

State Senator Dan Kapanke to speak at our Semi-Annual Dinner Meeting September 14

We're pleased to announce that State Senator Dan Kapanke has accepted our invitation to speak at our Semi-Annual Meeting that will be held on Wednesday, September 14, at The Barn. Senator Kapanke will address rural healthcare issues and also allow time for questions.

Cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The menu includes Picatta chicken served over wild rice, California blend vegetables, fresh greens salad, dinner rolls, and dessert. The cost, including tip, is \$11.50. Guests are welcome for the evening. Please make your reservations by Thursday, September 7, by calling Iva Mulhern at 326-9062 or Barb Huebsch at 326-6910.

You're invited to the Western District Fall Meeting

From Jeri Kluesner, Western District Chair

Come step into fall in Prairie du Chien. That's an invitation to all the auxiliaries of the Western District and this means you! Please come and join us Thursday, October 20, when we will be holding the Fall District Meeting right here in Prairie du Chien. It's so close, you only have to go to Huckleberry's Restaurant."

We will start with registration and a continental breakfast at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. Business will be conducted until 11:10 a.m. At that time, we will have informative breakout sessions on six important subjects. After lunch is served, Mark Seeley, Licensed Athletic Trainer at Memorial Hospital, will give a presentation entitled *Put Your Best Foot Forward*. Then we will finish the rest of our business meeting and adjourn at 2:00 p.m.

There is no charge for Partners of Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital to attend, although you must make a reservation by Monday, October 10, by calling Iva Mulhern at 326-9062. Looking forward to seeing you there.



George Foundation grants \$4,000 to Baby's 1st Books

From Pat Dagnon, Baby's 1st Books Chairperson

We're pleased to announce that the George Family Foundation has granted \$4,000 for Baby's 1st Books. The George Family Foundation joins Partners, Prairie du Chien Memorial Library, and the Ken Bloyer Family in this collaborative effort. Baby's 1st Books offers six free books to every baby born at Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital. The first book is delivered to the baby in the hospital, and the remaining books may be picked up at the library.



The George Family Foundation presents \$4,000 to Partners for Baby's 1st Books. Pictured from left: Iva Mulhern, President; Pat Dagnon, Chairperson for Baby's 1st Books; Roy L. George; Cindy Standorf; and Roy C. George.

out the books that we offer to new babies born at Memorial Hospital."

If you know of a baby that has been born at Memorial Hospital within the last four years that has not received their 1st book, please contact me at 357-2219.

The project is successful for many reasons. We would like to thank our sponsors, the staff at Prairie du Chien Memorial Library, and the volunteers who deliver the first book. We also want to express our appreciation to Paper Moon Books and Beyond of McGregor for giving us a generous discount on the series of books.

From the desk of Harold W. Brown, CEO



There are a couple of issues involving the hospital operations I would like to have you be knowledgeable.

The first is that the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled by a 4 to 3 vote that the Wisconsin law concerning limits on noneconomic awards in malpractice suites was unconstitutional.

What this means is that instead of having a limit of \$450,000 a plaintiff could receive an award of say 4 to 10 million. Not only does this increase the cost of malpractice insurance for the hospital and physician, but encourages physicians to leave the state and others not to come. The real loser in all of this is the patient.

The other involves the nursing home in Prairie du Chien. The question is should we continue to invest funds in the present building or build a new facility. As with most healthcare services the major concern is cost.

Again, thank you for all you do for the hospital and the other services we provide.

Two scholarships awarded to area high school graduates

Partners have awarded two area graduating seniors \$1,000 scholarships toward their continuing education in the healthcare field. Fourteen applications were received, and those chosen were April Kramer of Seneca and Meggan Key of Prairie du Chien.

April will be attending Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton to pursue nursing. Meggan has chosen UWL for pre-med, and plans to go into pediatrics.

