



Countryside Support & Memory Center

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

Phone: (605) 945-0827

March 2025

~ 45 years of Caring ~

This year, Countryside proudly celebrates 45 years of service—a milestone reflecting our unwavering passion and vision for compassionate care in our community. What began as a heartfelt commitment to hospice care has grown into a network of programs dedicated to caring for our family, friends, and neighbors. While Countryside does not provide direct hospice care, we are deeply committed to supporting those who do. Each month, we contribute to the Avera @ Home hospice program, along with honoring memorials designated for hospice care. Beyond hospice support, our programs extend to various initiatives, including the Memory Center, St. Benedict's Guest House, Pennies for Robert and support groups. We invite you to join us celebrating this milestone throughout the year and continuing our mission of care and assistance for those in need.

As I reflect on my first six months with Countryside, I feel truly grateful to work alongside compassionate donors, dedicated staff, and selfless volunteers. Their collective generosity and commitment make Countryside possible.

The support from our community—through thrift store donations and purchases, memorial contributions, gifts to St. Benedict's and the Memory Center, and participation in fundraising events—is invaluable. These contributions help provide travel funds for cancer patients, free memory screenings for those experiencing memory loss, and essential contributions for hospice care. Thank you for being a vital part of this mission. Every day, we hear heartfelt stories and cherished memories from those whose lives have been touched by Countryside's support—donors, guests at St. Benedict's, families receiving memory screenings, support group members, and cancer patients grateful for assistance.

While the faces may change over the years, our tradition of caring remains strong. We invite you to explore the many ways you can get involved as a donor or volunteer, helping to sustain and grow the programs that make a tremendous difference in our community.

Kim Leiferman - Director

"One person caring about another represents life's greatest value." - Jim Rohn

Welcome Desiree as the new Office Manager

Hi there! My name is Desiree Bonhorst and I am the new Office Manager of Countryside Support and Memory center. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Care Administration and come from an extensive background in health care, social work, and education, as well as marketing and customer service. I am thrilled to bring my experience and commitment to helping others to Countryside.

As an active mom of 4, I am a member of the Pierre/Fort Pierre Kiwanis club, Pierre Players' Promotions Committee, and the Capital City Band in which I have played the flute for the past decade. Music and the performing arts are passions of mine. I look forward to serving and assisting our community through Countryside Support.

"Music is life, and life is always beautiful." -Craig Anthony



Pictured L to R: Desiree Bonhorst and Kim Leiferman attended the Farm and Home Show on Feb. 21st



Get Ready for the Countryside Duck Derby at Oahe Days!

Join us for a fun-filled event on June 21st at Oahe Days! The Countryside Duck Derby promises to be an exciting experience for the whole family.

Starting May 5th, you'll be able to adopt your very own duck and participate in the race, with plenty of opportunities to get involved.

Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or new to helping out, we have a variety of ways for you to contribute to this exciting event. Watch for details coming soon on how you can help make the Countryside Duck Derby a success!

Penny War – We are excited to invite businesses to participate in a fun and impactful community event—the Penny War, running from June 22nd through July 17th. This friendly competition will benefit the Pennies for Robert program, helping cancer patients with travel from the Pierre area or to the Helmsley Center for appointments.

Businesses will collect pennies (and other coins) to contribute to the cause. The goal is to gather as many pennies as possible, while friendly sabotage strategies are encouraged—adding nickels, dimes, and quarters to other teams' jars can work in your favor! The business that collects the most pennies by the end of the event will be crowned the Penny War Champion!

To learn more about how the Penny War works and to sign up your business to participate **by May 1st**, visit www.countrysidesupport.com

Rally for Robert Dice Run – is scheduled for **September 6th** with more details to come. This 136 mile dice run is open to automobiles and motorcycles. You can view last year's event information on our website and mark your calendars for the annual drive and ride to support Pennies for Robert program.

Memory Walk/Run – Mark your calendars for **October 4th**, to walk/run in honor, memory and support of everyone with memory loss and in celebration of all caregivers. Tell your fellow walkers and running group to plan for this event. Proceeds help support the Memory Center to provide free memory screens and support.

Events like these help support Countryside programs

Pennies for Robert

This fund provides stipends for cancer patients traveling to and from the Pierre area for appointments. Once again you have made the miles a little easier by providing **\$4,235** in travel funds for **57** trips from during the month of February. That is a lot of miles traveled and families grateful for the assistance.

