

## From the Mailbag

The entire Stein Hospice staff in Georgetown has given my father, Luther, the absolutely best care that I could ever ask for. The staff are professional and courteous. When I leave him and go home I know that my father is being given the best care that I could ever hope for. Their compassion for my father and my family seems limitless.

*John Taylor*

I cannot begin to thank all of the STNAs for all they did for my mom, Margaret Skinn, and our family. I certainly appreciate your exceptional health skills, quick response to new situations and ability to make mom laugh. Also, thank you for helping me become a better caregiver and teaching me skills to help keep mom in her Norwalk home.

*Janine Apple*

You helped get me through the last days with my hubby Roy, especially when they called and let us know he was coming to the end. I got to be with him and talk to him and hold his hand and cuddle with him. Nothing can replace that.

*Doris Homegardner*

## Pet Expo Is Back!

"Hot dog" races, a doggy fashion show and lots of treats for all our 2- and 4-legged friends, that's what you will find – and more - at the Paws Up Pet Expo presented by the Petco Foundation.

This year Stein Hospice is holding its annual pet expo on a new date, Saturday, Aug. 24, and at a new location, the Sandusky Bay Pavilion, adjacent to Battery Park Marina. But pet owners and pets can expect lots of fun, informative and educational displays that have been the expo's trademark.

The pet expo runs from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and includes:

- microchips for \$20, which includes fitting, registration and \$10 donation to Stein
- dog art contest with washable, non-toxic paint, and prizes
- doggy fashion show and contest
- lots of food vendors
- a special race for the dachshunds in attendance



The expo will also feature Paws Up, our volunteer dog owner/dog program. Paws Up teams visit patients in their homes, nursing facilities and the Ohio Veterans Home, bringing smiles and comfort to patients, families and staff. Consider joining our team. For more information about Paws Up, and Pet Expo vendor and sponsorship opportunities contact Angie Esposito, 800-625-5269 or [aesposito@steinhospice.org](mailto:aesposito@steinhospice.org)



## Help Us Recruit Volunteers

Stein Hospice is looking for additional volunteers and those of you reading this article are our best source of advertisement.

As family members, volunteers and supporters, you understand the value and need for compassionate men and women to visit our patients. You also know how rewarding this experience can be. If you are not a volunteer, consider joining this tremendous team. Tell your family members, friends and neighbors about this opportunity. If you are a member of a church or civic organization, contact us for flyers to distribute.

Our next LifeCourse™ training class starts in September at two locations. For flyers, or more information contact Sue Laeng, Volunteer Facilitator, 800-625-5269, [slaeng@steinhospice.org](mailto:slaeng@steinhospice.org)

Firelands Regional Medical Center – South Campus  
1912 Hayes Ave., Sandusky – 3rd Floor Conference Room  
Sept. 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 – 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Fisher-Titus Medical Center  
272 Benedict Ave., Norwalk – Conference Room 3  
Sept. 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 – 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.



#### MEDICAL DIRECTORS

James Preston, DO  
Andrew Ache, MD  
Reagan Bristol, DO  
Christina Canfield, MD  
Dennis Furlong, DO  
Todd Keller, MD

Michael McHenry, MD  
Charyse McMillion, DO  
Edward Radatz, DO  
Larry Robinson, DO  
Sara Snyder, DO  
Todd Williams, MD

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Rev. M. Webster Maughan, *Staff Development Director*  
Ann Davis, LPN, LMT, *Comfort Care Director*

#### STEIN HOSPICE

*Mission Statement: To provide comfort, compassion and support during life's final journey.*

#### LOCATIONS

**Administrative Office**  
Sandusky  
1200 Sycamore Line  
Sandusky, Ohio 44870  
419-625-5269  
1-800-625-5269

**Stein Hospice Care Center**  
Firelands Regional Medical  
Center South Campus  
1912 Hayes Ave., 3rd Floor  
Sandusky, Ohio  
419-558-4164  
1-866-230-7597

