

# HEARTBEAT



December 2016

Auxiliary of Howard Young Medical Center  
Woodruff, Wisconsin

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE 4



## HARVEST OF HOLIDAYS 2016

Deb Bant & Barbara Schjoneman, HOH Chairs

The annual HOH Fundraiser was held this year on October 1<sup>st</sup> at The Waters in Minocqua and truly was a "Sparkle of Joy" to all who attended. The decorated tables were beautiful, the raffle prizes spectacular, the food delicious, and gifts galore. Music for the event by The Lakeland Barbershop Chorus was appreciated by all.

Thank you to our sponsor, Ritchie Oil & Propane and to everyone who made this year's HOH a success.



**Kudos to the Harvest of Holidays Committee!** The volunteers who planned, organized and executed this year's Harvest of Holidays fundraiser are to be thanked and congratulated for providing a great day of fun, fellowship, food, raffle prizes and shopping for our community. Committee chairs Barbara Schjoneman and Deb Bant did a wonderful job and are to be commended for their leadership and dedication to this great project. **Thank you!**

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

By the time this HeartBeat goes to print Thanksgiving will be past, Christmas will be upon us and the 2017 New Year will be right around the corner. I would like to take this opportunity to say Happy Holidays to each and every one and to also say THANK YOU for giving of your time, talents and resources. The success of your organization takes the contribution of each member; whether that is through giving of your time and talents to provide service to the facility or to a role within the organization (Gift Shop, LifeDirect, Fundraisers, Hand Crafts or Leadership roles) or your resources through paying dues as an active or patron member.

I know I have said this before but it stands true today, I am honored to lead this group of giving individuals in your quest to give back to the hospital and community.

Sincerely, Kathy Viergutz, Community Service Coordinator.



## Therapy Volunteers



At the September 13th Howard Young Auxiliary luncheon, volunteer Nancy Diepenbrock spoke to the volunteers about the role of therapy dogs at Howard Young. Her therapy dog, Quincy, was with her. She explained that Quincy and other therapy dogs visit patients that are recovering from a hospital stay or an operation. A special relationship develops between the patient and the therapy dog which aids in the recovery of the patient.



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## The Blessing Gift

This is a special 'thank you' to the Howard Young Auxiliary for providing patients with a special 'Blessing Gift.' Our chaplains wanted to reach out to those patients who don't receive visitors and all the 'trimmings' that go with company: flowers, cards, candy, balloons. Chaplains and volunteers sometimes visit patients who are lonely and either have no one to visit with them or whose family lacks the financial means to travel to the hospital. One of our chaplains wanted to reach out and provide a gift that would brighten up the room. She proposed this idea to our auxiliary and 'The Blessing Gift' was born! Our local auxiliary purchased one hundred of these small and colorful bouquets of flowers that sparkle in the light when placed on the patient's windowsill.

Just recently we gifted one of our patients with this bouquet on her birthday. Her relatives live far away and she had no one to celebrate with. When she received the 'Blessing Gift' she began to cry. "I didn't think anyone would remember my birthday and I didn't expect to receive a gift. Please tell those wonderful volunteers THANK YOU from me."



*Blessings.* Susan Leet, Supervisor of Spiritual Services, Howard Young Medical Center/Ascension

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## Wisconsin Lawmakers Release Rural Health Care Proposals, Includes WHA-backed initiatives

Ruth Johnson PPE

A group of rural Wisconsin lawmakers released a package of proposals October 11 that would provide financial support to expand the rural health care workforce, bolster WHA's quality improvement efforts and incentivize the creation of community wellness initiatives in rural communities. The proposal, packaged as the second round of a legislative agenda called the Rural Wisconsin Initiative, was released by Reps. Romaine Quinn (R-Rice Lake), Ed Brooks (R-Reedsburg) and Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City).

