#### September 2013



# INFANTS REMEMBERED IN SILENCE

# Whispers of the Heart Newsletter

218 NW 3rd Ave Faribault, MN 55021 Phone: (507) 334-4748 e-mail: support@irisRemembers.com www.irisRemembers.org

Offering parents, families, friends and professionals support, education and resources on the death of a child in early pregnancy, or from premature birth, stillbirth, neo-natal death, birth defects, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), illness, accidents, and all other types of infant and early childhood death

#### Founded in 1987

#### 2013 Board Members

Leif and Natalie Crooks - Faribault Denise Gillen - Faribault Anna Kettering - Faribault Allyn & Deanna Kuennen - Northfield Chris Petricka - Kenyon Michelle Priebe - Waseca Joshua & Devan Willour - Owatonna

#### Founder and **Executive Director**

Diana Sundwall

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# A New Home for IRIS

A Very Special Thank You to Anna (IRIS Board President) and Dick Kettering of Kettering Properties. **Kettering Properties** has purchased this breathtaking home and IRIS is purchasing from them at the same price. In our future lies a wonderful capital campaign.

Some of you have been asking for a little info on this beautiful house. The house was built in the 1920s as the parsonage for the Congregational Church that is located across the street. The Congregational Parish Hall, also known as "The Congo", is right next door to the IRIS House.

The house has an insulated unfinished basement with a new furnace and air-



218 Third Ave. NW Faribault, MN 55021

conditioning. The main floor has a kitchen, dining room, living room, office, and sun room. The upstairs has 4 large rooms, a sun room, and access to the walk up attic. There are two full baths and a half bath that is ADA compliant.

The New IRIS House was in need of some tender loving care including yard work, painting, and a "good cleaning" from top to bottom. Thanks to the assistance of IRIS families and community members, we are well on our way to restoring this Grand IRIS Home.

# **IRIS Open House** 218 Third Ave. NW, Faribault MN Sunday, October 13, 2013

Our Open House will begin with a private gathering for the Congregational Parish members from 11 a.m. to noon following their church service.

An Open House for IRIS parents, family, friends, and the general public will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Please plan to join us for a tour of the IRIS House and refreshments.

#### **TIME CAPSULE:**

You are encouraged to bring an item in memory of your child to place in the IRIS Time Capsule. This Time Capsule will be secured within the wall of our beautiful new location.

For more information please call us at 507-334-4748 or e-mail us at: support@irisremembers.org

### After the Worst Has Happened -Author Unknown

After the worst has happened, with nothing left to fear, the sun continues shining with undiminished cheer, and winds continue blowing and skies continue fair, as hearts continue bearing the thing they could not bear.

# A Breath of Spring Air

By Stephanie Klepacki

Our baby, Michelle Ann, due to be born in the spring came too soon instead. Unable to take her first and only breath of air, God saved her from despair. What followed were many days of tears and pain, then Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year came. 1994 was gone, and with it, so was my baby girl. But with the New Year came new hope, and with each day, it became easier to cope. Now spring is here, and with each new life that breathes the air. I know that Michelle Ann is there.

# **Support Group Meetings:**

**Midday Meetings** are held the second Wednesday of the month from 11 am -1 pm

**Evening Meetings** are held the fourth Tuesday of the month from 7—8 pm

All IRIS Support Group Meetings are held at the IRIS House.

### The IRIS Board of Directors



The IRIS Board of Directors would like to thank two of our outgoing members. After many years of dedicated service, Margaret Walker and Katie Raidt have left

the IRIS board but will remain as IRIS Volunteers. Margaret and Katie have dedicated many hours of service to Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. Their generous service to the board will be greatly missed. On behalf of the IRIS Board, IRIS Parents, IRIS Advocates, and IRIS Volunteers we wish to say a sincere and heartfelt Thank You to both Margaret and Katie!

#### **New IRIS Board Members**



Welcome Devan and Joshua Willour of Owatonna, MN who joined the IRIS Board of Directors in October of 2012.

# **Applications for Membership**

The IRIS Board of Directors is currently accepting applications for membership. Board meetings are held quarterly at the IRIS House. Do you have a skill or talent that you think would be an asset to the board and IRIS organization? Consider joining us. Send your cover letter to:

IRIS Attn: Anna Kettering 218 3rd Ave NW Faribault, MN 55021



One caring heart ...

can make a difference.



