



# Countryside Hospice Support & Memory Center

415 S. Crow St., Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Phone: (605) 945-0827

May 2020

## **Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit.**

Over the past 39 years you have allowed us to dream and develop programs for the community that we never thought would be possible. Today, more than ever we need to celebrate our past, appreciate our present and look to the future. We know you will be there with us ... thank you.

### **Program information from our 2019/20 fiscal year...**

#### **Pennies for Robert - \$115,005 in travel funds \$700,405 since 2004**

Our numbers are a little less than last year since more patients are staying in Pierre for their care and many others have restricted their travel during the COVID 19 concern. Our thanks to the Corner station for providing \$3,933 in gas cards for the year.

#### **Avera @ Home Hospice - \$81,788**

Countryside donates \$6,000 to Avera Hospice each month, in addition we also receive memorial donations designated for hospice care that we pass along. These funds provide extra equipment, supplies, ambulance transfers, nursing and home health aide care beyond what the Medicare benefit covers, often sparing families from unexpected medical costs.

Avera staff attend Countryside board meetings periodically which has provided insight into the roles and compassion of the team.

#### **Volunteer Hours – 330,786 hours**

On the wall at the thrift store there is a large banner that has the total number of volunteer hours since 2000. We know this number is not accurate because not everyone keeps track of their hours, they pop into the thrift store and grab a basket of sheets to wash, or fold a bag of plastic bags and never give it a second thought - we however give it a lot of thought, without it Countryside would not exist, thank you for your time, every minute of it...

#### **Countryside Memory Center - 120 clinic appointments - \$84,000 in free memory screens**

This includes 52 new patients and 68 patients returning for retests. The staff also sent out surveys to patients/families and physicians to evaluate the testing and report process. The memory screen is a very comprehensive evaluation for anyone with memory concerns – over 1000 screens have been completed since 2011.

#### **Thrift Store**

When it comes to numbers you just can't beat the thrift store – thousands of items come in, thousands go out and thousands of dollars go directly back into the community. Now that's recycling!

#### **St Benedict's Guest House**

The guest house opened its doors to cancer patients and caregivers in mid Sept – since then 40 guests have stayed at the house for a total of 258 nights. We have received many compliments on the facility – we always give credit where credit is due – this is made possible by you.

**Seems like yesterday...**

### **July will mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hospice Thrift store**

The thrift store started in 1995 with a \$25,000 grant from Piper Jafrey in the building across the street from the current location. When we started we had no idea how quickly the store would grow. We also had no idea what we were doing but that didn't stop the staff and volunteers who quickly figured out a system for processing the donations at the back door and stocking the sales floor. After 25 years we are so lucky to have many of the same volunteers that we started with and many of the same donors and customers.

The store provides about 80% of our funding so every 25 cent sale is important. Providing funding for Countryside is only one mission of the store. We keep the prices on our items as reasonable as possible so that those who do not have extra spending money are able to purchase clothing, shoes, linens and household items for their families. Each week we have a 25 cent clothing sale which makes it even less expensive. Countryside provides vouchers for PARS and other community agencies. Individuals and families can bring the vouchers to the store and select items that they need for home, school and work. Last year over \$3,500 in vouchers were provided, in addition we also provide preschool supplies, clothing and books for several agencies.

The thrift store is doing some construction to improve our back donation/sales area. We thought we could take advantage of our downtime to make this change which will expand our sales floor and enclose the area where we have larger furniture items. A much better working and shopping experience for everyone.

We anticipate doing some limited donation and shopping hours in the near future – currently we are loading the shelves and racks with items for summer, when we reopen we will be well stocked so save your pennies for a shopping spree! We anticipate operating with caution for a long time to come, we appreciate your compliance with our guidelines so when we open we can provide a safe experience for everyone. Check our Facebook page frequently for updates.

### **September marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first planning meeting for Countryside**

When the idea for hospice was pitched to the hospital in 1980 it was suggested that we go to the community first and see how they felt about a program that would provide support for dying patients and their families. The community said yes, the hospital helped us with an office, desk and a \$2,000 donation and we were off and running.

The early years were busy, we typed the newsletter on a manual typewriter then hand delivered them around town, we hired staff and often struggled to make payroll, we cared for patients and supported their families and raised funds to keep going - our kids popped popcorn and chased yellow plastic ducks in the creek, our husbands spent 4<sup>th</sup> of July up to their elbows in root beer and melting ice cream. We learned about pain management and symptom control, started a home health program and worked closely with hospital staff, community and statewide resources. Good times.

