

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Laura Owen, *Director of Communications & Development*

PHONE: 1.336.474.2078

EMAIL: lowen@hospiceofdavidson.org

ART COLLECTORS DONATE TO LOCAL CHARITY

Lexington, North Carolina, August 23, 2010 - You can hear her laughter and vivacious chatter even before spotting her in a crowd. Frankie Sowers has an absolutely infectious energy about her. It stems from her love for people and avid interest in discovering things for the first time.

Frankie's eye for discovery has often led her to the studios of many southern realist artists. She and her husband Wayne have been collecting prints, remarks, lithographs and originals produced by southern artists for years.

David Doss, Harry Jarmon, Ward Nichols and Douglas Cave are just a handful of the many artists in their collection. Although each artist has their own unique style, all the works depict scenes that are easy to connect with or recognize.

"I love being able to look at a picture that captures something I've seen or a place that I've visited" commented Sowers. "It's an incredible experience to look at a picture and have the scene take you there."

When Frankie and her husband relocated to Virginia several years ago, they decided to share their love for art and opened a small gallery. Later, when Wayne's work brought him back to Lexington, they opened "Limited Treasures," an art gallery and specialty shop that featured southern art.

Although “Limited Treasures” is no longer open, Frankie has continued to collect artwork. “I just receive so much pleasure from collecting” shared Sowers. “I can’t help but appreciate what I could never do myself” she added.

Sharing her love for art is also something she enjoys. When she found herself running out of storage, she decided that it was time to donate some of her collection to a worthy charity. Recalling a personal experience she had with hospice care, she decided to contact Hospice of Davidson County and see if they would have an interest in accepting an art donation.

About that same time, Sowers recalled that her friend and former physical therapist, Tammy Troublefield, was now working for the agency. After a call to Troublefield that confirmed Hospice of DC would accept the art, Sowers selected nearly 100 prints from their collection and donated them to the agency.

On August 27, at the annual, “*Friends of Hospice*” gala, thirty prints from the collection will be displayed as part of the Silent Auction. All prints are signed and many on display are no longer available for purchase. Both Wayne and Frankie Sowers hope that the sale of the prints will go a long way towards raising funds for patient services.

For ticket or more information regarding this year’s benefit gala, contact Hospice of Davidson County, 336.475.5444. Tickets are \$75 per person with limited seating available.

-- End --