St. Benedict's Guest House

Patients traveling to Pierre for cancer treatments have an opportunity to stay at the guest house, free of charge, made possible from a variety of donations during the year. For the month of February we have had **18** guests for **37** nights. A donation of **\$50** will sponsor one night at the guest house.

Memory Center

Our caring, compassionate staff and provider provide free memory screenings with continued support for patient and family. Since 2011 a total of **1989** screenings have been provided free of charge to families. Each screening is approximately a **\$1,120** value.

Community support programs – All groups will meet in the Countryside Community Room, located at 415 S. Crow Street, Pierre, SD

Parkinson's Support Group **First Wednesday** of each month, **at noon**. Visit with others who have a Parkinson's diagnosis. Topics include medications, exercise, safety issues and day-to-day challenges. Family members are also welcome.

Breast Cancer Survivors **Third Thursday** of each month, **at noon**. Support and informational group for anyone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. All survivors are welcome to attend.

Memory Connection **Third Thursday** of each month, **at 6:00 p.m.** Discussion group for family members and friends caring for a loved one with dementia. An opportunity to brainstorm and share information.

OMA – Thursdays 10:30 -11:30

Opening Minds through Art (OMA) is a program that matches individuals who have memory loss with a volunteer, together they create art. For more information and/or to volunteer, call Cindy at 945-0827.

Call 605-945-0827 for more information about our support groups.



Volunteer Spring Potluck

We are celebrating our Volunteers, April 14th at 12:00pm at First United Methodist Church. All volunteers (board members, newsletter, thrift store, fundraisers, OMA, etc. are invited to attend the holiday potluck in celebration of YOU, our volunteers.

Please bring a salad or dessert and we will provide the beverages, main dish and door prizes.

OMA Art from the Heart Art Show
Thank you to all those that attended the OMA Art Show in February at Waterfront Galleries, showcasing OMA artwork.



We Care – Dakotamart

Countryside participates in the We Care program sponsored by Dakotamart. For every \$10,000 in grocery receipts that we collect, Dakotamart donates \$100 to Countryside Support. The receipts add up quickly and can include groceries, alcohol, prescriptions, hunting and fishing equipment, clothing and anything else you can find in the store. Please remember us when you are wondering what to do with your receipts. Receipts can be dropped off at the Countryside office or the thrift store.

IN MEMORY OF...

Fred Marso
Bill Palmer
Marj Gallimore
John Whaley
Bob Kinsella
by
Don & Donna Gallimore

Peggy Stout
Jacqui Miller
by
Sally Christenson

Joe Kelley
Kenny Parker
Mary Rezac
Kirby Welch
Terry Ree
by
Paul & Dawn Marso

Michala Huse
by
Shelley Wickersham

Bob Oliva
Joe Kelley
Ernie Barth
Mary Austad
by
Norm & Joann Weaver

James Hicks
Gene Deuchar
by
Deb Fitzgerald

Martin W. Cantine
by
Dan and Carey Hejl

August & Beth Rupkalvis
Wilbur & Midge Sherwood
Duane A. Rupkalvis
Delaun Duane Rupkalvis
Grandson Jordan D. Bigger
by
Bev Sherwood Rupkalvis &
LaConda Rupkalvis Bigger

Peggy Stout
Lola Bush
Jacqui Miller
by
Susan Smith

Leola Lampy
Ken Schaack
Katie Schaack Olsen
by
Karon Schaack

Peggy Stout
by
Don Sandal
Craig Bump & Anita Baker
Eileen Herrin
Betty Garrett

LaVern Ellwanger
by
Nancy Bloom
Charlene Reed
Donna Solberg
Marcia Hull

Peggy Stout
Michala Huse
by
Tug & Joan Bush
Bob & Elaine Yackley

Mary Rezac
Robert "Bob" Oliva
Peggy Stout
by
Dorothy Smith

Dale Wurts
by
Janice & Leonard Deal
Maxine Tessier
Linda Sack

Cash Brooks
by
Cheryl Stone

Kim Davis Ambach
by
Wade & Karen Pogany

Marlin Scarborough
Don Rounds
Jean Rounds
Pam Scarborough
Larry Schoenhard
Mary Rezac
Peggy Stout
Bob Oliva
Amy Hertel
Fred Marso
Peggy Rose
Mary Jo Johnson
by
Rosemary Rounds

Dick Menning
Doug Kozel
Jackie Marso
by
Joanne & Simon Menning

Bill (Hilary) Larsen
Brad Osborn
Peggy Stout
by
Joel & Carol Gengler

Ken Stewart
Michala Huse
Vance Weber
by
Pete & Patty McGee

John Manning
Dale Wurts
by
Nancy Bloom

Cash Brooks
Bob Oliva
Kenny Parker
Bob Fuller
Jacqui Miller
Joe Kelley
Babe Rasmussen
Dick Menning
LaVern Ellwanger
Kim Hallock
by
Patti Petersen

IN MEMORY OF...

