



**Willamette
Valley Hospice**

NEWS

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Willamette Valley Hospice Receives Community Enhancement Award

Memorial Garden Continues to Brighten Neighborhood

Salem, OR (Nov 13, 2009) – Willamette Valley Hospice was recently awarded a 2009 West Salem Community Enhancement Award for on-going beautification of the community. The non-profit hospice's memorial garden could be considered a best-kept secret of Salem, as the serene setting seems far from the noise and hustle of nearby roads, even in the midst of a busy neighborhood.

The award was presented by the West Salem Neighborhood Association and the West Salem Business Association in recognition of the aesthetic contributions to quality of life in West Salem. This is the 9th annual contest to recognize the best-maintained businesses in the West Salem neighborhood. Willamette Valley Hospice's memorial garden includes a relaxing fountain, rock garden, and benches for quiet contemplation. Among the trellised vines, names of lost loved ones can be found on memory flags created by family and friends, blowing in the breeze. The garden is also used during community memorial services hosted by Willamette Valley Hospice several times a year.

“We enjoy being part of the neighborhood. Being recognized by your neighbors is really flattering,” says Linda Hays, Community Development Director for Willamette Valley Hospice. “We are happy that the memorial garden is enjoyed by so many people.”

Willamette Valley Hospice has been serving the community for over 30 years, enhancing quality of life for the terminally ill and their families in Marion and Polk Counties. Willamette Valley Hospice offers grief support groups to community members free of charge and hosts an annual camp for children that have lost a loved one. For more information regarding the memorial garden, upcoming community memorial services, or hospice services, please contact Willamette Valley Hospice at 503.588.3600 or visit www.wvh.org.