



HEARTBEAT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUXILIARY - PARTNERS OF MERMH

Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital

March 2018

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Teri Kressin, President

Looking out my window at the melting snow, it's hard to believe that Spring is less than a month away. We held our first meeting of the year in January. Our guest speaker was Barb Grzywacz who volunteers at the hospital in the Help Program and also volunteers with people who are recovering from alcohol and/or drug addiction. She has had cases where the addict had no decent clothes, no place to live, and no food. A place was found for the person short term, got vouchers for food and clothing from our Thrift Shop. Unfortunately, Barb is moving in March to be closer to children and grandchildren. She will be sadly missed.

This year we are having meetings every other month so the first one was held in January and the next will be on March 20, the first day of spring. The Auxiliary will be trying out a new meeting place which will be in our new library in the Eagle Room. Letters will be sent out at the beginning of March to let all volunteers know.

That same day some of us will be leaving for Madison right after our meeting to travel to Madison for Advocacy Days which is on March 21. This is always a chance to find out what's happening with healthcare issues at the state level. In the afternoon we get to meet with our two state officials, Senator Tom Tiffany and House representative Rob Swearinger. Any volunteer is welcome to attend this annual event.

Pam Cira submitted the nomination of our Thrift Shop for the Have award. We were a finalist before and now are hoping to win. Our Thrift Shop generates most of the income that we have. We also have income from the Life Direct program. It was decided not to continue the Fashion Show due to the low profit made did not equal all the work put into it. We are continuing with the Day of Renewal as a community event. There will be more news on that in the future. Save the date of September 18.

The time of year is now for scholarship applications being handed out at the high schools and to associates of the Eagle River Hospital. Our committee will be setting up interviews in April and awarding the winners at the local high school on awards night. If any associates apply and are chosen for the two \$1000 scholarships for continuing education in the health field, they will be awarded at an Auxiliary meeting.



Lastly, but not the least, the offices of President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be vacated on June 30. Along with these offices, the office of President-elect is vacant. If these are not filled, the auxiliary will have to dissolve unless there are other options available.



Volunteers Needed!!!

Scarf, Hat and Mitten Tree Thank You

By Diana Sell

Thanks once again to all who donated new or slightly used mittens, scarves, and hats to decorate the tree in the hospital lobby. I am amazed each year at the generosity of our members, associates and members of our community. This year's tree was the most beautiful so far. The items were donated to the Salvation Army to be distributed to those in need in our community. Thank you, Kathy Holtorp for helping us fulfill our mission. We plan to do it again next year.



Making Holiday Memories

Great friends, good food and grand fun were the order of the day at our Christmas party held at Eagle Waters Resort on December 12.



Life Direct

Respectfully submitted by Pam Cira

Al Acker, an auxiliary volunteer at Howard Young Hospital who installs the equipment for their Life Direct subscribers, has been graciously helping us out in our service area. He has generously agreed to continue doing this so the program can continue to function for our subscribers. THANK YOU, Al. Without him we would not have anyone who could do installations or respond to equipment problems so he has been a God-send. We have had three new installs since the beginning of this year and four subscribers canceled service. All who canceled had moved in with adult children or into assisted living. Rosemary and I are covering the office as best we can. Thank you, Rosemary! So it has been a bit hectic but going okay so far.

THRIFT SHOP

NEWS FROM THE THRIFT SHOP

By Joan Holdmann, Chairperson

Oh, oh, I'm beginning to see packets of flower seeds and other garden supplies. You all know what that means. Yes, spring will soon be here. And those of the Auxiliary ladies that have stayed here for the winter months are looking forward to it. It is amazing to see our back sorting room area looking so clean. What a great job these gals have done! The sales room also has been worked over, cleaned and re-arranged. Again, thanks to these auxiliary ladies.



Unfortunately, due to this crazy flu thing that's going around, the shop had to close due to so many being sick. I was one of them. It's been awful. We run short of help most days in winter but this year has been the worst I can remember. Not sounding like a nag, I'd like to remind you that the shop really could use you. We need help in the back sorting room or working up front at the checkout counter. It's a good way to put in your hours, besides getting to visit with some of the other gals. And it's a good way to get rid of those Winter Cabin Blues.



Our sales have been fair, running about the same as usual this time of year. We have had a number of select items sales and will again soon. I think we have finally reached the end of ALL our winter coats, jackets and snowmobile outfits.

TIME TO THINK SPRING, RIGHT LADIES? This is about all the news I have right now so will end on a happy note. SMILE, life is good!

Membership

Respectfully submitted by Pam Cira 715-479-5485

I am hoping to continue to contact those who have not returned either their safety check or dues and ask if they want to continue in the auxiliary as active members, patrons or not at all. I have contacted some and made changes in the Volistics program to reflect their desired status. And I continue logging volunteer hours into our computer program. Please continue to record your hours so that Sally and Marlys can get them to me. If you realize that you forgot to log hours that you provided months earlier, please just include them in your current month's hours. It is very time consuming for me to have to check each person's computer logged hours from the past to see if the now submitted old hours were submitted before or not. It will be a whole lot easier for me to just look at recording current hours. Thank you for your patience and assistance in this matter.



Ascension Name and Logo Added

Leaders and Associates at Ascension Eagle River Hospital celebrated the adoption of the Ascension name and logo at a blessing ceremony on Monday, February 19.

"Today's celebration is exciting for our facility and health system," said Sandy Anderson, President, Ascension Eagle River Hospital. "We are committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable."

Signage crews have completed changes to major exterior hospital and clinic signage at entrances and in other key internal areas of facilities across central and northern Wisconsin. The rebranding efforts will continue over the next few months with a phased approach in other areas of the state over the next year.

Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire ... if you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something ... for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times ... during those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations ... they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge... which will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes ... they will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary ... because it means you've given your all.



It's easy to be thankful for the 'good' things ... yet, a life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive ... find a way to be thankful for your troubles and they can become your blessings.



PLEASE HELP!

The Thrift Shop could really use you!

We need help in the back sorting room or working up front at the checkout counter.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 21 WHA Advocacy Day, Madison

April 26 WHA Partners North Central Spring District Meeting, Rhinelander

June 13 Volunteer recognition luncheon, Whitetail Inn, St. Germain

October 2-4 WHA Partners State Convention, Stevens Point

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES COME AND WORK WITH US

Thrift Store Volunteers

HELP Program Volunteers

Offices of President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer

Out-Patient Surgery Volunteers

'Heartbeat' Newsletter Editor, Training Provided



Heartbeat is the official Newsletter of Auxiliary/Partners of Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital and is published quarterly in March, June, September and December.
Editor Katie Grundy.
Email: eagleheartbeat@gmail.com

If interested, please contact
Kathy Viergutz at 715-356-8677
for more information.