WMHS
Auxiliary
WINTER NEWSLETTER / 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

December
2/3 **$6 Sale**, WMRMC Auditorium
5 Past Perfect Sale, 4–7 pm
6 Past Perfect Sale, 10–2 pm
7 Past Perfect Sale, 10–2 pm
12 Past Perfect Half Price Sale
4-7 pm only
18 Foundation Brunch, 9:30-11:30
New sales and suprises daily
in the gift shop...
Happy Holidays!!

January
(No Past Perfect this month)
15 New Member Directories distributed!
18 Annual Snow Ball,
Cumberland Country Club
7 pm-12 am

February
6 Past Perfect Bag Sale, 2-7 pm
11 Mindy's Jewels Specialty Sale
One Dream Gift Shop

Welcome Aboard!

Nine new members have joined our ranks this year, on the heels of our Member Reception in August! Make a point to introduce yourself and include them into our vibrant Auxiliary.

Sharon Amick
Amy Harman
Terena Knotts
Marijane Lazzaro
Clara Porcello
Danni Rossi
Belinda Sullivan
Ann Townsell
Amy Williams

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Auxiliary Members,

President Julie Davis

We have enjoyed a busy Autumn!

On the heels of our member reception in August, we celebrate nine **new members** who have joined the Auxiliary (see our welcome to these new recruits on the bottom left column!)

Our **Fall Luncheon** was a wonderful success, thanks to many helping hands. We heard from Jeff O'Neal, Executive Director of Clinics, Practices and Behavioral Health for an update on The Center for Hope and Healing. His moving presentation included a timeline on construction: dirt is flying, and the new facility should open in the spring!

The countdown is underway for **Snow Ball 2020**, inspired by the Hollywood glamour of the 1950s and 60s! This elegant evening on the red carpet harkens back to the classic era of film-making. In addition to the famous movies and actors of that era, we would like to incorporate early photographs of the Snow Ball from the 1950s and 60s. Please take a look through your photo albums and consider lending these special keepsake pictures to the committee to scan and remake for the Snow Ball! Volunteers are always welcome, especially as we draw near to our decorating week just before the event. Let me or Kim Kremer know if you'd like to help. Tickets are on sale now!

The WMHS merger with **University of Pittsburgh Medical Center** is anticipated for January 1, 2020. The transition should be a smooth one, and the Foundation has assured us that the Auxiliary and the Foundation will remain intact and that all funds raised in this community will stay in this community, providing critical, life-giving care to area residents. The merger will preserve the same high-quality level of care we have come to expect from WMHS, with the added benefit of a stronger clinical and operational position for years to come. At a recent Foundation board meeting, Karen reported that affiliation with UPMC is already realizing greater purchasing power: WMHS was able to purchase a vital new CT scanner with cardiac capabilities – a value of $1.1 million – at the reduced cost of $800,000! As we learn more about the new organization, we will keep you, our members, apprised.

Again this year, the WMHS Foundation is hosting a holiday event to extend grateful thanks to our Auxiliary for another year of faithful service and generosity! Don't miss this delectable **Holiday Brunch** on Wednesday, December 18, from 9:30 to 11:30 in the WMRMC Auditorium. Sharon tells me there will be an omelet station, French toast, and a holiday blend hot beverages! Please let her know by December 12 whether you can attend – 240.964.8051.

Wishing you and yours a beautiful holiday season, full of giving to what matters most.
– Julie

FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT...

Final call for **2019-2020 Auxiliary dues.** As **we prepare to publish our new directory, only members who have submitted their biennial dues of $50 will be included.** For those of you who have paid, watch for a spreadsheet confirming your contact information! Thanks to all for your partnership and to those who have alreaady submitted their dues *– Kim*

MISSION

Our object and purpose is to assist Western Maryland Health System in its charitable and humane work. Functions include: ambassadorship, public relations, hospital volunteer service, and fundraising.

WESTERN MARYLAND HEALTH SYSTEM

WMHS AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Julie Davis, president
Kim Kremer, president elect
Sharon Livengood, treasurer
LouAnn Reckley, secretary
Sherry Schmitt,
immediate past president

WELCOME, SHARON AMICK!

