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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## 2008 Annual Hospice at Home Homes Tour

(South Haven, Michigan) November 14, 2008 – The Annual Hospice at Home Homes Tour is on Sunday, December 7, 2008. All proceeds are used by the South Haven Area Hospice Foundation to provide hospice and bereavement care in the South Haven area.

“This year we will be featuring a variety of homes, from historic to recently built,” states Stephanie Timmer, event co-chairperson. “Our hospice organization has been providing care in our community for over 20 years. The funds from this event make a difference in the lives of our neighbors, friends, and families,” continues Timmer.

From 1pm to 5pm on December 7, the public will have the opportunity to tour the following premier homes:

96 Chicago Drive, South Haven

Through semi-circular glass walls in the living and dining rooms, the Wisser home, designed by noted architect Gordon Rogers, provides marvelous views of the river, pier and lake. Inside, the owners display an extensive art collection. Special features include a sitting room and fireplace in the master suite, an exquisite home office and a lower level complete with bar, entertainment center and unique wine cellar.

70903 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, South Haven

The country home of the Van Wagner Family began life as a typical 1960's ranch house, but with much help from family and friends has been transformed into a rustic log cabin. On three acres of land with its own pool, the home is enjoyed by a large family which includes five grandchildren. Visitors will find the Christmas spirit in every room.

653 Lantern Watch Drive, South Haven

This summer home was built as a retreat for a busy physician and his family. Mrs. Sullivan, a professional interior designer, designed their Boardwalk residence to face Lake Michigan. Its five bedrooms and five baths provide plenty of room for family and visitors. Special features include a stair tower, a lower level media room and a children's bunk room with its own view of the lake.

121 Clinton Street, South Haven

The century-old home of Lynda Navarre and Rich Venner combines 1908 charm with creative updates by "ReDesign Decorator" Lynda. Recent projects include restoring the original pine floors, applying singing colors to the walls and redoing the kitchen in a Tuscan theme. Much of the furniture is recycled from thrift shops. The back apartment has new life as Rich's "Boathouse" home for his model boats and other interests.

118 South Haven Street, South Haven

This charming 1960's beach bungalow demonstrates that wonderful things do come in small packages. The welcoming wreath on the front door and the window boxes filled with pine and crimson berries announce that the McKee home is ready for holiday visitors. Inside, a twinkling tree decorated in a nautical theme greets guests. The master bedroom is dressed in rich color while the guest bedroom features a sitting/reading area.

333 North Shore Drive, South Haven

Built in 1896 as a summer cottage with porches on all sides, the Ticknor home has undergone many changes. The owners have added a garage and family room, restored the original wood floors in the pantry and kitchen, and have creatively recycled dining room furniture from a demolished North Shore Drive resort. Visitors will enjoy over one hundred Santas which the family has collected.

Refreshments will be served throughout the day at the Sturgis Bank and Trust, 365 Center Street. Tickets are \$15 per person and may be purchased in advance in South Haven at the Hospice at Home –South Haven Office at 05055 Blue Star Highway, the South Haven Visitor's Bureau, MacDonald Drug Store, Wolverine Hardware or in Bangor at Swanstra Drug Store or by phone at 269-637-3825. Tickets are also available at the homes on the day of the tour ONLY for \$20 per person.

Hospice at Home is the non-profit community hospice focusing on the patient and family regardless of the patients' diagnosis, treatment choices, life expectancy, or ability to pay. It provides quality care to people adjusting to living with a serious illness, to people facing death, to people anticipating the death of a loved one, or to people healing their grief after the death of a loved one. Hospice at Home places an emphasis on the emotional, social, and spiritual needs of those who need care and those receiving support services. Serving Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, and Allegan Counties, the care is coordinated by a team of physicians, nurses, home health aides, social workers, spiritual care counselors, bereavement coordinators, and trained volunteers. Extending this care, Lory's Place, a bereavement and education center that builds hope and strength for every grieving family, is available to anyone in Southwest Michigan or Northern Indiana.

For more information about the Hospice at Home Homes Tour or Hospice at Home contact Beth Fones at 269-637-3825 or 1-800-637-3820; or go to [www.hospiceathomecares.org](http://www.hospiceathomecares.org).

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Photos included