rummage sale of previously used items to raise funds. From those humble beginnings of selling items from the church parking lot, the concept has grown tremendously. Previously used (and some new) items are now sold from a thrift shop building located on church property in the Spring Branch area of Houston.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church invited Houston Hospice to partner with them at their thrift shop in 1999. Since then (thanks to the generosity of donors and volunteers!) well over \$150,000 has been raised for hospice efforts. Fourteen years on, the shop is experiencing a growth spurt that means higher quality goods, more variety, and more proceeds that will benefit our mission to bring caring and compassionate support to patients and their families.

For information about donating, shopping, and volunteering please call the shop at 713-467-7743, or stop by 1650 Blalock Road (1.5 miles north of I-10). The shop is open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

If you would like to opt out of receiving the Newsletter please notify us by e-mail to amoore@houstonhospice.org.