**Norwalk**  
257 Benedict Ave., Suite B  
Norwalk, Ohio 44857  
419-663-3222

**Tiffin**  
100 Madison St.  
Tiffin, Ohio 44883  
419-447-0475

**Port Clinton**  
1848 E. Harbor Road  
Port Clinton, Ohio 43452  
419-732-1787

**Lorain**  
4000 Oberlin Ave., Suite 4  
Lorain, Ohio 44053  
440-282-3939

**Ohio Veterans Home**  
3416 Columbus Ave.  
Sandusky, OH 44870  
419-625-2454 ext. 1373

**Ohio Veterans Home**  
2003 Veterans Blvd.  
Georgetown, OH 45121  
937-378-2900 ext. 2760

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## GO GREEN

Help Stein Hospice save money and care for the environment by receiving "In Touch" electronically. Just contact Molly Kavanaugh, mkavanaugh@steinhospice.org, 800-625-5269 and include both your email and mailing address. We will not distribute your email address or use it for any other purpose. "In Touch" is published every two months and is also available online at [www.steinhospice.org](http://www.steinhospice.org).



Jan Bucholz,  
Chief Executive Officer

## Message from Chief Executive Officer

This spring, my staff and I had the privilege of being with and learning more about the brave men and women who gave so unselfishly in the service of our country. The occasion was the award-winning documentary "Honor Flight." Stein sponsored five screenings of the movie, held at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky and the Lorain Palace Theater.

The enthusiastic patriotic response from the audiences was incredible. The movie chronicles the touching story of World War II Veterans traveling to Washington, D.C. to tour the memorials. Many Veterans in the crowds had been on Honor Flight and wore T-shirts and caps from their trip. Other Veterans brought military memorabilia, photographs and discharge papers to share.

Tears were shed and the audience cheered and stood at the end of each screening. Afterwards, students from Perkins High School and Open Door Christian School in Elyria stayed to reminisce with World War II Veterans.

In all, more than 2,000 people attended the screenings, made possible by our partnerships with the Ohio Veterans Home and Lorain Palace Theater, and support from United States Steel Corporation Lorain Tubular Operations, Morning Journal, Lake Screen Printing, Bobel's Office Plus, VFW Mullen Murray Post 451, Lorain Veteran Council, French Creek Family YMCA and Stein Hospice board member Marcia Goff.

This fall, we plan to show the movie in Southern Ohio, so Veterans and residents of Brown County and the surrounding area will have an opportunity to learn more about this inspiring nationwide initiative to transport, for free, World War II Veterans to DC.

Many of the Veterans at the movie told us they had never been thanked for their service until hearing it that day, and were moved, some to tears, by the experience. On page 3, read more about the healing power of thanking a Veteran. What a simple thing each of us can do. Please join all of us at Stein Hospice and say "Thank You" to every Veteran you meet.

With love and respect,



# We Salute Our Veterans

## Love In Lorain

A nickname and a photograph. The city of Lorain, where a young woman worked and a lonely World War II sailor called home. Boy, does Dick Williams have a story to tell you.

Dick was stationed on a fuel tanker off Puget Sound when he received a letter from a woman he did not know, living in his hometown Lorain. The letter writer was a friend of Dick's cousin and wrote as a favor to the cousin, who was behind in her correspondence. Dick doesn't remember much about the letter, except that it was signed "Ginny."

"I fell in love with that name, it was so beautiful," he says.

He wrote back to Ginny, and asked her to send a picture of herself. When that letter arrived, he was really smitten. "I'm going home and marry that girl," Dick told his buddies.

A few months later Dick was transferred to Philadelphia, and given a 30-day leave before he had to report. He arrived home, called Ginny and said he would pick her up at 7 p.m. She had a date.

"Well break it," he told her.

Seven days later there was an engagement ring on Ginny's finger. The young couple married two weeks later.



The Amherst couple celebrated their 68th anniversary in April, and a lifetime of loving memories. They have two children, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Dick was a barber and owner of Dick's Barber Shop in Amherst, Virginia, who rarely went by her nickname of "Ginny," worked at Ridge Tool Co. After they retired, they traveled to Hawaii and other spots.

A few years ago Virginia was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and is now a Stein Hospice patient. She lives at home, cared for by her 90-year-old husband.

He's changed wallets over the years, but not the photograph he carries of his beloved Ginny, the one she sent him so many years ago.

"There isn't a better woman," he says.