The One Dream Gift Shop kicked off the holiday season with an Open House on November 4. WMHS CEO Barry Ronan was one of their first customers! From left, Rita Hout, Gift Shop Manager Sharon Amick, Ronan, Tina Bonner, and Ella Gibson.

Meet the new gift shop manager! Sharon Amick has directed the One Dream Gift Shop for almost six months now, and her fresh ideas and can-do attitude are as important to her success as the retail and project management experience she brings to the position. Sharon brings a degree in management and training in art, marketing, and finance.

In addition to working in retail, Sharon is a veteran of the health system. She began her career at Sacred Heart, as a switchboard operator and has held various roles since then. Most recently, she worked in the finance department (for the last 15 years) and took on the role of Payroll Coordinator there.

"I'm excited to begin my new position as gift shop manager, and I hope to expand on what Connie and the gift shop volunteers have done, and give it my own twist," says Sharon. "There's already a great foundation in place for us to build on, and I know that, together, we WILL make the the One Dream Gift Shop the premier "destination" for shopping in the area."

When she's not minding the shop, Sharon enjoys art of any kind, painting, travel, and learning new things, especially as she spends time with her bright, creative 9-year-old daughter.

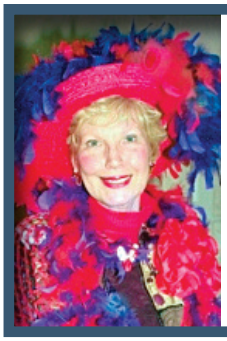
PAST PERFECT BARGAIN BOUTIQUE

Betty Jo Gehauf and her fabulous team of volunteers are going gangbusters this year, with record sales since they added Thursday evenings to the mix! November sales garnered over $4100, and last weekend collected $3100 for December.

This month, don't miss a special one-day-only half-price event on Thursday, December 12.

Past Perfect will be closed in January and February, except for a special Bag Sale taking place for one night only on Thursday, February 6, from 2-7 pm. You'll be handed a 13-gallon bag as you enter, and whatever fits in the bag comes to only $5!

Past Perfect continues to support critical care and emergency investments at WMHS. This fall, the committee funded a blanket warmer that is now used in triage for patients entering the emergency department, to keep them warm while they await medical care.



It is with sadness that we mark the passing of Linda Ringler on July 22, 2019. Linda was a faithful gift shop volunteer and a loyal auxilian. She will be missed!

AUXILIANS SHOW APPRECIATION TO WMHS STAFF

Robyn Hager-Sine donned her butterly wings for a Halloween-themed Employee Appreciation event that brought out WMHS staff on Tuesday, October 29 for cookies, punch, and an extra helping of appreciation. Costumes were optional, and the mood was festive.

Thirteen volunteers took shifts at the cafeteria display: Parika Andreasson, Julie Davis, Patty Dearcangelis, Julie Ferris, Katie Gattens, Betty Jo Gehauf, Debbie Grimm, Pam Kline, Sharon Livengood, Dixie Long, Phyllis Lyon, Sherry Schmitt, and Anne Twigg.

Cookies were also provided to 3rd shift employees and satellite clinics and practicies, including the Frostburg Nursing and Rehab Center.

Julie Ferris and Robyn take a moment to smile for the camera!

AUXILIARY SUPPORTS SCHOLARS!

Mary Shrout, chairman of the WMHS Auxiliary Scholarship Committee, announced this year's scholars at the Spring Membership Dinner. Each of the awardees will receive $2,000 toward their education. This year's recipients were Brittany Hanlin, Justin Tran, Jonna Eckhart, Amy Cessna, and Kaden Garland.

Mary Shrout (center) congratulates four of the scholarship winners who attended the Auxiliary's spring membership dinner. From left, Amy Cessna, Justin Tran, Shrout, Kaden Garland, and Brittany Hanlin.

PATIENT CLOSET IS STOCKING UP!

The WMHS Patient Closet continues to meet patients' clothing needs. Donations of gently used, comfortable clothing, especially sweatshirts and sweatpants in larger sizes, and sweaters are welcomed. Contact Mary Shrout at msshrout@hotmail.com.

We always need volunteers to help us, at both the Gift Shop and Past Perfect. Contact Patty Wright, WMHS director of volunteers, for more information at 260-964-8499. Or to learn more about joining the Auxiliary, visit **www.wmhs.com/auxiliary**.