



HEARTBEAT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUXILIARY - PARTNERS OF MERMH

Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital

June 2016

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

Auxiliary Donations

By Diana Sell, Publicity

The Auxiliary recently donated \$50,000 to the Howard Young Foundation for a mobile mammography unit. The amount will be matched both by the Foundation and by a private donor. It also purchased two Lifepak 15 V defibrillators for the ambulances totaling \$55,735. Thank you, volunteers for helping to improve our community healthcare!



Volunteer Milestones

By Diana Sell

While the Auxiliary - Partners of Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital is very proud of all of its volunteers, three of our volunteers have reached milestones which stand out from the rest. They were presented with these awards at the recent Recognition Luncheon on May 5, 2016 at the Whitetail Inn in St. Germain. Ken and Joan Holdmann have worked over 17,000 hours. Joan is chairperson of the Thrift store where Ken also works. Shirley Spiess has served in the Auxiliary for 54 years. Congratulations to all three. We applaud you for your outstanding achievement!



Shirley Spiess

Auxiliary Scholarship Awards

By Diana Sell

Our Auxiliary awards four \$1,000 scholarships each year for students who are pursuing a career in healthcare. This year's recipients are Connor Cox, Jocelyn Monge, and Hannah Yuds from Northland Pines High School. Brooke Stefonik, Valedictorian, won the award from Three Lakes High School. She will be attending LaCrosse in the fall. Thank you Scholarship Committee, headed by Mary Lincoln, for choosing this year's winners. Teri Kressin, President, presented the awards at each school's award ceremony. Congratulations to this year's graduates and award winners!



L-R Connor Cox, Teri Kressin, Jocelyn Monge, and Hannah Yuds



L-R Brooke Stefonik, Teri Kressin

'Breath of Fresh Air' - The Fashion Show is Coming!

This year's fashion show is in collaboration with the Howard Young Auxiliary and is set for Monday, July 18th at the Whitetail Inn in St. Germain. Registration forms will be mailed to all auxiliary members but the event is open to the public. Extra registration forms will be available at the hospital entrances, the Eagle River Thrift Shop and the AHYMC Gift Shop. Cost is \$28.00 which includes lunch, tax, tip and a door prize ticket. Jeanine Ilacqua from Channel 12 will again MC our event. Social hour begins at 11am with lunch at noon. The fashion show and raffles will follow and conclude by 3pm. Reservations must be in by July 8th

Eagle River Auxiliary models will wear items from our nationally recognized Thrift Shop and Howard Young models will highlight items available at Howard Young's Gift Shop. There will be some raffles, too: a 50/50 raffle; a raffle with 2 prizes (a stunning hand-made shawl and a wine basket); and a purse raffle (donated, gently-used purses or other carrying devices that have a surprise, wrapped gift inside). If you are lucky enough to win a purse, you will receive a bonus gift (no peeking).

We are asking for raffle-purse donations. Boxes are available in the triage room by the hospital front desk for anyone to donate a gently-used purse/backpack/duffle/briefcase/gym bag/picnic basket containing a new, wrapped item with a value of at least \$10.00 placed inside. Raffle donations may also be dropped off downstairs in the auxiliary room at Howard Young.

Contact Pam Cira at (715) 479-5485, Sue Damske at (715) 356-3135, or Kathy Viergutz at (715) 356-8677 if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!



Healthcare Hero 2016

By Diana Sell



The past four years the Auxiliary has awarded an employee of Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital the Healthcare Hero award. The award is presented to someone who is nominated as "dedicated to being the best". This person is judged on how he or she exemplifies the mission and values of the hospital. Last year's winner was Sue Schlecht. This year the nominees were Lori Kramer, Tim Adamovich, Pat Tesch, and Lisa Becker. It was a difficult decision because all of the nominees were strong contenders. This year's award went to Tim Adamovich who received four nominations this year and has been nominated five years in a row. Tim works as an RN in Outpatient Surgery. He is described as always smiling, always displaying a very caring attitude, is very knowledgeable, and instills confidence in patients. It is obvious that he loves his work. He is excellent with patients and puts their needs first. He is a true hero and a blessing to all of us at MERMH.

He was awarded the Healthcare Hero Award plaque and monetary gift (which is donated anonymously each year by an auxiliary member) at the Annual Recognition Luncheon on May 5th at the Whitetail Inn in St. Germain. His supervisor, Cate Wilson, joined us in the presentation of the award.

We are blessed to have so many heroes among us!

Thrift Shop

By Joan Holdmann, Chairperson

If I could report all the exciting things that take place at the shop, it would take a mighty long letter. Every day we are challenged by the huge amounts of donations. But since March when we had the new carpet put in and received so many nice shelves and hutches from the closing of our Gift Shop, the comments we receive are wonderful. Recently we had a meeting of all workers from the shop. Some decisions were made in regards to pricing. Discussion on a number of things that needed to be discussed was great. I felt it was a good meeting. Kathy V. came and helped clarify a few questions that the ladies had. As always, she is so helpful. Our daily income has gone up this past month thanks to the snow birds coming back. Speaking of them, it's always great to see some of the gals come back to work at the shop. We welcome them. Even though we like to tease them about their great tans. . .

