

Comfort Care

Passion for excellence. Compassion for people.



A newsletter for family and friends of Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services

Fall 2018

People share of themselves through Festival of Trees

"I enjoy watching others decorate their trees as much as I enjoy decorating ours," said Kerry Fehrman. "There is so much creative energy. This event has gotten stronger each of the last few years."

For the fourth consecutive year, Kerry will be decorating one of the trees for Festival of Trees. Kerry's two sisters from Appleton – Cindy and Kristine – and her daughter, Jenna, will create a tree called "Hickory Dickory Dock". It will include vintage ornaments and parts from antique clocks. A special surprise will be the 12 mice that will be hidden for guests to find.

"We always make 50 percent of our ornaments, so this is extra-special for us," said Kerry. "We plan our tree many months ahead and then figure out who will do what. Then we get together a few weeks ahead to put everything together. It's a lot of fun."

"I learned about hospice from a friend, Marty Ferris," stated Kerry. "As a member of the committee for "Run for Hospice" for 10 years, I had the opportunity to hear first-hand stories of the importance of hospice care. I love the way the community rallies around Hospice House. It's a wonderful asset that the community helps provide."

"My husband, Mark, and I believe in giving to non-profits – to give back in our own way," said Kerry. "I'm involved in Festival of Trees because it benefits hospice, which is one of my favorites. Festival of Trees is a win/win – it's a fun family event for the community that directly benefits patients and families. This event brings people together and highlights the importance of hospice care in our community. It's important for people to see that other people are sharing of themselves."



The Fehrman family group created Bone Appetit in 2017.

Life Legacy

by Amy L. Kitsembel, M.Ed., CSW, FT
Bereavement Coordinator



Legacy, as defined by Webster's dictionary: something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past.

In recent reflection and observation of life, it has become remarkable to see how those we love live on in their legacy. Traditionally, legacy refers to monetary gifting; however, for this reflection on legacy I refer

to the definition used secondarily in the dictionary as something received from someone. Something I believe is far more valuable than riches or things. It is the very way of being – folks we love pass on traits to those of us living.

I hear my aunt's laughter when her daughter laughs and revels in telling family stories. I taste grandma's lemon poppy seed cake when my mom cooks – as the baker she taught my mom to be. My spouse gleefully shares the teasing antics he learned at the feet of his uncle and dad.

The people who may have been perfectionists pass along

the wisdom to use a level when you build - keeping us on the straight and narrow. And those with a less than 'rule bound' scope may encourage the adventurous side of life that we brave through to take on new adventures.

And the granddaughter who embodies her deceased grandma's gleam in her eye, or the way someone walks cues a memory of your brother's saunter. A son suddenly constructing bird feeders after the death of his mom in her honor, then finding glee in the finches she so adored coming to partake in the new hobby. He insightfully knows this keeps a bond with mom.

I usually struggle with the concept "they are no longer with us." I believe with a different lens that we can see them everywhere, in nature, at the family gathering, in the community and mostly in our memories and hearts. Love never dies. Navigating life after the death of someone precious is often a bumpy road; however, may you find wisdom to notice the little joys in the everyday that may be part of their legacy.

Wishing you healing.



The "Treasuring Memories" program was held at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum garden in July. These garden stones were some of the items created by participating family members in memory of loved ones.



What's better than a visit from Santa?

Festival of Trees

22nd Annual Event

November 21-25

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center



Experience the magic of Festival of Trees! Stroll through a glittering forest of over one hundred holiday trees, wreaths, mantels and specialty items decorated and donated by community members for raffle and silent auction. Visit with Santa, enjoy a complimentary cookie and beverage and be entertained by local musicians – all with your ticket purchase. Proceeds benefit Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services. See Santa schedule on the website.

For information, to volunteer, or purchase tickets by credit card, visit wausaufestivaloftrees.org or call the Aspirus Health Foundation at 715-847-2470.

FESTIVAL OF TREES SPECIAL EVENTS

Butterfly Luncheon

Thursday, November 15

Jefferson Street Inn

11:00 am – 1:30 pm

\$40 per person

or \$320 for a table of 8.

Reservations are required.

A very special pre-festival ladies luncheon with a heartfelt speaker, fabulous raffles, delightful lunch and a special gift.

Opening Night Gala

Tuesday, November 20

6:00 – 9:00 pm

\$50 per person prior to November 18.

\$60 starting on November 18.

Sample signature cuisine from Wausau's finest restaurants and caterers. Live music, Gala-only jewelry raffle, silent auction, complimentary beer, champagne and exclusive viewing of Festival of Trees.

Senior Stroll

Wednesday, November 21

9:00 am – Noon

\$4 per person.

Tickets available at the door.

This special event allows senior citizens to get a sneak peek of the Festival's wondrous array of holiday items. It is a time especially designed for people with walkers or wheelchairs.

Teddy Bear Breakfast

Saturday, November 24

9:00 – 10:30 am, or

Sunday, November 25

9:00 – 10:30 am

Ages 13 & Over - \$15

Ages 12 - 2 - \$10

Ages Under 2 - \$3

Advance tickets are required for all attending to ensure adequate seating.

A magical event for children and their favorite teddy bear. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and enjoy a variety of holiday activities geared toward children up to 12 years old including Teddy Bear health checks.