# IRIS Advocate Training Conference

With the support of Cities 97 Radio – Cities Sampler CD Sales and a gift from the Legacy of Angels, IRIS was able to hold the first Advocate Training Conference at the Gainey Conference Center in Owatonna MN. The October 2012 conference had a goal to train 20 New IRIS Advocates from across the United States to assist parents at the time of their child's death. "We far exceeded our expectations!" said Diana Sundwall; IRIS Executive Director.

The weekend training was attended by 23 women from Brandon, Burnsville, Duluth, Faribault, Medford, New Prague, Owatonna, Waseca, and Waterville MN. Out of state attendees were from Merritt Island FL, Lansing IA, Decatur TX, and Hustisford WI.

Participants learned what these precious children may look like, how to take hand and foot prints, how to create beautiful sculptures/castings, how to bathe and dress the infants, how to talk to parents, state rules/laws, religious aspects to loss, and more. If you would like more information about the next IRIS Advocate Training or would like to add your name to the waiting list please contact the IRIS office at (507) 334-4748 or by e-mail at: support@irisRemembers.com



# **Upcoming Events**

# Annual Balloon Release Sunday, October 6, 2013

Infants Remembered In Silence would like to invite you, your family, and friends to our 11th Annual Pot-



luck and Balloon Release at Kinder Park. Kinder Park (the IRIS Park) is located at the corner of 17th St. and 24th Ave in NW Faribault, MN.

The Potluck will begin at noon, please bring a dish to pass and lawn chairs. Plates, napkins, silver-

ware, and bottled water will be provided.

The Balloon Release will follow at 2:00 p.m. Please bring your own latex balloon(s) to release. Mylar (foil) balloons do not work well, are bad for the environment, and are not usually found. Be sure to order your balloons early and place tags on them at home or use the tags provided by IRIS.

#### Wave of Light for October 15th

Everyone is invited to light a candle on October 15th at 7pm in ALL Time Zones, ALL Over The World

If everyone lights at candle at 7pm and keeps it burning for at least one hour, there will be a continuous WAVE OF LIGHT over the entire world on October 15th, Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance: Day

This Candle Burns In Loving Memory of Our Babies

@ www.october15th.com



# Memorial Gathering Silent Vigil Lantern Lighting

**Tuesday, October 15, 2013**Time: 6 — 8 pm

IRIS House 218 3rd Avenue NW, Faribault, MN

Create a memorial lantern in memory of your child by decorating a white paper lunch bag or similar bag. You can pick one up at the IRIS House anytime before the event or decorate one from 6 — 7 pm on the 15th.

If you are unable to join us, feel free to decorate a bag and mail it to: 218 Third Ave NW Faribault MN, 55021.

We would be honored to light your lantern for you.

In conjunction with other candle lighting events held around the world on October 15th, we will light the candles in the Lanterns from 7 - 8 pm.

# Little Black Dress Vintage Flair Affair Saturday, November 16, 2013

Event is taking place at the Monterey Ballroom in Owatonna with dinner, entertainment, raffle, and a dance. Limited tickets remain.

Time: 5 pm — Cocktail Hour 6:30 pm — Dinner

9 pm — Dance



This ladies-only event is an evening to get all dressed up in your favorite Little Black Dress and accessorize with vintage items to benefit IRIS and The Steele County Clothesline. For more information on the event please visit their Facebook page link under "Upcoming Events" on our website.



# 5th Annual IRIS Turkey Trot

Thanksgiving Morning, Thursday, November 28, 2013

...rain or shine or snow...

Faribault Middle School—704 17th Street SW Faribault, MN

\*NEW\* Early Check-in, November 27th, 4:30 — 6 pm "OR"

Day of Check-in and On-site Registration 7 am — 8 am

**Event Times:** 

8 am — Tot Trot and Gobble Wobble 8:30 am— 5K/10K Chip Timed Runs and 5K Walk For Registration Information visit: <a href="https://www.irisRemembers.org">www.irisRemembers.org</a>

Register by November 10th to guarantee your long-sleeved T-shirt!

100% of funds raised will be used to support the IRIS programs.