We're looking forward to a great summer. We are so blessed to be living up here in God's Country. Come see us when you're out and about.

Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital and Howard Young Medical Center Earn National Healthcare Awards

By Kathy Viergutz, Community Service Coordinator

In April, 14 Ministry Health Care hospitals across Wisconsin were recognized as 4-Star and 5-Star Award winners by national healthcare research leader, Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC). The Excellence in Healthcare Awards recognizes organizations that achieve excellence throughout the year by improving patient experiences.

Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital, Eagle River

5-Star Ratings:

Inpatient Services-HCAHPS-Communication about Medications

Inpatient Services-Overall Quality of Care

Outpatient Services-Overall Quality of Care

4-Star Rating:

Emergency Department-Overall Quality of Care

Howard Young Medical Center, Woodruff

4-Star Ratings:

Emergency Department-Overall Quality of Care

Inpatient Services-Overall Quality of Care

IN-SERVICE

Summer is finally upon us here in our North Woods, and our many snow bird volunteers are thankfully returning to us here at Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital. Those of you who have kept the home fires burning and provided volunteer services to this hospital and our many patients throughout the winter are much appreciated. We all are very glad when our snow birds return to lend a helping hand.

If you are new to the Auxiliary, we would like to introduce you to In-Service volunteering. It takes time becoming a volunteer. You need to fill out an application, pay \$15 for membership dues, have a TB test and Flu Shot, have your picture taken for an ID badge, purchase a volunteer blue shirt and read and sign the Ministry Health Care Annual Safety Review Booklet.

You, as a prospective volunteer, are given a tour of the hospital, with special emphasis in the area where you will work and be given an overview booklet of your responsibilities as a volunteer. You will then be trained either by someone at the Front Desk or by Marlys Lee or Mickey Jensen in O.P. Surgery. The second training visit will be shadowing either Marlys or Mickey in O.P. Surgery for approximately a half day. If this is, indeed, the kind of work you would enjoy doing, the next time volunteering would be on your own. Staff members are always ready to help with any questions you may have. All of these steps enable you as a volunteer to feel comfortable and ready to greet your first patient and provide the necessary duties expected of you in the area you will be working. As a volunteer, you choose your time to work and how often.

There is always room for another hospital volunteer. Any time given by a volunteer is truly appreciated by our hospital and staff. Call Pam Cira, our membership chair (715-479-5485) to start you on your way of becoming a new volunteer. If you have any questions please call one of us. We would love to help!

Mickey Jensen, Co-chair – Volunteer Scheduler, Heart Beat Article and Trainer, 715-479-7504

Marlys Lee, Co-chair – Attends Board Meetings and Trainer, 715-479-5443



President's Message

By Teri Kressin, President MERMH Auxiliary

Happy Spring! It's finally arrived in the Northwoods and our snowbirds are back. In March, three volunteers attended Advocacy Days in Madison. This was a great opportunity to meet with our legislators. I encourage all volunteers to attend next year.

The Spring District Meeting was a huge success. Sixty people attended and every hospital in our North Central District sent representatives. Dr. Brodhead was our speaker and Sandra Andersen gave our welcome address.

On May 5, forty-four of our volunteers attended the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon held at Whitetail Inn. We were honored to give our Healthcare Hero Award 2016 to Tim

Adamovich. We also have two volunteers who have over 34,000 volunteer hours between them; husband and wife Ken and Joan Holdmann. Shirley Spiess was honored for giving fifty-four years of volunteer service.

At our May Auxiliary meeting we presented a \$50,000 check to the Howard Young Foundation toward the purchase of a 3D Mammography machine to be housed at Howard Young Hospital. We also donated \$55,735.05 to the EMS for the purchase of two Life Pak 15 monitors and defibrillators.

We're excited about our next big event, the annual Fashion Show, on July 18. MERMH and Howard Young are doing this together for the first time.

In May I was privileged to award four \$1,000 scholarships to three seniors at Northland Pines High School and one senior from Three Lakes High School.

At our June meeting we will be installing Diana Sell as our new secretary. It's been a very eventful year so far and I look forward to the rest of the year. Without all our wonderful volunteers none of this would be possible. Thank you for all you do!



Peggy Lambert



Shirley Spiess and Joan Holdmann

If you were unable to attend the Recognition Luncheon on May 5th, please see Pam Berdal for your thank you gift.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3rd Tuesday of the month - General Membership Meeting, 11:00 AM
Hospital Cafeteria.

Monday, July 18 - 11:00 - 3:00 'Breath of Fresh Air' Fashion Show and Luncheon, White Tail Inn, St. Germain

Heartbeat is the official Newsletter of Auxiliary/Partners of Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital and is published quarterly in March, June, September and December.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES COME AND WORK WITH US

'Heartbeat' Newsletter Editor

Thrift Shop – (in need of backroom sorting/pricing/stocking volunteers & display room cashiers) Please contact Joan Holdman if you can help out even for a partial shift)

In Service Duties – Outpatient surgery, Outpatient registration & Physical Therapy)

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