



# Stepping Stones

A publication of HearthStone of Wisconsin, Inc.  
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## Merry Christmas from HearthStone

Hello Friends,

On behalf of the members and board of directors of HearthStone, we would like to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

As we pause to reflect on the many blessings we have had this year, we'd also like to thank you for your interest in, and support of HearthStone. Together we have been able to continue to serve people with disabilities and those who care for them.

Our educational programs have provided information on both Family Care and Iris with panels of providers and professionals. We sponsored a Legislative Input and Listening Session with Federal, State and Local officials. And, our co-operative sponsorship of the Annual Employer's Recognition Luncheon was a tremendous success, recognized the 100 plus Sheboygan County businesses who hire people with disabilities.

While we had a very successful Comedy Sportz fund raiser back in October, but we did fall short of what we had hoped to raise. That being said, however, we would very much appreciate your considering a tax-deductable donation to HearthStone this Holiday Season. HearthStone relies 100% on private donations and is a 100% volunteer organization, so every dollar you donate is used for direct services to people with disabilities and their families right here in Sheboygan County.

Thank you again for supporting HearthStone.

Regards,

Please consider a year-end, tax deductible donation to HearthStone. We need your support.



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*"HearthStone is a self-help and advocacy organization for people with disabilities and their families."*



# Events

## HearthStone's Annual Picnic and Boat Ride Enjoyed By All

Wow, with the wintery weather blustering around us, pleasant memories of the HearthStone Annual Picnic and Boat Ride are more enjoyable than ever. We welcomed a maximum group of thirty young people, family members and caregivers for a wonderful sub sandwich and pizza picnic – and birthday cake dessert -- at the beautiful Elkhart Lake Firemen's Park. It was a beautiful, warm and sunny day...perfect for a narrated tour of Elkhart Lake on Captain Tom's big pontoon boat.

**All in all, a delightful afternoon.**



# Events

## HearthStone Fundraiser 2014

*... a record turnout for an evening of fabulous food and wacky fun.*

It's hard to decide what was the best part... the delicious buffet dinner prepared by the talented culinary arts students at LTC's Culinary Institute... or the wacky antics of our favorite improv troupe, Comedy Sportz.

Well, I'd say it was a tie. They were both thoroughly enjoyable. Although, the made-to-order cherries jubilee may have put the food over the top.



No matter what, a record number of guests – over 170 – enjoyed the evening together and helped HearthStone in the process. Nearly 50 Sheboygan County businesses and families donated gift baskets and gift cards for our silent auction. And a very generous donor, Dennis Fiedler, donated the use of his Florida Condo for our special raffle of the evening.

**Special thanks** to HIL (Homes for Independent Living) for sponsoring Comedy Sportz and thanks to HIL's Michele, Tammy and Dawn for their invaluable administrative support.

And thanks to the Fund Raiser Committee for all the hard work.

It was a good time for a good cause.



# Events

## Thirteenth Annual HearthStone/DVR/RCS Empowers Employers' Recognition Luncheon a moving experience.

Over 130 Sheboygan County Employers were honored on October 17th at the Bull at Pinehurst Farms. The thirteenth annual Employers' Recognition Luncheon sponsored by RCS Empowers, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and HearthStone drew a record crowd.

Awards were given to HearthStone On-going Employers, first time employers (Welcome Aboard Awards), as well as Outstanding Employers, who consistently demonstrate exceptional commitment to hiring people with differing abilities.

This year's Exemplary Award went to all four Sheboygan County Walgreen's stores, who received the special award signed by the Governor and presented by DWD Secretary Reggie Newson.



*We are blessed to live in a community that is so supportive.*

# Events

## HearthStone “Legislative” Bowling Party

throws a “strike” for fun & understanding



Over thirty HearthStone young people enjoyed free pizza, sodas and bowling on November 15th at Maple Lanes. All of our local and state legislators are invited to this event, in hopes that by attending, they will gain a better understanding of people with differing abilities within our community.

Many Legislators attend in order to share in the fun designed to provide a safe, supervised and accessible social opportunity for our young members.

Hey, who doesn't like pizza, bowling and making friends?

Thanks to Bob & Peggy Feider for sponsoring this great event.



# Events



YOU'RE INVITED!

## HearthStone's Christmas Party

Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup>

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Santa and gifts to follow

Klemme's Wagon Wheel

120 S. Wisconsin Dr. (Hyw. 32) Howards Grove, WI

**FREE** for HearthStone young people

\$5 donation requested from parents/caregivers

**Please RSVP by Friday December 5<sup>th</sup>**

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## FREE MEMBERSHIP REQUEST

### WHAT IS HEARTHSTONE

HearthStone is a self-help and advocacy organization for people with disabilities and their families. Our mission is to make our communities a welcoming place for people of disabilities and to support and encourage positive life experiences.

### BENEFITS OF JOINING HEARTHSTONE

- Free Quarterly Newsletter with news & information you can use
- Free Quarterly Social Events for Young Adults
- Advance notice for Free Community Meetings & Educational Programs
- Free P.A.T.H. Planning resources to help move your dreams forward
- Help, family mentoring, referrals, resources
- Add your “voice” to the hundred plus Lakeshore area families to help us advocate for funding for programs for people with disabilities and service providers – Help us end “The WAITING LIST” game here and throughout Wisconsin and ad equately compensate our caring service providers.

Yes, please add me to your list of Members. I understand there is NO CHARGE to become a HearthStone member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) you are advocating for: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_





### HearthStone's Board of Directors

- Ray Cary ('14)
- Peggy Feider ('15) (Secretary)
- Joe Arndt ('14 ) (Youth Rep.)
- Karen Post ('16)
- Jon Rost ('15) (President)
- SueAnn Schuh ('16) (Treasurer)
- Bruce Lisiecki ('16)
- Larry Samet ('14)
- Kathy Arndt ('15)

### ♣ HearthStone Advisory Committee ♣

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Jennifer Mikalowsky | • Cynthia Sook                             |
| • Bob Feider          | • Nick Verhagen                            |
| • Craig McFadden      | • Michele Wangemann                        |
| • Jack Reindl         | • Dawn Stearns                             |
| • Carol Rost          | • Christopher Post                         |
| • Marie Schwinn       | • Drew Wallace                             |
| • Frank Sterzen       | • Ron Preder                               |
| • Jennifer Mikalowsky | • Linda Tolman                             |
| • Christopher Post    | • Ashley Streck<br>(communications intern) |

*“Our mission is to make our communities a welcoming place for people of disabilities and to support and encourage positive life experiences.”*

