



Mercy Auxiliary Newsletter News to You



October 2020

Comment Corner —

Affected by two pandemics, auxiliary continues mission with purpose, time and abilities

By Lorrie Erusha, President, Mercy Foundation



Lorrie Erusha

This WAS a year.

We were all affected by two pandemics – COVID-19 and racism’s social illness. And then, a derecho, and we all learned a new word. Just as you did personally, the auxiliary, the foundation and the hospital sought solid ground. The Mercy Mission is just that – solid, reliable and affirming.

What a special grace it is to work and volunteer in a place that welcomes us in any condition; with our fears and questions, neediness and gifts!

Auxiliary volunteers engaged in ongoing work to help raise money, morale and levels of care for the hospital’s patients, volunteers and staff members. Every dollar you raised helps ensure *The Mercy Touch*® happens in a hospital of excellence, Mercy Medical Center! Each one of us holds a gift of time, resources, skills and abilities. Just as Catherine McAuley said, “No matter how small the gift, God gives the increase.” In a year that prohibited normal fundraising, your gifts, and those of others, will be increased. Never doubt that. Every gesture, every effort and every dollar counts. We share the Mercy Mission and we share this belief.

We are honored you choose to belong to the Mercy Medical Center Auxiliary, and we see the fruits of your labor. For years, auxiliarians have focused on the purchase of items recommended by the hospital staff but not in the hospital’s annual budget. Just imagine the effect you’ve had on patient care, especially during this time of COVID-19.

As you move forward in FY21, please remember this: our nation is in turmoil because of two pandemics, your time in the building as a group is far less than you are accustomed to and yet, we have great confidence in you to do what you think best. Mother McAuley would encourage each of us to state our opinion and act with courage. Let us all go forth with courage!

No-Bake Bake Sale Update

We are off to a wonderful start for donations to the No-Bake Bake Sale. Several donations have been sent in so far. Keep it up! This component of Mistletoe Market usually brings in approximately \$4,000, so any and all donations are appreciated during this crazy, trying and frustrating year.

Information for this giving option will be included in the mailing you receive for the Mistletoe Market. Checks should be made out to Mercy Auxiliary and sent to the auxiliary office in care of Joleen Woods. Remember to indicate on the memo line that this donation should go toward the No-Bake Bake Sale. Thank you in advance!

Co-chairs - Chris Hoffman and Linda Kelly

Auxiliary fundraiser, Heartland Sales, moves to online store

Submitted by Ginny Ekwall, Co-Chair Vendor Sales

Heartland Sales, aka the \$6.00 Sale, was scheduled for a sale in the 10th Street lobby on September 22 and 23. However, due to COVID-19, they are unable to be physically present and instead are creating an alternative way for you to shop with them starting October 15 and continuing through December 31. The new Heartland Sales E-Fundraiser website is currently under construction, and we will publish the address when it becomes available. When you enter the website, you will be asked to pick your fundraising partner — select Mercy Medical Center. Your purchases will be shipped directly to you at the lowest possible shipping cost and will also include promotional free shipping on qualified orders. New items will be added throughout the sales period, so remember to visit the website often!

Mercy Auxiliary will receive a commission for the total amount of sales directed to us. The pandemic has been hard on auxiliary fundraising, so we greatly appreciate your patronage of one of our favorite vendors. What a great way to support Mercy Medical Center while shopping safely in your home!



If you missed ordering Abdallah Caramel Apples, please contact Joleen (319-398-6286; jjwoods@mercyare.org) prior to October 14—we ordered extras!

MISTLETOE MARKET UPDATE

The time is drawing near for Mercy Auxiliary's Mistletoe Market. Soon you'll be able to peruse a plethora of holiday gift ideas from a host of top-notch vendors:

Crafts by K&K	Pickle Creek Herbs
Diana's Ceramics	Pottery by Bobbi
Heron's Haunt Art Studio & Gallery	Rag Rug Lady
Kroul Farms	Rare Bird Soap Shop
Lauramaree Essential Pendants	Soaps for Everybody
Mette's Creative Corner	The Looking Glass
Naturally Eden Linen & Lotion	Twisted Tree Gallery
Nowadays Studio	

No more searching for a parking place! Gone are the crowds! Forget about winding your way through a sea of vendors! COVID-19 has blessed us with a golden opportunity — a virtual Mistletoe Market!

All kidding and sarcasm aside, Mercy Auxiliary is attempting to make the best of a situation that has affected us all. We hope that you'll join us as we support local artists, raise money for important projects at Mercy Medical Center and provide a shopping alternative that's both COVID-friendly and appealing to our virtual guests!

You'll soon be receiving a mailing that gives you all the details you'll need to select and order those one-of-a-kind Christmas gifts. Included in the mailing will be raffle tickets with instructions on how to purchase and submit them. As usual we have some awesome prizes:

Homemade queen-size quilt with beautiful Christmas colors

Apple iPad donated by a friend of the auxiliary

Two "Talk of the Town" package gifts, each containing gift cards to various restaurants in the area as well as products from various establishments

Each raffle prize is valued at \$500 or more. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5. Join in the fun, support the auxiliary and our vendors, and possibly take home a wonderful prize — stranger things have happened in 2020!

We couldn't begin to sponsor this fundraiser without the help of our loyal supporters and sponsors:

Platinum Angels (\$1000+): Roger & Angie Baker, Sandi & Pat Cobb, Cedar Memorial Funeral Homes, and Drs. Tom and Tobi Staudacher

Gold Angels (\$500-\$999): Joy Kuntz, Stewart Baxter Funeral & Memorial Services

Silver Angels (\$300-\$499): Kirk Hiland, Murdoch Funeral Homes, NXT Bank, Gary Rozek, Teahen Funeral Home & Cremation Service, U.S. Bank and Ryan Companies

I know Mistletoe Market won't get you out of the house, but it just might provide the diversion you're desperate for. Even if it doesn't, it will certainly benefit Mercy Medical Center and for this, we will be grateful for your participation. "See" you at the virtual market!

Mistletoe Market Co-Chairs
Holly Becker & Joyce Klimes



Dates to Remember:

- Oct. 14-15 Pick up Abdallah Caramel Apple orders
- Oct. 15 Heartland Sales online sale opens
- Oct. 19 Board meeting (Virtual via Zoom)
- Oct. 28 Finance Committee meeting (Virtual via Zoom)

Sympathy & Prayers

Bev Sather	Husband
Rita Greiner	Husband
Judith O'Donnell	Auxilian



If you have a change of address or membership status - please contact Joleen Woods, Auxiliary Administrative Assistant at (319) 398-6286 or jjwoods@mercyare.org.



The Mercy Auxiliary is an integral part of Mercy Medical Center. Its purpose is to promote and advance Mercy's welfare. The auxiliary serves as a liaison between Mercy and the community and supports Mercy inpatient-related and community-related services. In addition to providing many hours of volunteer support every year, the auxiliary also serves as a fund-raising organization.

Please continue your support and extend membership invitations to others.