

Dates to Remember

Tuesday August 10th

Gathering on Ann's Deck

Tuesday, August 17th

Rain Backup date for Ann's Deck Gathering

October 5th-7th

Partners of WHA State Convention

Mariott West-Madison (In person if Pandemic under control)

A Note From Ann...

The days of summer are flying by. I hope you are enjoying all the "Northwoods" has to offer. For many this time of year is your vacation time or grandkids come to visit, there might be class reunions and weddings to attend, too and so many more opportunities to enjoy summer in Wisconsin!

The days at Cumberland Healthcare have been busy, too. The COVID-19 Team recently lifted the ban for Escorts, Gift Shop and Surgery Volunteers. Volunteer Relaunch meetings are being held for these departments. It is necessary that you attend one of these meetings or schedule a time with Volunteer Services (Ann) to receive the updates. Please contact 715-822-7264 for any questions about resuming your volunteer role.

We need you. The hospital needs you. We also need to recruit volunteers. At this time we are unable to fill all the shifts for our escorts and gift shop areas. If you know of someone who would like to give of their time to Cumberland Healthcare, please have them call me or stop in at the Volunteer Services office. I would love to share with them all the great things that Volunteer Partners do at Cumberland Healthcare.

Community Health Education Report

A message from Sue Schuelke, State Community Health Education Chair
COVID-19 and Stress

The Covid-19 pandemic has created a lot of stress in our personal lives, families and communities. Many families have not been able to gather and hug one another, leading to feelings of isolation and loneliness. Unemployment numbers rose and the closing of non-essential businesses have caused financial worries. These are just a few examples of how pandemic stress has led to more anxiety and depression in individuals of all ages, impacting both mental and physical health.

Currently, people are stressing about the COVID-19 variants that have emerged and whether or not the vaccines available will offer the same protection as they do against the original virus. The UK variant is the most prevalent in the

U.S., as well as being more virulent and transmittable. And what about those individuals who, unfortunately, suffered through the virus and are still experiencing symptoms for weeks/months with possible long-term effects. The unknown is scary!

The good news is there is a light at the end of the tunnel (and it's not a train). Students will be returning to school, entertainment events are reopening. Warmer weather is allowing restaurants to utilize their outdoor seating. Customers are increasing. Certainly, more and more people are qualifying for the COVID-19 vaccine and receiving it. Vaccination is bringing us a step closer to an end to this health crisis.

How we cope with the stress caused by the pandemic will impact our overall well-being for the long term. For information on healthy strategies to cope with stress visit the "Health Education" tab on the Partners of WHA website: www.partnersofwha.org.

Corner Boutique News



shop.

The biggest news from the Corner Boutique Gift Shop is that it is now open to the public! You as a volunteer can shop, but so can your neighbor, your family, anyone! When you enter the hospital put on a mask, answer the screening questions and tell admissions that you are going to the gift



arrived. Shop the Clearance Rack, too! Have fun shopping!

There are new Cumberland signs, both large and small. Also Beaver Dam, Vermillion Lake and Sand Lake signs. New purses and shirts have



Public Policy Report

Gov. Tony Evers signed Wisconsin's biennial budget into law, July 8, including WHA's chief priority of permanently reauthorizing \$104 million in Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) funding for Wisconsin hospitals, which goes to hospitals serving a higher number of Medicaid patients.

Wisconsin Hospital Association CEO Eric Borgerding said "WHA has worked for the last decade with lawmakers from both sides of the aisle, to improve DSH funding for our state's hospitals."

In his signing message, Governor Evers said, "Healthcare should not be a privilege afforded only to the healthy and wealthy. And as long as I am governor, I will never stop fighting to ensure the people of this state can access quality, affordable healthcare. Period."

Third Annual Summer Gathering on Ann's Deck Scheduled!

Last year we could not meet due to COVID, so I think we all can look forward to having a great social time together at our Annual Summer Gathering. Put on your calendar **TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 5 PM** to travel to Ann's house on Vermillion Lake. Everyone is asked to bring an appetizer and what you wish to drink (BOB). Lemonade and dessert will be provided. We will have a short meeting and special guests.

Plan to carpool by meeting at the hospital at 4:45pm. The address to follow is: 970 20 ¾ Ave. The Rain Date for the Gathering is **TUESDAY, AUGUST 17**.

Volunteer Partners Board Report

Thank you to those who donated and worked at the recent Volunteer Partners Garage Sales. Nearly \$3,000 was raised! Thank you to Katherine Husby and Rita Niebuhr for hosting the sales. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to augment the cost of sending leaders to Partners State Convention and to purchase Comfort Blanket material.



A reminder...Volunteer Partners has a Memorial Fund Account. Anyone may make a donation to this account. Volunteer Partners places \$25.00 in this fund in memory of members or friends of Cumberland Healthcare Volunteer Partners who have passed away. You may donate to this fund at any time for any reason, a happy occasion, too. Memorial Funds will be used to purchase something special at the new hospital.



The Volunteer Partners Board represented all volunteers at groundbreaking ceremonies for the new hospital.