VIEWING HOURS

Wednesday, November 21

Noon to 5:00 pm

Thanksgiving Day

1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Friday, November 23

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday, November 24

Noon to 5:00 pm

Sunday, November 25

Noon to 2:00 pm

Tickets Available at the door.

Ages 13 & Over: \$5

Ages 12 - 3: \$3

2 & Under: Free

See Santa schedule online.

SPONSORS

Presenting

Hosting



When the Holidays Hurt...

Two opportunities for helping you through the holidays

Lean on Me

A Concert with the Living River Quartet



Sometimes in our lives we all have pain and sorrow. These challenges often steal the spirit of the holiday season.

Our concert provides an opportunity to “Lean on Me” and find support, camaraderie, and love from others who gather together for this traditional event. This concert is a safe place to feel your emotions through the gift of music. The Living River Quartet will share goodwill in spiritual song, feel-good music, and traditional Christmas songs. We invite you to hear music that can soothe the hurt and lyrics that say the words you need to hear.

Saturday, December 1, 2018
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Plaza Hotel and Suites
201 N. 17th Avenue
Wausau, WI

All I Want for Christmas is the Right to Grieve

Do you ever wish that people would honor your right to grieve? Maybe family and friends just don't understand how difficult the holidays will be for you. If the thought of the holidays creates tension and pain or you aren't quite sure how you will get through the weeks ahead, we've got some ideas for you.

Come join us for our When the Holidays Hurt program. Learn how you can satisfy expectations without compromising your feelings. The “Good News” is that almost every bereaved person is capable of finding joy—even when the holidays hurt!

Tuesday, December 4, 2018
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Aspirus Wausau Hospital
Medallion Room
Wausau, WI

For information call Nan Zastrow at 715.845.4159
or Amy Kitsembel at 715.847.2703.

Public is welcome. Free will donation.
Registration not required.

Presented by: Wings – A Grief Education Ministry

Sponsored by: Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services

Other sponsors: Brainard Funeral Homes, Helke Funeral Home, Peterson Kraemer Funeral Homes

Thank you for your generous community support

Your donations are used to support our work beyond the reimbursement provided by insurance and other sources. This important funding is critical to meeting the needs of patients suffering from life-limiting and terminal illness and providing comfort for their families and friends.

Thank you! We are grateful to the many individuals, organizations, and corporations that help us fulfill our mission to provide compassionate hospice, palliative, and grief care for people in north central Wisconsin.

Partners in Health donors

We are grateful to you and the following individuals who have chosen to celebrate the life of another through a memorial or an annual gift. This list represents gifts from February 1, 2018 to August 31, 2018. All attempts are made to accurately recognize donors. If you notice a misspelling, error, or omission, please contact the Aspirus Health Foundation at 715-847-2470.

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The Wausau Lyric Choir Carolers offer their gifts of time and talent in support of Festival of Trees.

Tree of Love

The holidays are a special time to celebrate the lives of people we love—people who are living and those who have died.

You are invited to celebrate the loved ones in your life by participating in the **TREE OF LOVE** tribute program.

You can start a Tree of Love holiday tradition by your purchase of a personalized 2" polished brass holiday ornament engraved with the name of someone you love.

Your ornaments will be mailed to you the third week of December — in time for this year's holiday celebrations.

You will be invited to participate in a special tree lighting ceremony featuring a memorial program and refreshments. A personal invitation will be mailed to you to inform you of the date, time and location.

Tree of Love Tribute Order Form

Your Name _____ Phone Number (____) _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____

In addition to my ornament order, I would like to make a donation to the Grief Center of \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed: \$ _____ Total Number of Ornaments: _____

Payment Options: Please enclose payment of \$12 (tax included) for each Tree of Love ornament.

_____ Check (Payable to: ACCHS FUNDS) _____ Credit Card (Circle one): Visa MasterCard Discover

Name as it appears on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ *CSC Code _____

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1.

*3 OR 4 DIGIT CODE FOUND ON BACK OF CARD

Tree of Love Engraving Information

Each ornament will have two lines of engraving with 10 characters per line. Complete each box with one letter. Blank spaces between words are equal to one letter. Sample:

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Mail to Aspirus Health Foundation, 425 Pine Ridge Blvd., Wausau, WI 54401. For orders greater than 5, copy this form and enclose with your payment.



COMFORT CARE AND HOSPICE SERVICES

333 Pine Ridge Blvd.
Wausau, WI 54401

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Permit #615

Grief Support Opportunities

Please notify us if you change your address,
or if you prefer not to receive *Comfort Care*.

715.847.2470 - ahf@aspirus.org

Sunday, November 11

Veterans Day Service

11:00 a.m.

Hospice House flag pole

Saturday, December 1

Lean On Me - concert

4:00 p.m.

Plaza Hotel and Suites, Wausau

Tuesday, December 4

**All I Want for Christmas is the
Right to Grieve - program**

6:00 p.m.

Aspirus Wausau Hospital

Thursday, December 13

Annual Memorial Service

6:00 p.m.

Aspirus Riverview Hospital

Monday, December 17

Tree of Love lighting

6:00 p.m.

Aspirus Wausau Hospital

Medallion Room

Tuesday, January 22

**Good Grief, Bad Grief - How Grief Changes
Your Life**

Six-week support program starts

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Aspirus Wausau Hospital