



River Falls Area Hospital Auxiliary

GOOD FRIDAY PIE SALE

A plethora of perfectly pleasing pies sold out in less than an hour at our annual Good Friday Pie Sale, which was held on March 25th in the front lobby of First National Bank. As quickly as the pies came in, they were

snapped up by customers looking for Easter dessert or just a tasty treat—fun, fun, fun!!! We had 39 pies this year and, with generous donations sent by

those not baking, we've made a total of \$720.00. If any of you would still like to donate, feel free to send me a check.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 3
Membership Mtg.
10:00-12:00

Tuesday, May 10
Spring Salad
Luncheon
11:00-1:00

Thursday, June 2
Blood Drive
10:00-4:00

Tuesday, July 12
Picnic/Meeting
11:30-2:00

Thurs-Fri.
July 14-15
Sheet Sale
9:00-5:00
Thursday
7:00-3:00 Friday



I want to give a big THANK YOU to each of you who baked pies or sent donations and to Maureen Paulson for co-chairing with Sue Meisner and Nancy Weinreich for working at the sale.

Arlene Taylor

BOOKS ARE FUN

The spring Books Are Fun sale was held on Friday, March 18th in the River Falls Area Hospital meeting rooms.



As always there were lots of great books for all ages and interests along with fun gift items to choose from. Total sales were \$1,139.84, which is down a bit from past sales. Our 10% share amounted to \$113.98. Thanks to all of you who came to shop—enjoy your great buys! Thanks also to those of you who put up posters for the sale and a very special thank you to Roxi Sukowatey for once again blanketing the hospital/clinic campus with posters and table tents to help advertise the sale.



Arlene Taylor

RELAY FOR LIFE

This year we invited members who wanted to participate in the Relay for Life to join in with the hospital team. We purchased luminarias for members who have endured cancer. Our hearts go out to these members and hopefully there will be a cure soon!

- ◆ Sharon Cross
- ◆ Eunice Filkins
- ◆ Mary Halada
- ◆ Cathy Hjersjo
- ◆ Mary Ann Janse
- ◆ Jo An Lantz
- ◆ Carol McVicar
- ◆ Sue Nelson
- ◆ Judy Pierson
- ◆ Dodie Sazama
- ◆ Ann Jilek
- ◆ Rosemary Lynch
- ◆ Jo Page
- ◆ Dianna Priesler



KIOSK KORNER

There is a lot of great news coming out of the Kiosk! Sales to date are up 44% over last year. The attractive scarf rack along with moving the baby outfits up to eye level has caught the attention of our shoppers! We couldn't do this without the knowledgeable volunteers we have. I would like to welcome new Kiosk workers, Frenchie Griep & Barb O'Malley. Anyone can volunteer, some of the perks are to be the first to see new merchandise & a 25% discount on all merchandise.

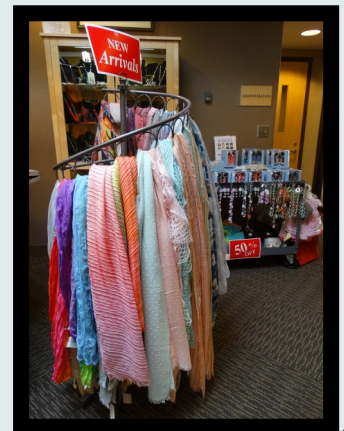
Some of the new items this spring are reversible cotton bucket hats at a \$12.50. It's like having two hats for the price of one! Trendy strapped clutches in five colors and chic looking tote bags are a must have for vacations. I have purchased some designer SUPER BUYS on jewelry. A necklace offered in four colors with an MSRP of \$19.99, is selling for \$8.00. All new scarves and infinity scarves are in and selling well. My favorite is the new ribbon magnetic scarf. I like it because it's different. Also the scarf accents are back in stock.

OH BABY! Check out the new Robeez shoes and socks for spring! Since the baby outfits are selling so well, I have doubled up on the inventory for our little ones. Several of our members are either new or repeat grandmothers. They are always so excited when I show them the new merchandise that has come in.

The KISSING KRYSTALS by Ganz has extended their line from just Christmas ornaments. They have come out with crosses, sunburst flowers and tulips with a free gift card you can attach, all for under \$12.00.

I want to thank the hospital interns for all the help they have given me this past year. Special thanks to Sam who made the signs for the Kiosk and Holiday Boutique, Maddie who attached all the 25% off coupons to the patient information folders and Lucas for marking merchandise when it comes in. What an incredible opportunity the hospital has provided these young adults.