The Rural Wisconsin Initiative was created by these three lawmakers, with input from WHA's members and policy staff, to sustain rural communities into the future. The Initiative focuses on four key areas critical to rural economic development, including health care, technology, workforce and education. The announcement on October 11 regarding the health care portion of this agenda was the first of these four areas to rollout for the next legislative session. To see a copy of the legislators' slide deck outlining these priorities, go to [www.wha.org/pdf/Rural-wisconsin-initiative-spotlight-on-health-care10-13-16.pdf](http://www.wha.org/pdf/Rural-wisconsin-initiative-spotlight-on-health-care10-13-16.pdf).

### Other articles that may be of interest are listed:

As Year Winds Down WHA Staff Considers 2017 Goals (Valued Voice 10/21/2016)

Governors Task Force on Opioid Abuse (Valued Voice 10/28/2016)

Exchange Marketplace opens Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> (Valued Voice 10/21/2016)

CSB Reports Prescription for Controlled Substances Decrease (Valued Voice 11/04/2016)

President's Column: Caution Ahead (Valued Voice 11/11/2016)

If anyone would like to get the Valued Voice each week, just send me your email address and I will be happy to send it to you.

## **Report from 2016 Partners of WHA Convention**

Submitted by Bev Scott, Member of the Leadership Team

Attendees: Darlene Reed, Mary Lou Shepski, Bernadette Staller, Bev Scott

### **Keynote Speakers from General Meetings**

Kim Hodus – Motivational Speaker – “How to Kick Up Your Heels and Live Life to the Fullest”

Kim gave four very inspiring thoughts on how to help live our lives to the fullest. They are as follows: show up and be present every day, know where you are headed, do something different to make the day fun, and be bold and stand out. Her talk was a very encouraging and positive start to the conference.

Chief Executive Officer Panel Discussion – Eric Borgerding, Steven Little, Jeremy Normington Slay, Therese Pandl and Bill Sexton

These five leaders from various health care facilities in Wisconsin talked about the change of health care in our state from sick care to health based. Integrated care, improved online access, a more holistic approach to care, choice of providers, and care co-ordination were some of the ways this is being implemented. One new form of health care that is just getting started is Tela-medicine. This consists of video conferencing with patient, nurse, and doctor online. Other topics that were discussed were heroin and other drug addictions, recruitment of new doctors, nurses and techs in rural locations, investing in scholarships, and improved nursing home care.

Dr. Todd Mahr – Pediatric Asthma Specialist – “All About Asthma : What’s New”

Dr. Mahr talked about asthma guidelines, family education, and improving pediatric diagnosis of asthma. He mentioned two important organizations in Wisconsin dedicated to the treatment of asthma; The Wisconsin Asthma Coalition and Children’s Health Alliance. Age and race are important factors in the progression of asthma. Over \$100 million is spent a year on the treatment of asthma in Wisconsin. Children, especially, need early treatment to enable their lungs to grow to full capacity.

Judi Zabel – Expert on Teenage Nicotine Addiction – “Tobacco Fixins’ – The New Frontier”

Judi was extremely informative about the new marketing of nicotine products that are geared towards the teenage market. Chewing tobacco, snus, dissolvables, cigarettos, hookah, and e-cigarettes are among the most popular forms. All are easily accessible to teens and often look like candy, pens, Kleenex packages, or breath mints. Since the passage of the Clean Air Act, tobacco companies have been developing new ways to entice teens to use their products. Some of these tobacco products contain as many as 4000 chemicals. It has been determined that nicotine products are linked to pancreatic Cancer. E- cigarettes can contain as much as 60% nicotine and their vapor is still contaminating our air. We should be looking for these harmful products in our homes, public facilities, and retail stores.

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### **2016 SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE**

By Joan Taddy, Scholarship Chair

The first AHYMC scholarship to Nicolet College has been awarded to Rachel Van Holdt who is working on her RN. A year ago the board voted to present a \$500 scholarship to a non- traditional Nicolet College student in a health-care related field. A copy of the thank you letter from Rachel can be found on the information board in the new auxiliary center. Our congratulations to her.