Then in 2003 we moved, we had our funds and the thrift store but basically started over except for one very important thing – the board, staff, volunteers and community never wavered, they waited while we regrouped and then poured their support into Pennies for Robert, the Memory Center, our support groups and St. Benedict's Guest House. 17 years later and more good times.

Over the years we have changed our location, our mission and our vision, but not our focus on the community. We've made friends, lifelong friends, both in the program and in the community. 40 years well spent.

### **Support Group meetings ...**

Please check the webpage [www.countrysidehospicesupport.com](http://www.countrysidehospicesupport.com) or give us a call at 945-0827 to check on support group meetings for the month of June. We miss seeing everyone and hope we can meet soon.

## **Welcome new members of the Board**

We welcomed two new members to the Countryside Board of Directors at the April meeting; Melissa Brock and Chuck Schlueter. Additional board members include Wendy Smith, Kara Semmler, Kara Hughes, Karla Kuiper, Sue Burgard, Ron Schreiner, Norm Weaver, Cindy Erwin, Becki Potrzeba and Don Boyd.

Thank you to retiring board member Carla Bachand who is leaving the board after two three year terms. In addition to serving as secretary Carla was in charge of the reflection at each meeting – a few quiet minutes when she would bring everyone together with a reading that was always thoughtful and often humorous – a great way to set the tone for the business at hand. Carla was an excellent board member and will be missed.

Adding new board members is exciting and challenging as we bring them up to date on the day to day activities of Countryside and the plans for the future. We learned this past year how quickly our mission and focus can expand and change. The board rose to the challenge asking all the right questions and providing support and expertise to the staff.

Last year was a whirlwind and we were looking forward to a quiet time but COVID 19 had other plans – now the board continues to meet monthly through ZOOM conference calls, and stays in touch through email and phone. We look forward to when we have everyone back around the table.

## **Final Gifts .... Understanding the Special Awareness, Needs and Communications of the Dying**

By Maggie Callanan and Patricia Kelley

As a hospice nurse I never doubted that there was more to the dying experience than the text books could tell us. And while I didn't doubt that those who were dying were often trying to communicate with family past and present it was hard to explain to others.

In the early 90's a book entitled *Final Gifts* was written by two hospice nurses about their experiences with patients who were dying. It was aha moment after aha moment as they provided practical advice on responding to the requests of the dying and helping them prepare emotionally and spiritually for death. It was indeed a gift.

Ted and Jayne Parsons have donated 9 copies of *Final Gifts* to Countryside in memory of Wally Thomsen – please drop by and pick up a copy – bring it back when you are finished or pass it along to a family member or friend. Nurses, clergy and CNAs who have been at the bedside of patients will recognize the stories.

## **Life 360 – a location app for your phone**

According to Wikipedia this free app was designed to ruin teenager's lives by allowing their parents to track their location! While that is unfortunate for the teens of the world, it's possible that it might be helpful for tracking patients with dementia that still drive, walk around the block or wander. The tricky part is they have to have their phone with them and turned on to work.

The app lets you share your location with family and friends – or what the company calls “your circle”. It can detect potentially unsafe driving behaviors, such as phone usage while behind the wheel, driving speed, hard braking, and rapid acceleration. It can call for roadside assistance, detect a crash and determine how much battery life is left in the phone.

No one wants to restrict the movement of a family member with dementia especially when it comes to driving. We may feel safe letting them take the same route to coffee every day but we have to think about what happens if they can't get to their destination. Safety measures such as filling out a wander form with the police department or an app like *Life 360* may be an extra safety net.

## Memorials ...

Carol Fiala

by  
Gary, Debbie & David Fiala

John & Anne Woods

Burton & Anna Warne

Jack Fifield

by  
Maynard & Mary Greenfield

Bob Nystrom

Myron Kusler

Nancy Thomas

by  
Nancy Bloom  
Douglas & Mary Emme

Mary Berger

by  
Heidi Jennings

Sylvia Ballew

Raymond Vik

Nancy Thomas

by  
Verne & Frieda Baker

Myron Kusler

by  
Marge Perry  
Dale & Donna Gohl  
Bob & Shirlee Miller  
Scott & Gaye Granville  
Darwin & Mary Meyer  
Frank & Martha Brost  
Erwin & Marlys Feller