## Thanking a Veteran

*When Margaretta's eighth grade class headed to Washington, D.C. this spring, Stein Hospice wanted to help students reach out to Veterans. Stein Hospice gave students "Thank you for your service" bracelets, and asked them to hand the bracelets out to Veterans they met on their trip. Noah Esposito, 14-year-old son of a Stein Hospice employee, shared his experience with us when he got back.*

I was in a gift shop and saw a man with a hat that said "Marines." I went up and said "Excuse me sir, have you served in the military?" He turned to me and said, "Yes I have." I told him "Thank you for your service," and proceeded to give him

the bracelet. The veteran said "No you keep it," I said "But sir it's for you." The man gave it back and asked me if I knew why he served. I was puzzled. "I want you to keep the bracelet to remember I served for you, and for your family to be free and safe today." That brought a tear to my eye. I wiped my eyes and he hugged me.

The next veteran I thanked was at the Vietnam wall. As we were leaving I spotted a veteran and went over to thank him. Something was different about this man; unlike the others he had a hat on that said "Vietnam veteran." I asked if he served in the military and he said yes, then I asked if he served in Vietnam, and he said he had. "Welcome home," I said. He said that when he got home he had never heard anyone say that to him. He began to tear up, and then I felt bad. It turns out he was crying from happiness because I was the first one to welcome him home. That experience made me realize how important it is to welcome home a Vietnam veteran.

Thanking a veteran has changed the way I look at the people who serve our country. Before my school trip to Washington, D.C., I had never thanked a veteran, doing it for the first time made me nervous, but it turned out to be a great feeling. From now on when I see a veteran I will be sure to thank him or her. Thanking a veteran to me is a great feeling that will always stay with me, and I will encourage everyone to say "Thank you" to a veteran.





# Our Living Tree

When family and friends visit the Stein Hospice Care Center, one of the first things they see when they exit the elevator is a 6-foot high, gold-leafed tree affixed to a wall. From a distance the artwork looks shiny and attractive, but a closer look reveals its true meaning.

The Living Tree blooms with engraved messages of love and loss, memories and musings. Located on the third floor of Firelands Regional Medical Center South Campus, the tree was erected at the Care Center six years ago as a way to support the continued growth and development of the center. About half of the 200 leaves have been purchased by family and friends to remember and honor loved ones.



"A Hearty Laugh, One of a Kind," reads the leaf Rhoda Taylor bought in memory of her husband, Robert, who died at the center in 2007.

"Bob had a great laugh, very pronounced. Friends would tell us, 'Oh we heard Bob at the theater,'" Rhoda said. "The leaf is a wonderful memory."

Kay Siegel's father Paul was a carpenter, who often said "Measure twice, cut once." Now a leaf bears his quote. "It made us smile and we hope it might make others smile," Kay said.

When an engraved leaf is ready to be placed on the tree, family, friends and staff often gather around the tree for a brief ceremony.

In early May, Tom Halbisen's family was on hand to honor the 51-year-old Lakeside man, who died at the center in March. Tom's sister Sue found comfort from the tree when Tom was sick, and thought it would be a good way to remember a man who loved the outdoors. Family and friends agreed, and donated money toward a leaf.

At the leaf ceremony, led by Chaplain David Clarke, family members smiled as they told stories about Tom, one of eight children who made his living as a marine mechanic. When he wasn't working on boats, he was out on the water fishing, jet skiing or just enjoying the open air. Tom's wife Mary affixed the leaf as family members took pictures of The Living Tree.

*A leaf may be purchased for \$500. Also, one of the six footers at the base of The Living Tree is still available for \$10,000. For more information and to view a sample leaf, visit [www.steinhospice.org](http://www.steinhospice.org) and click on donations, or contact the development department, 800-625-5269.*



## Georgetown Concert

At the monthly Concert on the Square, Stein Hospice set up an informational table to let concert-goers know about Stein's services available at both the Ohio Veterans Home and throughout the Brown County community. Thanks to Teresa Johnson, nurse and clinical supervisor, and Kelly Raleigh, daughter of nurse Sandy Schrouf, pictured here, and Sandy Schrouf and chaplain Vernon Green.



## Perch Derby

The 14th annual Perch Derby brought dozens of anglers and diners to Kelleys Island on June 3. Thanks to the Caddy Shack, Bret and Lynn Maiers and all the businesses on the island and mainland that helped raise money for Stein Hospice and the Kelleys Island School Scholarship Fund.