The selection committee for the 2016 Dr. Ashe Continuing Education Scholarship has chosen eight health care students this year. They will receive a check to their schools for \$2000 at a presentation on Tuesday Dec 27, 2016 at 11am. in the Monticello board room. A reception for their families will follow. Interested AHYMC members are welcome to attend. Pictures and detailed information will be available in the next newsletter.

Thanks to all AHYMC members for their support as well as Harvest of Holidays, AHYMC Gift Shop and individual donations. It is because of your efforts that we are able to encourage and support continuing quality healthcare education in the Northwoods.

## Volunteers Hero Award

Kathy Viergutz, Community Service Coordinator

This annual award will be implemented in 2017. The award will go to one volunteer for their dedication and service to HYMC and the Volunteer Organization. The recipient will be recognized at the annual recognition luncheon, receive a \$100 monetary gift card and have their name placed on a continuing plaque that will be hung near the new Volunteer center. Volunteers and Associates will be asked to nominate their volunteer hero. Forms will be available and details will be announced prior to the nomination period.



L-R: Sandy Anderson, Regional VP and Hospital President pictured with Artist Louise Schotz, Andrea Fenner and Lisa Krueger at the October Howard Young Art Exhibit and Open House organized by Christine Alfery of the Auxiliary of Howard Young Medical Center.



## Sunshine Needed?

Please contact Bev Coller if you know one of our members who might need a little "Sunshine". Bev can be reached at 715-356-0029 or email her at [junebc@frontier.com](mailto:junebc@frontier.com).



## SAVE THE DATE

**December 19, 10:00 - 2:00**, Open House  
New Auxiliary office on main floor.  
**February 14**, Auxiliary Luncheon, Norwood Pines.

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## Auxiliary/Volunteer Center Has Moved

Kathy Viergutz, Community Service Coordinator

The Auxiliary/Volunteer center has moved up to the second floor level. It is now located down the hall from the Gift Shop and Clinics; the area that was previously utilized as the foundation offices and prior to that the retail pharmacy. The move was the vision of the strategic planning committee over the past several years as they focused on ways to improve communication as well as strategies around recruitment and retention.

Stop in and check out the new area, review the communication board and even have a cup of coffee. There is an open house being planned for December. If you would like to be a part of the planning or hosting this event please contact Bev Scott.

## Areas in need of Volunteer Services

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



**Med Surge Patient Floor** – stock nurse servers in patient rooms, files papers & makes copies along with other assigned tasks  
**LifeDirect** - Installers and Office  
**Runner** (Wednesday AM) - delivers and retrieves patient food carts, picks up mail for departments, locates wheel chairs  
**Greeters for Entrance D** – contact Kathy Viergutz for positions needed  
**Greeters for Monticello** - fill in positions needed  
**Out Patient Surgery Waiting** – contact Kathy Viergutz for positions needed  
**Out Patient Surgery Department** – a shared role on Tuesday mornings  
**Gift Shop** – Cashiers  
**P.T. Rehab** - transport & staff assistant  
**Community Health Education Chair** - shall inform the auxiliary of health related legislation on both state and federal levels and plan current relevant health issues for the auxiliary (writing of Heartbeat articles) as well as becoming involved in current community health issues.

**Treasurer** - The treasurer shall serve as the Chief Financial Officer for the Auxiliary Board. He/She will have knowledge of accounting practices and procedures. The treasurer shall attend all board meetings of the Auxiliary and receives and distributes funds upon authority from the president and Auxiliary board.

### Handcraft Members Needed:

The Handcraft Volunteers would like to extend an Invitation to all Volunteers who might be interested in becoming a member of the Handcraft group, or if you are aware of someone in the community who would be a good fit for this group to invite them to join the Auxiliary.