

Partners of Stoughton Hospital Newsletter

February 2025

From Judeen Reese, President:

It seems there's a significance assigned to many days throughout the year, but especially during the holiday season. Black Friday, Cyber Monday, Small Business Saturday and others all set aside to promote the exchange of currency. But my favorite is Giving Tuesday. Giving Tuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving when people and organizations donate their time and resources to a deserving cause.

Stoughton Hospital Foundation celebrated Giving Tuesday with an opportunity to give as well as receive. For every \$36 donated to the Foundation during the Giving Tuesday dates, you were given a Kwik Trip gift card good for five free Ultimate car washes to be used throughout the year at any Kwik Trip location. WHAT A DEAL! I bought two and then, without intending to, I became a Kwik Trip shopper.

Here's the thing, when I go to Kwik Trip, I never leave with only what I came in for. If I stop for a gallon of milk, I always leave with a few extras. It's practically a law of nature.

One time I went to Kwik Trip for a loaf of bread. That's it. Just bread. As I was standing in line waiting to pay, there was a conversation in front of me. A man was explaining why Kwik Trip has the best bananas. "Kwik Trip gets their bananas straight from the source. None of that middleman nonsense." Now, I don't know if that's true, but the conviction in his voice was enough to make me buy a bunch of bananas that day. And you know what? They were pretty good!

And don't get me started on the glazers. A glazer is the donut that all other donuts aspire to be.

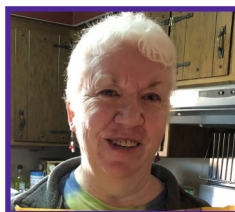
In the end, I think the reason we all love Kwik Trip so much is because it represents everything that's great about Wisconsin. My reason for shopping at Kwik Trip is sim-



Partners of Stoughton Hospital Board of Directors
Front: Sandra Maerz-membership Chair, Jeanne Gilbertson-volunteer coordinator, Donna Strandlie-Treasurer, Susie Ramberg-Assistant Treasurer
Back: Brenda Klitzke-vice president, Judeen Reese-president, Melanie Miller-past president, Dawn Windland, Jan Walker-secretary
Missing: Bonnie Anderson-gift shop chair

ple: Kwik Trip supports our Stoughton Hospital Foundation!!

I bring you the unfortunate news that Dawn Windland, who was elected to the board as Assistant Secretary has resigned that position. Dawn has been an active Partner for several years and we will miss her as she pursues a new adventure in her life.



Jacki Damson

And now for the good news: We welcome a new board member to fill the role of Assistant Secretary. **Jacki Damson** will assume the position beginning in February. Jacki is a new Partner member who has been volunteering at SSM St. Mary's in Madison.

Welcome Jacki!

Where do you fit in? We need you in various areas. If you are looking for another way to support Partners of Stoughton Hospital and Stoughton Health, let's talk! I'm sure there's a perfect fit. Send me an email at partner-sofSH@gmail.com or call me at 608 516-5751.





Curious Minds Want To Know...

Curiosity always surfaces with any change. Partners board members were given the opportunity to ask Chris Brabant, new President/CEO of Stoughton Health something they might be curious about. Chris's answers are in blue. Thank you Chris. We are fortunate to have you as a member of the Stoughton Health Team and a new member of Partners of Stoughton Hospital.

Q: What drew you to Stoughton Health?

The reputation and culture of the organization. Also, the Stoughton community and the opportunity to live closer to Madison. I spent a lot of time in Madison in my youth when I was with the WI Air National Guard

Q: Can we expect to see changes?

As you know, Stoughton Health is changing all the time. That being said, I don't plan on making any changes in the near future as there are many projects currently going on. For example, the completion of construction of the Stoughton Health Outpatient Center (SHOC), moving all the services to the SHOC once the building is handed over, the recent opening of the Cottage Grove Urgent Care and the renovation of the Oregon site, specifically the Urgent Care and the Rehab area. Also, there are already new services that we are exploring.

Q: Do you plan to become Norwegian?

I'm firmly Belgian and Polish, but if the Norwegians will have me, I am glad to be adopted, as long as I am still able to pay respect to my Belgian/Polish brothers and sisters.

Q: What's this we hear about three sons and a princess?

Yes, I have a bride (Kathy) of 26 years, and we have three boys and a princess. The three boys are Ryan (Electrician Apprentice), Alex (Firefighter/Paramedic training), Caroline (Our princess, currently a student at UW Madison) and Jack (currently a student at Edgewood College).

Q: There's a rumor going around that you play sheepshead. True?

Yes, I play sheepshead. I've played call the Ace and Jack of Diamonds is partner. I prefer Jack of Diamonds is partner.

Q: Any hobbies?