Bonnie Gregg Bartlett

Nancy Thomas

Gladine McGirr Boschee

Dr. C.L. Swanson

by  
Marshall & Merrie Miller

Bessie Husband

John Sundahl

by  
Mary Scott

Irene Eisenbeisz

by  
Carla Jund  
Darwin & Mary Meyer  
Barb Nold  
Larry & Judy Coyle

Wayne Anderson

Myron Kusler

Irene Eisenbeisz

Sylvia Ballew

Nancy Thomas

Enid Hyde

by  
Anne Anderson

Jim Likness

Colleen Weiss

Bessie Husband

Bob Hofer

by  
Andy & Janice Deis

Wally Thomsen

Nancy Thomas

Myron Kusler

Enid Hyde

by  
Seb & Carol Axtman

Enid Hyde

Colleen Weiss

Barry LeBeau

Irene Eisenbeisz

by  
Ben & Nance Orsbon

Sylvia Ballew

Barry LeBeau

Nancy Thomas

Myron Kusler

Enid Hyde

by  
Dennis & Shirley Eismach

Jeannine Woodward

by  
Rose West  
Family & Friends

James Likness

by  
Cheryl & Leonard Chick

Bessie Husband

by  
Don & Shirley Sandal  
Scott & Jean Collison

Nancy Thomas

by  
Jerry & Paula Hunsley

Colleen Weiss

Maryann McGinnis

by  
Nancy Bloom

Vickie Maskovich

by  
Jon & Kathy Meyer  
Dennis & Patty McQuay

Sylvia Ballew

Myron Kusler

by  
Karl & Jean Hoepfner

Myron Kusler

Jim Likness

by  
Eldon & Betty Lindquist

Ray Vik

by  
Shirley Vik  
Family & Friends  
Warren & Dorothy Melcher  
David & Susan Zern  
Robin Cromwell  
John & Gayle Rush  
Dick & Kris Bradley  
Bruce & Karen Royer  
First Fidelity Bank, Murdo, SD  
Norman Payne  
Delores Volmer  
Nelva & Janet Louder  
Dan & Kim Smith  
Kay Kroetch  
Dianne Marshall  
Kathleen Leutenegger  
Ardith Miller  
Jim & Michele McNeely  
Gary & Pam Gall  
Tracey & Karen Dowling  
Tom & Carol Shepherd  
Leroy & Sonja Booth  
Dodie Garrity  
Karen Authier  
Marcie Schmidt  
Barbara Buford & Tom Sanborn  
LeRoy & Sonja Booth

Pat McInnis

by  
Ralph Dirksen



## Memorials ...

Wally Thomsen

by  
Nancy Thomsen  
Family & Friends  
Mike Boocock  
Rich & Jackie Shibley

Nancy Thomas

Bob Nystrom  
Myron Kusler  
by  
Rosemary Rounds

Bob Hofer

by  
Harold Koch

Bob Shoup

by  
Deloris Baumgart

Wally Thomsen

Myron Kusler  
by  
Dale & Joyce Tipton

Curt Goehring

by  
Nancy Thomsen  
Larry & Louween Schoenhard  
Lois Russell  
Mark & Ruth Smith  
Marcia Hull

Freda Lawhon

by  
Mary Jo Gran  
Jim & Marian Palmer

Francis Kirby

by  
Lynell Asher

Wally Thomsen

Sr. Evelyn Sehn  
Dale List  
Bernie Christenson  
Carrie Mikkonen  
Paul Inman  
Tom Weber  
by  
Dianne & Merlin Weyer

Bob Shoup

by  
Eldon & Betty Lindquist

Sr. Evelyn Sehn

Wally Thomsen  
Vickie Maskovich  
Suzanne Pries  
Freda Lawhon  
by  
Jack & Sue Kuhl

Myron Kusler

by  
Nadine Henderson  
Gladys & Don Irion

Irene Eisenbeisz

Enid Hyde  
Vera Schiefelbein  
by  
Connie Carlisle

Myron Kusler

May Wylie  
Bob Shoup  
by  
Gerry & Nancy Cutshaw

Ruth Johnson

by  
TJ & Sarah Gallagher  
Patricia Weeldreyer  
Steve & Julie Ellingson  
Gary & Connie Palmer  
Jan Parker