Make it a great spring, *Mary Franzel*



PIZZA HUT GUEST SERVER NIGHT

What a great night we had serving dinner to the commu-



nity! I would like to thank Frenchie Griep, Jean Bot, Tracy Berglund, Arline Taylor,

Lois Helmueller, Dee Ann Dreistadt & Vince Seidling for volunteering to work at this event. I would also like to thank Glenda Zielski for setting everything up and Brett Zentzis and his staff for allowing us to have this fundraiser and helping us along the way. We made \$563.00 in tips and Pizza Hut added another \$500.00



making it a total of \$1,063.00. Great job everyone!

Sue Meisner

COMMUNITY HEALTH

Upcoming Breast Health Event:



On Monday, May 9th from 7:00-9:00 PM at the RFAH there will be a free women's breast health event, "Sparkle with the Girls." Dr. Michael Gordon, radiologist, will present the new mammogram guidelines. Karin Al-Baghly will share her breast cancer survivor story and Kali Higgins, certified wellness coach will lead a mindfulness relaxation session.

There will be free time with massages & mini makeovers and also sparkling juices & delicious appetizers throughout the evening. The event is free & recommended for women ages 38-55. RESERVE your spot today by calling 715-307-6060. You may also choose to have your mammogram during the evening; these need to be scheduled in advance & insurance will be billed. Our auxiliary will be providing a mammogram bracelet for all in attendance.

Jean Bot

MAY - MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 3rd. Yes, this is one week early due to the date of the salad luncheon. Our speaker will be: Suzanne Ryan and she will speak about essential oils.

Menu:

Meat & Veggie Quiche, Salad and Lemon Bars
\$6.00 As always, please let me know if you will be coming to the meeting and also if you will be staying for lunch. Sue Meisner



Board of Directors

President: Sue Meisner
Secretary: Heather Logelin
Treasurer: Glenda Zielski

Committee Chairs

Public Policy: Diane Westbrook
Community Health: Jean Bot
Sunshine: Dee Larson
Advertising: Nancy Weinreich
Scholarship: Glenda Zielski
Kiosk: Arline Taylor
Newsletter: Sue Meisner

VOLUNTEER WEEK

Volunteers are
seldom paid; not
because they are
worthless, but
because they are
PRICELESS!

Volunteer week was April 10th through the 16th. I would like to thank each and every one of you. You are critical to the success of our organization and I appreciate all that you do. You are worth your weight in gold; you share your time and talent without any compensation and this does not go unnoticed. I thank you for all your hard work and dedication you give to our Auxiliary. I am so happy to work with such a great group of volunteers! Happy Volunteer Week!

Sue Meisner/President

SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

The salad luncheon is fast approaching and we need more volunteers! Volunteers are needed the day before for prep work, the day of for various tasks and clean up.

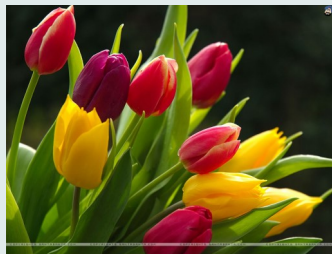
We also need salads!

If you can help out in any capacity, please contact Sue Nelson at 715-425-7189 or smnelson778@yahoo.com



CONDOLENCES

*Our deepest sympathy goes out to
the family of Sharon Bruesewitz
who passed away early April.*



Last call for auxiliary members to pay their dues for 2016. If this happened to slip your mind and you would like to continue as a member, please contact Kathy Beebe ASAP.
715-425-2015

PICNIC / VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

Once again our July meeting will be a picnic hosted by the River Falls Area Hospital to recognize the auxiliary for all of their service. This will be held at Glen Park from 11:30-2:00. If you would like to attend, please follow up with Heather Logelin at 715-307-6001.

ADVOCACY DAY



The Advocacy Day for the Wisconsin Hospital Association was held early this year, March 30th. Next year it will be held on the third Wednesday of April.

(April 19th) SAVE THE DATE

Some 1,000 hospital advocates attended the Wisconsin Hospital Association's 2016 Advocacy Day in Madison. Two staff members: Heather Logelin & Julie McGary along with 2 volunteers

and a spouse; Rory & Sue Meisner and Joyce Breen attended from the River Falls Area Hospital and the Auxiliary.

The annual powerhouse event showcases that hospitals, health systems & volunteers are passionate about being engaged on priority issues. Over 500 of those attendees then took what they learned & went to the state Capital for meetings with their legislators.

Rick Pollack, American Hospital Association president/CEO, provided the morning keynote, with Gov. Scott Walker keynoting the day's luncheon. In addition to Walker's remarks, he signed the bipartisan Health Care Data Modernization Act into law in front of the crowd of 1,000. Attendees also heard from a bipartisan legislative panel of Sen. Leah Vukmir (R-Brookfield), Sen. John Erpenbach (D-Middleton), Rep. Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) & Rep. Peter Barca (D-Kenosha).