Mary Rezac
Peggy Stout
By
Carla Sahr

Wilbur Hoffman
Dick Menning
Bob Fuller
Peggy Stout
Ken Parker
Kirby Welch
by
Cynthia Arch & Duane Winkler

Mary Puckett
Ken Stewart
by
Rex & Marvene Riis

Ernie Barth
Kenny Parker
by
Dave & Denette Becker

Cash Brooks
Kenny Parker
by
David & Lisa Neuharth

Ernest "Ernie" Barth
Byron Cecil Bassett
LaVern Ellwanger
Duane Jenner
Robert "Bob" Oliva
Kenny Parker
Mary Rezac
Kenneth "Ken" Stewart
Darlene Ulvestad
Dale Wurts
by
Thad & Caroline Uecker

Mary Rezac
By
Kelly Wheeler
Dennis & Julie Moore
Warren & Bobbi Ice

Walter Heien
Cecil Bassett
Michala Huse
Robert "Bob" Cook
by
Sondra Russell

Ken Stewart
by
Steve & Karen Van Mullem

Kenny Parker
by
Lois Knudson
Don Sandal
Michael Oakland
Karen Lindbloom
Anita Marso
Michael & Amy Hudson
Diane Kehrwald

IN HONOR OF...

Susan & Mike Smith
by
Dodie Noordermeer

*In memory of LaVern
Ellwanger.*

From Dale & Donna Gohl

*In loving memory of Cash Brooks.
October 25, 1956 – January 25, 2025*

*Cash, we miss you so much.
Your compassion and kindness are loved by many.
We will cherish all the great memories we had together.
You will be in our hearts forever.*

-Roger & Marla (Brooks) Fuller and family

Sonny,

*The pain of losing you will
never end, but I am so
grateful for the love we
shared.*

Love Always, Charlene

I miss you so deeply.


In memory of...
My Jacky's Auntie Leone
My Beloved Cousin BRENDA
My Dear Friend Mary
Greenfield.

By Marcy Fjfield

National Surveyors Week March 16-22

In Honor & Memory of:
Maynard Sommer, Launie Rheborg, Earl Glodt, Bud
Hackett, J.C. Fleishacker, Jay Timp, Robert Whyte, James
Kastner, Wally Larson, Cam Kuehl, Joe Piper, Clint
Gregory, Don Jacobsen

By Robert Thielen Surveying & Mapping

Remembering

Helen Wallace
June 11, 1939 – March 26, 2023

By Bob Wallace

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

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Memberships: Lois Knudson, Mary Jo Askew, Joanne & Simon Menning

Donations: Sandra Garrett for goody plates for St. Benedict's Guests, Katherine Norwick, Mary Jo Askew, David & Donna Lehmkuhl, Central Dakota Eyecare, Dodie Noordermeer for snacks for St. Benedict's guests, DSS Office of the Secretary, Dale & Mary Heidelberger, Judene Holan for supplies for the St. Benedict's House, Patricia Kurschat, Nancy Bloom for books for the library, Oahe Hockey Association, Patricia Kurschat, Patti Petersen, Pierre Papa Murphy's for their Farm & Home Show booth donation.

THIS GIFT IS FROM:

Name _____

Address _____

Please provide your Email
Address if you would like the
newsletter emailed

- FOR:**
- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> As needed | <input type="checkbox"/> Avera @ Home Hospice | <input type="checkbox"/> Memory Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pennies for Robert
(Travel funds for cancer patients) | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Benedict's Guest House
(Lodging for cancer patients) | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Don Boyd OMA
Memorial |

In memory/honor of: _____ Notify: _____
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In memory/honor of: _____ Notify: _____

This newsletter contains donations processed through March 5th. The approximate cutoff for the April newsletter will be April 1st.

Donations can also be made by credit card on our website www.countrysidesupport.com, or you may call the office with your credit card information 605-945-0827.