Sr. Evelyn Sehn

Freda Lawhon  
by  
Susan Smith

Roy Ramser

Wilma Smith  
by  
Tom & Roxy Osborn

Benny Hart

by  
Don & Shirley Sandal  
The Hart, Latham, Hoss & Cowan  
Families

Fran Keller

by  
Louween Schoenhard  
Bob & Shirlee Miller

Sr. Evelyn Sehn

by  
Ann Trebesch

Ron Lawrence

Carol Owens  
Hap Dodge  
Bernie Christenson  
Barb Rilling  
Bob Nystrom  
Enid Hyde  
by  
Lois Byrum

Dorothea Tsching

by  
Mark Hiatt & the Hiatt cousins

Dean Brakke

Freda Lawhon  
by  
Anita Baker  
Larry & Barb Joy

Vera Schiefelbein

Tom Adam  
Mansour Karim  
Roger Pries  
Susanne Pries  
Jerry Leidholt  
Dale List  
Mike Shaw, Sr.  
Wally Thomsen  
Sr. Evelyn Sehn  
Bob Hofer  
Curt Goehring  
Freda Lawhon  
Tom Weber  
by  
Paul & Dawn Marso

Bob Shoup

Myron Kusler  
Grant Gormley  
Bernie Christenson  
Leon Friend  
Roger & Suzanne Pries  
Dr. Richard Holm  
by  
Tam & Char Gatje

Loren Wohlwend

by  
Joanne Wohlwend

*In Loving Memory of ...*

**Marcia Burrows**

*John  
Janet – Deb – Susan -  
Dawn*

*In memory of*

**Lyle Perry**

*who passed away  
April 7, 2005  
Marge & Family*

**Carol Fiala**

*We miss you -  
Mark & Deb Wixon*

**Linda Obermeier**

*We miss you pretty girl!  
Pete, Tammy, Aimee,  
Joey, Amanda, Sawyer,  
Axton & Jermey*

**Marie Lamm**

*Bob & Beth McInnis  
Susan & Bob  
Marrington  
Ralph Dirksen  
Joe & Kathy Gittings*

**Darlene Treib**

*Bob & Beth McInnis  
Sam Treib  
Susan & Bob Marrington  
Ralph Dirksen  
Joe & Kathy Gittings*

**Orma E. McInnis**

*Bob & Beth McInnis,  
Sam Treib,  
Susan & Bob Marrington,  
Kathy & Joe Gittings  
& Ralph Dirksen*

**John McInnis**

*Joe & Kathy Gittings,  
Susan & Bob Marrington,  
Bob & Beth McInnis,  
Sam Treib,  
& Ralph Dirksen*

**Dr. B.O. Lindbloom**

*on his birthday  
April 28<sup>th</sup>  
by  
Karen Lindbloom*

*In memory of*

**Gordon Baumgart**

*on his May 12<sup>th</sup> birthday from his loving family.  
Still missing him 9 years later.  
Deloris Baumgart & family*

*In memory of*

**Gertrude Guse**

*We miss your smile –  
your grace  
And your red velvet cakes.  
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY  
Meg,  
Jody, Christy,  
Austin, Casey & Cassidy  
Ryland*



*Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
to my parents,  
**Earl & Marilou Briggs**  
on June 9<sup>th</sup>  
Love,  
Kristi*

*A great sister,*

**Dora Lee Christian**

*on her May 14<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Love you & miss you,  
Delores*

**Bruce Baker**

*We miss you very much,  
especially this Easter time.  
Love,  
Dad, Mom &  
Grandchildren*

**Chip Lindbloom**

*on his 49<sup>th</sup> birthday  
June 10, 1971  
by  
Barb Lindbloom*

*In loving memory of  
Onida's 4 Amigos*

**Larry & Karen (Mehrer) Rupkalvis  
Maynard & Barb (Zebroski) Rilling**  
by

*Duane & Beverly Rupkalvis*

**Tom Schmitz  
Don Garrity**

*Love and miss you daily  
by  
Dodie Garrity  
Dawn Stover &  
Kelly Tibbs*

*In memory of our son & brother,  
**Justin Saylor***

*on April 22<sup>nd</sup> when you joined the angels above  
and your May 14<sup>th</sup> birthday!!  
We love and miss you so much!!  
Gerry, Lisa, Jacob & Joshua Saylor*

