

Hospice hosts wild game spring dinner

If you're interested in a spring-time feast of fresh Michigan game, reserve your tickets now for the second annual Hospice Foundation benefit Wild Game Dinner and Wildlife Art Show and Auction. This year's event "Spring Feast," will begin at 6 p.m., Thursday, March 19, at Detroit's Austin Hall, 18000 E. Warren at Mack. Dinner will be served at 7:30 and the art show, auction, drawings and raffish will run throughout the evening.

The appetizer menu will feature a gourmet cheese and fruit extravaganza, duck liver pate, fresh Lake Huron poached salmon and a spring vegetable crudite. This should wet the palate for the main meal, Parissienne cream of asparagus soup, a fresh medley of green garden vegetables with a raspberry vinaigrette dressing, young spring Michigan pheasant with apple chardonnay sauce, sauteed new garden pea pods with fresh mushrooms and dilled new potatoes. For dessert, key lime mousse with freshly whipped cream will be featured.

Chairpersons for this year's event are Dr. and Mrs. Harry Shecter of Farmington Hills and Mr. and Mrs. John F. Staub of

Grosse Pointe. Gary Cumberley, host of Channel 2's "Sunday Magazine" will emcee throughout the evening.

Tax deductible tickets are \$50 per person and must be obtained in advance. Those wishing to attend "Spring Feast" should make checks payable to Hospice Foundation of Southeastern Michigan and send to the Hospice Foundation, 23100 Providence, Suite 472, Southfield 48075. Tickets also may be charged by calling Pam DeSantis at 755-2300.

The Hospice Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 to raise the additional funds necessary to support Hospice of Southeastern Michigan's programs of care for terminally ill patients and their families.

Hospice of Southeastern Michigan, founded in 1980, is recognized as one of the top five hospice programs in the U.S. It has been designated as one of only four Training and Education Centers worldwide by the International Hospice Institute headquartered in Washington, D.C. Since its inception it has cared for more than 4,000 terminally ill patients and their families, said Ronald Streitz Jr., Hospice Foundation executive director.

Death: Ultimate kind of healing

PEOPLE OF faith pray for those who are sick. Clergy spend a good portion of their efforts visiting the sick and dying.

Yet most people of faith, including clergy, are ambivalent about this area of life.

A young priest was visiting a man in the hospital who was sinking closer and closer to death. He returned to his parish and shared a difficulty with a fellow priest. "How can I pray for healing for this man when I know he is dying?"

The older priest replied, "You pray for healing, and your prayer gradually becomes a prayer for that which is our ultimate healing."

Elizabeth Kohler Ross would agree with the older priest. She sees a healing in the need to take away the fear of death. She also sees healing in helping a person complete unfinished business before they die.

THERE IS still much ambivalence in our approach to healing. We believe we are whole persons, yet we fear the task of healing over to professionals.

Too often we fail to see healing as something a person does within the self, assisted by medical science. Too often we go to doctors and assume that they can "fix" us up like a mechanic would fix an automobile. Albert Schweitzer once said that the task of the physician is to help a person find the "doctor which is within them." Healing comes from within and is assisted from without.

WE ARE ambivalent first because we fail to grasp how we are connected one with another. We are not as separate as we think we are.

Prayer is one way we connect. Touch is one way we connect. Helping with the depression which often comes in sickness is another way we connect.

Yet we find it hard to grasp how connected we are. A person may feel the most estranged from others when sick.

Often sick people isolate themselves from family and familiar surroundings by going to a hospital.



moral perspectives

Rev. David Strong

WE ARE ambivalent about faith and healing for another reason. We fear the excesses.

A MAN in our congregation brought me a photo. The picture was of white indistinct forms against gray and blue. He explained that it was a photo taken of clouds from an airplane. "Look closer," he said.

Then I saw the fuzzy image of what appeared to be a person in white robes with arms outstretched. For some it is an image of Jesus in the clouds. For others it is simply a trick of clouds and camera.

Television healers who promise everything is possible in an instant

confuse us. We do not want to be taken in and deceived. Yet the mystery remains.

A THIRD problem we face is that the very people who help us when we seek healing — physicians — avoid dealing with the connections of body, mind and spirit. Nurses are more apt to encourage prayer and visitation than doctors.

I have asked doctors what they believe about healing. They usually either say they do not know or they launch into a biochemical dissertation.

I remember visiting a physician who had a very virulent cancer.

Understandably he was frightened. The only way he could talk about himself when I visited was in textbook terms I could barely comprehend.

Those who teach medical students tell me that the problem is getting worse. Most young physicians are taking a mechanical view of healing.

GRADUALLY WE will come to understand what healing means in a wholistic sense. Eventually we will grasp how connected we are.

We will discover that healing is an ongoing process that draws upon faith and interdependence.

Just as in manufacturing automobiles we are being forced to acknowledge that the attitudes of the workers affect the final product, we will be led to discover the wholeness and interconnectedness of healing.

The Rev. David Strong is the pastor of St. Matthew United Methodist Church in Livonia.

MADD will solicit funds

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) in Michigan is conducting its first-ever telephone fund drive to support its increased activities, according to drive chairman Beverly Goodman of Midland.

During the next few months, calls will be made to most households in outstate Michigan counties requesting tax-deductible donations.

MADD will give each donor a cookbook of recipes from newspaper food editors across the United States.

Telephone solicitors making calls

are licensed by the state of Michigan for this campaign, she said.

MADD's two objectives are to provide emotional support to surviving victims of drunk and drugged driving crashes, and to remove impaired drivers from the road through increased public awareness, education and more effective handling of cases in the court systems.

Its education efforts have included "Project Graduation," New Year's Eve "Life Ride" (free taxis), student poster and essay contests, and annual Candlelight Vigils.

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