

NORTHSHORE JOURNAL

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Christine Mallory, Editor

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Benefit Planned for Local Business Owner Suffering from Rare Autoimmune Disease

by Jessica Moen-Baker

If you have visited Northwoods Family Grille in Silver Bay, chances are you were greeted by and catered to by co-owner Annie Haselow. Behind her cheerful demeanor, Annie has been battling a long and hard fight with numerous ailments since 2012. November 2012, Annie fell very ill. She was incredibly fatigued, in incredible amounts of pain, and so swollen from inflammation that her skin shined. We rushed her to the emergency room late Thursday evening where she was admitted with no answers as to why she was so ill. Over the course of the next few days, doctors performed various tests and procedures to help diagnose Annie's strange symptoms. After about a week, doctors were able to confirm that she had an autoimmune disease called Polymyositis, in which the immune system attacks the muscles throughout the body, inherently causing all her pain and fatigue. Polymyositis is very rare- leaving the options for treatment limited.

Fast forward to 2015- Annie had been experiencing a good deal of difficulty breathing, run-

ning out of breath regularly, and finding it hard to catch up. After a few months of testing and monitoring, Annie went in for a Lung Biopsy- which confirmed that she was now suffering from Pulmonary Fibrosis (PF)- a disease in which parts of the lungs form large amounts of scar tissue and stop functioning as they should. PF has commonly been found in patients with Polymyositis. Unfortunately the effects of the PF cannot be reversed and if not stopped will completely ruin the lungs.

So here we are. After 5 years, and 2 rounds of Chemotherapy, Annie and her family have decided to seek further opinions from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester- which is unfortunately out of Annie's insurance network- leaving the full burden to land on her and her husband Everette.

A Spaghetti Dinner Benefit and silent auction will be held on December 17, 2017 from 4-8 at the Clair Nelson Center in Finland, MN to help raise fund to help alleviate some of the financial burden associated with this trip and treatments to come. Join us for



Annie Haselow with her husband Everette.

Live Comedy, Music, Magic and other talents showcased as well. Follow our page on Facebook under Annie Haselow Medical

Benefit. Monetary donations and donations to the silent auction are greatly appreciated.

Stairlift Added at Fortitude Masonic Lodge

By Kitty Mayo

The Fortitude Masonic Lodge in Two Harbors has a welcome addition: stairlifts that will help members and visitors move between floors more easily. With a dedication ceremony held last week, donors were recognized with appreciation.

Paid for by the Eastern Star with memorial gifts from Ralph and Beatrice Griffis of Grand Marais, and Helen Carlstrom of Two Harbors.

Alene Aho, member of the Eastern Star, says that the stairlift will be put to good use right away. "There are a few people, whether they are elderly or have a disability, using it and it will be a help to members that have hesitated to come to meetings because of the stairs," said Alene.

Karl Aho, Alene's husband and a member of the Lodge for more than 21 years and a previous Master, says that he hopes a side door can eventually be added to the building, a change that would allow for fewer steps, and the possibility of adding a handicap-accessible ramp.

The Ahos say that they hope that more people in the northland will become interested in joining the group.

Every year the Masons focus on fundraising to support both national and local causes, such as the retirement home, and the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital. Annual events such as their pasta sale

collect money for food shelf donations, scholarships for area students, and purchasing books for local schools.

Karl says there are only three requirements for becoming a Mason: belief in a Higher Power, belief in eternity, and being a man. The Eastern Star, the Mason's affiliated group, is made up of family members of Masons, and both groups meet twice monthly.

With about 100 members in each group, the Masons and the Eastern Star have been in existence in Two Harbors for over 100 years. "We want people to come in, know what's going on here, and join us if they're interested.," said Alene.

The concept of the Masonic Lodge goes back centuries and is based on the precepts of ancient masonry groups that had levels of apprenticeship, mastery, and trade knowledge that they held dear to compete with other groups for work and excellence. While based on religious philosophies, people from any religion, or no practicing religion are welcome.

Everyone in the community is welcome to come out for the ongoing Coffee Hour at noon each Thursday, held in the basement of the Mason Lodge.

If you are interested in learning more, or want to apply (make a petition) for membership into the Masons, or the Eastern Star, call Karl and Alene Aho at (218)834-2950.

AMSOIL Air Force Snocross Scholarship Awarded

By Kitty Mayo

Two Harbors High School senior Brandon Lounsberry was awarded the AMSOIL Air Force Snocross scholarship for \$200 last week.

The AMSOIL Snocross Race Team visited Two Harbors High School last Wednesday, November 22nd, bringing their race trailer along with snowmobile and UTV racing equipment. As part of that visit, the team awarded the scholarship.

"Brandon has a great sense of people, he knows what he wants to do and he has great people skills.," stated Mike Fitzpatrick, shop instructor. Fitzpatrick says that race team owner Steve Scheuring enjoys bringing this event to Two Harbors because of the enthusiastic reception he gets in showcasing his equipment and message there. Tickets to the AMSOIL Championship Snocross event at Spirit Mountain were also given out to many lucky students.

Owned by Steve Scheuring of

Aurora, and ranked one of the top ten teams in the world, the national snowmobile racing team's key sponsors are AMSOIL and the U.S. Air Force. Scheuring encourages the THHS small engine's and woodshop classes to explore their future employment options in applying technology to jobs like racing.

With SD cards in on-board computers of the snow machines that his team races, Scheuring says that GPS data on performance during a race, such as rpm's, can help them make slight adjustments to a clutch or carburetor. "Using cutting edge technology to give our drivers a second's advantage could win a race.," said Scheuring.

By sponsoring the snowmobile racing team, the Air Force recruiter with the 343rd Recruiting Squadron working out of Duluth takes the opportunity to be in touch with potential recruits, hoping to bring in innovative students to work in technological careers with the Air Force.