*In memory of*

**Don Saylor**

*on his May 9<sup>th</sup> birthday!  
Gone but NEVER  
forgotten! We love you!!  
Gerry, Lisa,  
Jacob & Joshua Saylor*

*In memory of  
**Jack & Jo Mitchell***

*Pennies for Robert  
I miss you terribly.  
Barbie*

*In loving memory of  
our parents.*

*Always in our thoughts and hearts.  
We miss you all.  
Jim & Linda Cruse*

*Lest we forget*

**John B. Lopez**

*(1932-2017)  
J.R. Fishburne*

**Freda Lawhon**

*on Mother's Day 2020  
So glad I had the  
opportunity to  
know you.  
Cindy*

*In loving memory of  
my mother, **Mary**  
my aunt, **Luella***

*Holding you both close in my heart on Mother's Day  
Cindy*

*In loving memory of  
**Rita Van Overschelde  
Gates***

*who died May 4, 2011  
J.R. & Bernadette  
Fishburne*

## *In Loving Memory of ...*

*In memory of my  
beloved uncle,  
**Jerry Tracy**  
by  
Robin Schumacher*

**Marrietta Catlin**  
*Missing you every day since you  
left us on June 22, 2018  
by  
Ron Catlin & family*

*In loving memory of  
**Marrietta Catlin**  
on her birthday, June 4<sup>th</sup>  
by  
Ron Catlin*

**Memberships:** Orv & Mary Jo Gran, Dale & Mary Heidelberger, Eileen Herrin, Jack & Sue Kuhl, Barb Lindbloom, David & Lisa Neuharth, Gerry & Lisa Saylor Family, Chuck & Sandy Schlueter, Tub & Marcie Schmidt

**Donations:** Anonymous, Kenneth Caldwell, Steph & Jake Davis, Sarah Gallagher, Judene Holan, Richard Ivey, Sarah Ketteler, Sebastian LeBeau, Vivian Monroe, Morris, Inc., Mary Nemec, David & Lisa Neuharth, Trinity Lutheran Church-Midland, SD

Wacky Wednesdays  
**Free books to help fight  
COVID boredom...**  
2 days  
110 vehicles  
1415 children's books  
300 magazines  
300 books for adults  
**Thanks for stopping by!**



*Thank you  
Josie Ucker  
for saving your  
pennies  
for Pennies for  
Robert!*

### **Thank you to:**

Nancy Bloom for food for the Guest House  
The Flying Five Foundation for your gift to Pennies for Robert in memory of Tyler Wilcox



*On this Mother's Day  
Honoring Mothers Special to Me  
Vaudis Ivey, Marie Kost & Eileen Kusser  
Cindy*

### **An important part of Countryside's history but first and foremost a mother ...**

Countryside lost a longtime supporter last week. When Freda Lawhon's husband, Ray, died in 1980 we were just talking about hospice care in Pierre. Freda grabbed ahold of the concept, the program, and all involved and never let go.

We lovingly called her "fretting Freda" as she stood at every fundraiser, apron in place, hands on her hips, face red from fretting that we had too much of this and not enough of that. All followed with a huge smile and wonderful laugh. Freda treasured many things in her life especially "my boys", her friends and adventures. We were blessed to also be on her list.



Countryside Hospice Support & Memory Center  
415 S. Crow St.  
Pierre, SD 57501

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**We Care Program – Lynn’s Dakotamart**

Thank you to Lynn’s Dakotamart for this wonderful community program. For every \$10,000 we collect in receipts Lynn’s donates \$100 to Countryside. Please save all your receipts – every department counts including gas, pharmacy, food, clothing, and sporting goods. Receipts can be dropped off at the Countryside office.

**\*\*Please note our new address when sending in your donations – 415 S. Crow Street, Pierre, SD 57501\*\***

**THIS GIFT IS FROM:**  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE USE MY GIFT FOR:**  
 Memorial    Memory Center    Membership    Avera@Home    Pennies for Robert    St. Benedict’s Guest House  
Hospice care   Cancer patients’ travel   Lodging for cancer patients

**MY GIFT IS:**  
In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please Notify (include address if possible) \_\_\_\_\_

***We Accept Credit Cards...Please call us at 605-945-0827 and we will process your information over the phone!***

[www.countrysidehospicesupport.com](http://www.countrysidehospicesupport.com)

This newsletter contains donations processed through May 11<sup>th</sup>. The approximate cutoff date for the June newsletter will be June 11<sup>th</sup>.