## Veteran Health Fair

Thanks to our Veterans and community vendors who attended our 2nd annual Veteran Health and Information Fair, hosted by the Ohio Veterans Home. We are also grateful for the support from our sponsors Kaiser Wells Pharmacy & Homecare and VFW Charities of Ohio, Elyria.





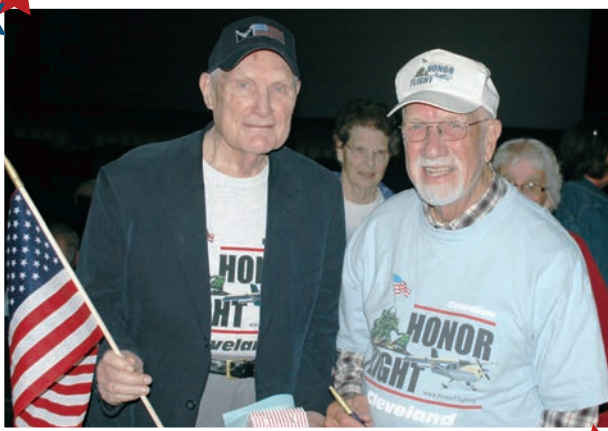
### 2013 Patriot Tour

In May, when motorcyclists with the annual Patriot Tour passed through Sandusky, Stein Hospice was at the Mad River Harley-Davidson to honor the Veterans. Julie Yeager, Veteran Services Director, pinned dozens of Veteran motorcyclists over two days as they gathered to welcome the flag bearer and then escort the flag bearer to the next Ohio stop. As part of the tour, one U.S. flag is escorted by motorcyclists through 48 states in 100 days.



### Family Affair

About 75 bicyclists enjoyed a leisurely Sunday morning bike ride and lunch at the EHOVE Career Center, thanks to the generosity of the Bob Langenfelder family. Bob's mother Donna was a patient and Bob and his family, avid bicyclists, wanted to support Stein Hospice with an annual bike ride.



### Honor Flight in Lorain

The Lorain Palace Theater was a sea of red, white and blue May 28, as Veterans, family members and friends filled the theater to watch the award-winning documentary "Honor Flight." A special Thank You to our generous donors: Lorain Palace Theater, United States Steel Corporation Lorain Tubular Operations, Morning Journal, Lake Screen Printing, Bobel's Office Plus, VFW Mullen Murray Post 451 and Lorain Veteran Council.



### Memorial 5K

The downtown streets of Sandusky were filled with runners, walkers, dogs and strollers on June 29 for the annual Stein Hospice Memorial 5K Run. The crowd of nearly 200 also included about 10 Perkins Township firefighters running in fire garb. The Coach Chris Smith Team Trophy went for the second year to the Smith family/Perkins High School team. Runners were treated to chair massages, courtesy of massage therapy students from EHOVE. A special thank you to race sponsor NOMS Healthcare.

### Pyrate Run

About 75 pirates and their mates rose early on July 1 to run around Put-in-Bay, eye patches and beads optional. The Pyrate Run 5K, sponsored by Stein Hospice, was part of the island's annual 4-day Pyrate Fest. Awards were given for best dressed pirate, and, of course, fastest runners. Thanks to our sponsors: Boardwalk Family of Restaurants, Boathouse Bar and Grille, Miller Boat Line, Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau, Frosty's, Put-in-Bay Brewing Co., and Mossback's Island Bar & Grill.





# Staff Spotlight



## ROBIN BAUM

Soon after Robin Baum was hired as a receptionist, a woman called to thank Stein Hospice for the care provided to her relative. Soon the woman burst into tears. Robin consoled the woman, and offered to have a counselor call. No need to, thanks for listening, the woman said.

For nearly nine years Robin has been doing just that, while answering calls with a pleasant voice and calm demeanor. "Listening is the most important thing I do," she says.

Robin is one of three receptionists and with backup provided by the medical records department, phone calls are answered within three rings. Even with all that help, it's not unusual for Robin to be juggling several calls at a time.

Robin said two experiences groomed her for the hectic job. Her father was chairman of the American Red Cross in Sandusky and as a teenager Robin often accompanied him to fires and other situations requiring first aid. She would listen to the CB radio and follow the fast-paced activity. Later, she worked as a switchboard operator at Fisher-Titus Medical Center.