AHA President Rick Pollack is well-versed in advocacy. "For the WHA team, every day is advocacy day. But today the day belongs to you (here today)," Pollack said. In terms of messages you can send to key legislators in your state capital: 1: Thank them for the actions they took over the last session. 2: Encouraged them to cut Wisconsin's Hidden Health Care Tax by increasing Medicaid reimbursements.

We asked them to be cautious in making changes to state employee health insurance. The State of Wisconsin is considering contracting with one national health insurance company for all state employees which could have far reaching implications. Instead, the state was asked to consider innovative ideas to reduce costs and enhance access to care. Under WI's current competitive market, 2016 premiums for state employee health insurance **dropped** by 2.5%. In 2016, the state realized \$89 million in health insurance savings from reforms and efficiencies under the **current** system.

Birthday Wishes!

May

19-Dee Larson
31-Carol McVicar



June

8-Donna Miller
13-Ramona Raehsler
30-Joanne Smith

THANK YOU

Tracy Berglund was the speaker at our last meeting and we would like to thank her for supplying lunch for those that stayed. We really appreciate it!



Please help me in welcoming our three new members!

Frenchie Griep, Rachel Culp, Donna Gleason

If you would like any information on them, please contact Kathye Beebe



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

DOROTHY BEIX



If the City of River Falls was looking for a compelling spokesperson, they wouldn't need to look much further than Dorothy Beix! "We are just happy to be in this little community," explains Dorothy. "It affords us everything we need."

Dorothy grew up in Minneapolis, the third of six Ophoven children. This was a time when the Foshay Tower was the tallest building in the city & the streets were safe for children day & night. Dorothy remembers playing Red Light, Green Light & kick the Can and taking advantage of the many public ice rinks & warming houses. When she was in 5th grade, her family moved to Hopkins, home of the Raspberry Festival, & Dorothy remembers a summer job as a berry picker, paid at a rate of 4-5 cents per pint. After graduating from Hopkins High School & then from St. Gabriel's School of Nursing, Dorothy took a job at Mount Sinai Hospital in Minneapolis.



Dorothy met her husband, Dr. Jim Beix, on a blind date; Dorothy's roommate was engaged to one of Jim's classmates at Marquette. Dorothy & Jim were married back in Hopkins, Minnesota a few years later. Their first son Bob, was born in Rockford, Illinois, where Jim did his internship. Their other two children, Dan & Tracy, were born at Camp Pendleton, where Jim spent two years as a Navy doctor after being drafted during the Vietnam Conflict. While they missed the change of seasons, Dorothy says it was a supportive community, as they were surrounded with other young couples who were also busy starting families & raising children.

Jim was eventually recruited to join the River Falls Medical Clinic, & so they raised their children west of River Falls, on a rural property near the Kinnickinnic River. Dorothy remembers that her kids would just "take the dog & go," filling their water canteens from freshwater springs along the Kinni.

Dorothy later received her BSN at St. Catherine's & took a home care position with Pierce County. When she started feeling like she was spending more time on the phone with insurance companies than with the clients she served, she decided to make a change, accepting a position in Public Health. Through that position she had the opportunity to work with the WIC (Women, Infants & Children) program, the immunization clinics, local schools, the county jail & doing disease surveillance.

Dorothy retired 8 years ago at 64; Jim had retired six years earlier. In their younger days, Jim & Dorothy were avid bikers, including several international biking trips. Her favorite was a trip to France. They don't bike much anymore, but have become avid birders, & are planning trips around that newer pastime. In 1009, Jim helped found the St. Croix Valley Bird Club, which now keeps both Jim & Dorothy busy. Dorothy's other volunteer work includes the free clinic, the hospital auxiliary & St. Bridget's.

When not volunteering, Dorothy enjoys reading, sewing, quilting, playing bridge, gardening, birding, walking their lab, Cinders, & just about anything outdoors. Dorothy noted that her bridge group has been together for more than 40 years; several current & past auxiliary members were founding members of the group.

Dorothy & Jim also enjoy time with their children & grandchildren, ages 7-15 all of whom are nearby. Bob & Jackie live in Woodbury & have a son & daughter; Dan & Marci live in Minnetrista & have three girls; Tracy (who is the director of nursing for the transitional care unit at Regions Hospital) & Chad live in Shoreview & have a boy & a girl. Many of the grandchildren are involved in hockey, so Dorothy & Jim also spend a lot of time at ice rinks. (Brrrr!)

Jim & Dorothy will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in January 2017.