Cowpokes of all ages will enjoy this year's Preview to Christmas –A Wild West Christmas



Plans have begun for our annual Preview to Christmas. The theme, "A Wild West Christmas," was chosen from suggestions by the hospital staff. Ellen Winkleski, Administrative Assistant in Nursing Administration, submitted the winning entry. The photo shows Ellen, center, being presented a certificate naming her the honorary chairperson. Partners President Iva Mulhern, left, and Diane Koth, Hospital Liaison, made the presentation. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, December 4, and join us for an afternoon of Wild West fun!

Volunteers needed for Dining @ 5 – would this interest you?

Volunteers assist the Nutrition Services Department and Crawford County Senior Resources by helping serve our senior citizens at Dining @ 5. Our guests enjoy an evening out with a theme dinner and informational or *just fun* program.

Some of the theme menus have included a County Fair, Red/White/Blue Picnic, Rendezvous, Spring Fling, and Fall Gathering. Special guests have been Elaine Kramer, Buckskinners, Memorial Hospital staff, Dolly Gilkes and Jeanne Christie, and our Grill Master Kelly Mundt, a Memorial Hospital employee.

If interested in volunteering, please contact Pat Dagnon. The next Dining @ 5 will be September 15. The theme is Fall Gathering. Angela Becker, OTR, will present a program on home safety assessment.



Partners that helped serve Dining @ 5 this month, from left: Darlene Wolfgram, Jeri Kluesner, Lynda Welter, and Dode Bonney.

A big thanks to Pat Mulhern

Thank you to Pat Mulhern, husband of Iva Mulhern, for reconstructing our "Light for All Seasons" located on the hospital roof. Pat made some badly needed repairs to the wiring, and he also applied a fresh coat of paint to the frame. Our lights will shine even brighter thanks to Pat's work.

Volunteers connect with the community, they share by answering needs with their efforts and care. You make a difference with the time you invest.

Thanks, Volunteer!
We think you're the best!

A message from Iva Mulhern, President



As a busy summer quickly comes to close, it is time for us to focus on our many upcoming activities. First on the calendar is our Semi-

Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 14, at The Barn. Be sure to call your reservations in as soon as possible. With our wonderful speaker and delicious menu, you won't want to miss it. Then, October 4-6, several of our board members will be attending the State Partners of WHA Convention at Green Lake.

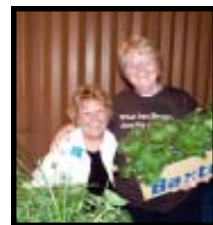
The next event is our Western District Fall Meeting. We are fortunate to be hosting this event here in Prairie, and we are proud to have Jeri Kluesner representing us as the Western District Chair. Please make every effort to join us at Huckleberry's for this great day.

The last big event for the year will be Preview to Christmas, A Wild West Christmas, on Sunday, December 4. If there is any particular area you wish to volunteer for, please let me know as soon as possible. I am sure there will be lots of enthusiasm for this year's event!

Mark these dates on your calendar now to be included in your fall activities. If you have any comments or questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with me, email me at ijmulhern@mchsi.com or call 326-9062.

Thanks for your help

Thank you to everyone that placed orders during our annual Geranium and Basket Sale. Over 1500 plants and 19 baskets were sold. It was a wonderful fundraiser, and everyone seemed to be pleased with the size and quality of the plants. Having the pick up a week later seemed to make for the nicer size. The baskets were certainly huge and beautiful! A special thank you to Pat Dagnon and Diane Koth, pictured above, for taking charge of this project. Thank you to all the helpers who sorted, boxed and assisted with pick up.



Dates to Remember

- September 14: Semi-Annual Dinner and Meeting, The Barn
- October 4-6: Partners of WHA State Convention, Green Lake
- October 20: Fall District Meeting, Huckleberry's
- December 2: Holiday Parade
- December 4: Preview to Christmas "A Wild West Christmas" Noon - 3:00 p.m. PdC Memorial Hospital

Please watch for more information on upcoming events and activities.



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