Hospice care, though, was a new experience for her, but she quickly learned by, once again, listening. She and her mother took the LifeCourse™ volunteer training class together in 2005, and they both became volunteers. When her mother-in-law and then her mother became hospice patients, her understanding of both hospice and death deepened.

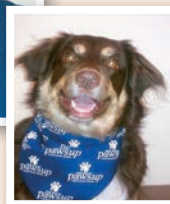
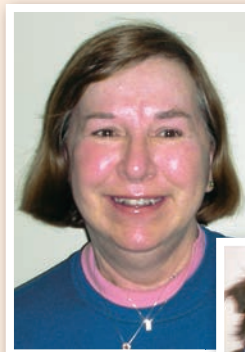
"I was able to stay with my mom and share her journey. She told me she saw my deceased dad and I heard her talking to people who had died. It was awesome," she said.

As for that phone call years ago from the grieving woman, Robin got off the phone, shed a few tears of her own and realized answering the phone at Stein Hospice was where she was meant to be.

Robin and her husband Jeff live in Sandusky. The couple has three children and two grandchildren.

# Volunteer Focus

## Nancy Denslow and Rusty



Rusty did not make a good first impression. "He was a mess. He was mad and he stunk and his coat was all matted," said Nancy Denslow, who met Rusty while transporting Australian Shepherd rescue dogs to foster homes.

Nancy and her husband Thomas weren't planning to adopt Rusty but "he kind of wormed his way into our hearts."

Now, 3 years later, Rusty makes a terrific first impression. Nancy and Rusty are Paws Up volunteers for Stein Hospice, visiting patients at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. Rusty also competes in agility and obedience, volunteers for children's hour at the Vermilion library and does sheepherding at a farm in Nova. The 72-pound dog is certified through Therapy Dogs International.

"He's an all-around dog. He gets along with everyone – dogs and people," said Nancy, a retired postal carrier in Vermilion.

Nancy decided to become a hospice volunteer, in part, because of her parents' experiences. Her mother, who died before hospice care was available, lay in a hospital bed with terminal colon cancer, surrounded by people unable to admit she was dying. Nancy's father spent his last days in a hospice room, telling stories about his childhood. A recliner was brought into his room so Nancy could spend the night.

The difference was dramatic, and Nancy figured she and Rusty would be a welcome addition to hospice care. She chose OVH because of her strong patriotism. "I grew up in the Vietnam era; I saw how they were treated when they came home. I figured I could give those guys an hour or so of my time. I don't think the U.S. can do enough for their Vets," she said. Both her husband and brother are Veterans.

Nancy also helps out with Stein's special events, like the "Honor Flight" movie screenings this spring, the annual clay shoot in Clyde and the Pet Expo in August. *(See page 1 for more details.)*

She and her husband of 20 years plan to do more traveling once they no longer have to take care of "Junior," their 30-year-old horse. The couple has 2 other Aussies besides Rusty and 2 cats, all rescue animals.

## Georgetown Volunteers

Volunteers at the Ohio Veterans Home in Georgetown gathered this spring for an appreciation dinner. This team may be small, but they are big in the hours donated and kindness shown to our patients and families.



# Calendar of Events

## July



### Camp Good Grief

July 8-12

Lakeview Park, Port Clinton

July 22-26

West Park, Elyria

Day camp (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) for children ages 5 to 13 facing any grief-related loss. To register, call Hope Seavers, 800-625-5269 or hseavers@steinhospice.org

### Open Labyrinth Walk

Monday, July 8

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Community Room, Firelands Regional Medical Center, South Campus, Sandusky

### Lorain County Ribbon Cutting & Open House

Wednesday, July 10

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

4000 Oberlin Ave., Lorain

### 9th Annual Sporting Clay Shoot

Sunday, July 14

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WR Hunt Club, Clyde

Cost \$80 per shooter, includes Pig Roast

### Reiki II

Friday, July 19 or Saturday, July 20

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky

Cost \$75. Contact Rachel Berry, rberry@steinhospice.org, 800-625-5269

## August

### Camp Good Grief

August 5-9

Veterans Memorial Lake Park, Norwalk  
(see July listing)



### CIC Tailgate

Wednesday, August 7

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Catawba Island Club

Cost \$90 (includes food, drinks and OSU Pep Band performance)

### Open Labyrinth Walk

Monday, August 12

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Community Room, Firelands Regional Medical Center, South Campus, Sandusky