Many. I like to travel, read, exercise, work outside, long walks, etc.

Q: If you could choose a mascot for Stoughton Health, what would you choose?

I'll have to get back with you on this one. I need to get to know the hospital better. It would be something that symbolizes loyalty to the patients, colleagues, and community.

Q: What is your favorite family vacation?

Our annual vacation to the North Woods in Phelps, WI. We've been going for over 20 years, and we look forward to it every year.

Q: Your favorite dessert?

I have many favorites...just about anything that has to do with chocolate.

Q: Can you dance?

I have two left feet but have been known to make an attempt.

Our 2025 Monthly Cookie Bakes Are in Full Swing!

On the second Wednesday of every month when you walk into the hospital lobby the scent of fresh warm cookies baking will greet you. This year Partner **Lisa Olson** is coordinating these events with a selection of Chocolate Chunk, Peanut Butter, White Chocolate Macadamia, Double Chocolate Chunk and Raisin Oatmeal cookies.

You don't need an appointment to stop in and pick up some fresh cookies. Why not visit the Partners' Gift Shop while we bake for you? The cookie bake goes from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

If you are interested in being part of this fun morning, please give Lisa a call. We have teams of three Partners for each bake day & always welcome new Partner volunteers.

Contact: **Lisa Olson, Cookie Bake Coordinator at 608-279-4847.**



Walker bags are a popular item. Partners of Stoughton Hospital provides handmade walker bags to patients of Stoughton Health and the community free of charge. We receive many requests as walker bags or pouches make life a bit easier for those using a walker. Walker bags offer storage space for personal items, such as wallets, keys, phones, and medication. They can also hold medical records and other essentials for medical appointments. Walker bags can hide personal belongings like money or medication. Walker bags can help distinguish your walker from other walk-

ers.

We need Partners to help make walker bags. It requires some very basic straight stitching. We can even help provide you with the needed pattern and supplies. Please consider promoting this worthwhile community project. Finished walker bags can be dropped off at the Stoughton Hospital Gift Shop. If you would like to begin working on this project, please contact **Jeanne Gilbertson at 608 692-3452.**



Partners of Stoughton Hospital 2025 Directories are available. If you would like a copy, please pick one up in the Stoughton Hospital Gift Shop or at the Community Health & Wellness Center.

Please contact Sandra Maerz at 608 873-6152 with corrections and updates or email partnersofSH@gmail.com



Jan. 31 - Safe @ Home, Oregon
Feb. 1 - Safe Sitter (Oregon)
Feb. 5 - Partners Monthly Board Meeting
Feb. 11 - Grocery Tour Aldi
Feb. 12 - Cookie Bake in Hospital Lobby
Feb. 13 - Crafting and Connection
Feb. 20 - GERD
Feb. 26 - Good Mood Foods
Feb. 28 - Safe@Home (McFarland)

For more information about classes and events go to <https://stoughtonhealth.com/events/>

Mar. 5 - Partners Monthly Board Meeting
Mar. 12 - Cookie Bake in Hospital Lobby
Apr. 3 - Pansy Orders Due
Apr. 9 - Advocacy Day
Apr. 10 - Pick Up Pansies, CHWC

If you know someone who might enjoy being a Partner, please encourage them to contact Sandra Maerz. 608-873-6125.



Jonathan Milton, Laura Mays

WI Organization of Nurse Leaders Scholarship

Jonathan Milton APNP, CNS was awarded a \$1,000 Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Leaders (WONL) educational scholarship. In a gesture of commitment to advancing local healthcare, these funds were donated to the Stoughton Hospital Foundation, with restrictions placed for use in the pilot program known as the Cardiac HEAL Program. This program is designed to enhance cardiovascular health and improve the quality of life for patients 65 years and older with heart failure through guided exercise, lifestyle management, and evidence-based practices. Congratulations Jonathan!

STOP! Stoughton Health announced the donation of upgraded 18-inch LED stop paddles to local crossing guards in our community, replacing their previous 12-inch signs.



“At Stoughton Health, we are dedicated to keeping our community safe,” said Stoughton Health president/CEO Chris Brabant. “These new LED stop paddles ensure that our crossing guards have the tools they need to do their vital work, protecting both themselves and the children they assist.” LED stop paddles are especially effective during dawn, dusk, and bad weather—times when accidents are most likely to occur.”

Thank You, Stoughton Health



Stoughton Hospital has been named one of America's 100 Best Hospitals for Patient Experience, and one of America's Best Hospitals for Outpatient Experience by the Women's Choice Awards®.

**Congratulations,
Stoughton Hospital!**

Congratulations to the Stoughton Health Rehabilitation Team for being voted the People's Choice Winner for Rehabilitation Facility! The team received their award that will proudly be displayed in their department.