### Reiki III

Friday, August 16 or

Saturday, August 17

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

1200 Sycamore Line, Sandusky

Cost \$75. Contact Rachel Berry,

rberry@steinhospice.org, 800-625-5269

### Paws Up Pet Expo

presented by the Petco Foundation

Saturday, August 24

12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Sandusky Bay Pavilion



### Eagle Creek Golf Outing

Wednesday, August 28

1 p.m. start

Eagle Creek Golf Course, Norwalk

Cost \$200 per golfer

## Stein Staff in the News

Darrell Gant has been making an impact in his hometown of Sandusky for more than 20 years, and this spring he was recognized for those efforts. The National Council of Negro Women Sandusky Section honored Darrell and eight other men and women with the 2013 Community Impact Award for their dedication and service to the community. Darrell is a part-time chaplain with Stein Hospice and senior pastor at Eagle Nest Church International in Sandusky. He also volunteers with Kairos and Torch, two organizations that visit state prisons to share God's word with incarcerated men. Darrell is married and the father of four children.



For the past four years, Stein Hospice Medical Director Dr. James Preston volunteered as clinical director for a start-up community health agency in Erie County that serves low income residents. He reviewed policies, applied for pharmacy, laboratory and other licenses and oversaw all the medical care. The agency, now known as Family Health Services of Erie County, recently hired a clinical director, but not without first honoring Dr. Preston for his selfless commitment and dedication. "If Dr. Preston had not volunteered for us when he did, we would not have been able to move forward as a medical center," said Wilson Forney, the agency's CEO.



Dr. Melissa McLean Bullock joins the Stein Hospice medical staff on July 1 for a one-year position as a hospice and palliative fellow.

Through a partnership with Stein Hospice and Firelands Regional Medical Center, Dr. Bullock will work with hospice and palliative patients at the Stein Hospice Care Center, the Firelands hospital and in nursing facilities and private homes. Dr. Bullock received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her post-graduate education at Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center in Toledo.







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## SUPPORT GROUPS

All groups are free and available to anyone in the community whether or not they have had previous involvement with Stein Hospice. For more information contact Hope Seavers, Bereavement Care Liaison 800-625-5269 or [hseavers@steinhospice.org](mailto:hseavers@steinhospice.org)

### Adult Support Groups:

- **Serenity Seekers:** for the loss of any adult loved one.
- **Healing Hearts:** for graduates of Serenity Seekers.
- **Compassionate Friends:** for adults who have experienced the loss of a child.
- **A New Dawn:** for adult survivors of divorce.
- **A New Day:** for graduates of A New Dawn.
- **With the Guys:** for adult men who have lost a loved one.
- **Rain's End:** for adults who have lost a loved one through suicide.
- **Clear Skies:** for graduates of Rain's End.
- **M.I.S.S. You:** for parents who are grieving loss through miscarriage, infant death and stillbirth.
- **In It Together:** for families who have a loved one in the military and deployed. Contact Kim Gentzel, 419-750-0642.

### Adult Social Event Groups:

- **Bunch for Lunch:** Potluck 12 p.m., first Monday of month, at Stein Hospice, 1200 Sycamore Line.
- **Sandusky Yacht Club Lunch Bunch:** 12 p.m., third Wednesday of month. 529 E. Water St., Sandusky.

- **Huggers and Munchers:** 5 p.m., second Tuesday of month, at different restaurants.
- **Healing Hearts Lunch Bunch:** 12 p.m., first Wednesday of month, at Berry's Restaurant 15 W. Main St., Norwalk.

### Children and Adolescent Support Groups:

- **Recovery Riders:** for children ages 7-12 who have lost a loved one through death.
- **R.U.O.K:** for adolescents ages 13-18 who have lost a loved one through death.
- **Tough Cookies:** for children ages 7-12 who have had a loss through separation/divorce, a temporary or permanent placement out of their home or parents/caretakers who have been incarcerated.
- **Next Step:** for adolescents ages 13-18 who have had a loss through separation/divorce, a temporary or permanent placement out of their home or parents/caretakers who have been incarcerated.
- **Club USA:** for children ages 7-12 who have a loved one in the military who has been deployed.
- **Camp Good Grief:** a weeklong summer day camp for children ages 5-13, held in several local parks.