IRIS would like to invite you, your family, and friends to our

20th Annual Holiday Service of Remembrance

Sunday, December 1, 2013
Chapel of the Good Shepherd
Shattuck Campus
1000 Shumway Ave.
Faribault MN
2:00 pm

Please watch for more information and registration options for this touching annual service.



# **Capital Campaign Donation**

♥ Boldt Funeral Home \$2,000



# Thank You for the Donation in Honor of

- In honor of Flynn Henry Walker's birthday From Great Grandma (Eleanor Raidt)
- Sheri Velishek, David Schwartz, Nancy Culhane From Morristown School Personnel
- Mom (Eleanor Raidt)
   Margaret & JD Walker



### **IRIS Wish List**

- Mailing labels (Avery 5160)
- Stamps
- Bottled water
- Donations and memorials
- Pastel cotton fabric and flannel fabric for Parent Bags
- ♥ Sewing groups and volunteers to make Parent Bags
- ♥ Baby Bath (sample/travel size)
- ♥ Puff/Kleenex (non-lotion)
- ♥ Volunteers for the Balloon Release on Oct. 6th
- Volunteers for the Silent Viail on Oct. 15th
- Volunteers for the Turkey Trot on Nov. 28th
- ♥ Volunteers for the Holiday Service on Dec. 1st
- Fall memorial planting
- Volunteers for do fall yard work
- Volunteers to do snow removal

# United Way Contributions 2012-2013



	Northfield Area United Way	\$2,000.00
٧	United Way of Faribault	\$4,600.00
٧	Dodge County United Way	\$2,250.00
v	Waseca Area United Way	\$3,000.00





Watch for information on IRIS and Give To the Max Day! You will receive info via e-mail as well as on the IRIS Facebook Fan page and the IRIS Closed Group page. Thank you for your ongoing support of Infants Remembered In Silence, Inc. (IRIS)



Although you can not be with me, We're truly not apart, Until the final breath I take, You will be living In my heart...



### **Adults Memorials**

- Dr. Bruce Gutzmann Sheilah & Duane Luttering
- ▼ Jean Dozark Lori & Peter Dozark
- Novotny Family Members
   Shannon & Miranda Schornack
- Karen Lee Johnson
   Fr. Henry Doyle
- Dad (Jerry Raidt)Margaret & JD Walker
- God Bless the Memory of Our Friend and Family Member Jacquiline Trotman Renee & Dale Tollefson Linda & Gregory Pavek Margery Ilk

Ellen Ann & Charles Southworth Ellen & Lance Trotman

Mark KelleyHelen Kelley



#### Thank You for Your In Kind Donations

- Blankets and Hats made by members of German Lake Lutheran Church, Christy Schulz, Anna Kincade, Vivian Cripe, George Angel, & Gail Reineke
- 35 Angel Teddy Bears in memory of Gabriel, Kevin, and Elizabeth Karnick from Rachel & Dave Karnick in honor of their Birthdays and Heavenly Birthdays.
- Preemie Infant outfits in memory of Derek Joseph Sundwall from Aunt Joan and Uncle Randy Paulson
- Books for the IRIS lending library from Sharon Mangold in loving memory of her daughter, Lisa Chappuis.
- PA System, wireless mike, case and stand from Boldt Funeral Home in Faribault.
- 12 Foot Utility Trailer from Blue Sky Mechanical (Dan & Angie Neubauer) in loving memory of Joshuah Daniel Neubauer
- Prayer Shawls from Jacob Wells Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Faribault MN Prayer Shawl Ministry, Nancy Green, &Wendy Sandahl
- ♥ Monthly case of paper from Cedar Chiropractic
- Scrapbooking items from Holly Ready, Julie Vantbudt, & Heidi Lindahl
- Wooden Shaker Boxes from the Trotman family in memory of Arianna Trotman
- Weed Eater from Helen Kelley in memory of Mark Kelley
- ♥ Printer from Dean Anderson
- One month Verizon bill from Jeff Sundwall
- Postage Stamps from Fr. Henry Doyle
- ♥ T.V.s from Marilynn Baily



## Thank You for your Donation

- Brad & Trudi Connors
- Dennis & Patricia Germann
- ♥ Gregory & Nicole Zweber
- ♥ Jonathan MacDonald
- Lisa Knack
- ▼ Margo & Tom Young
- Nicole Del Castillo Dold
- Sara Jackson



### **General Donations Over \$1,000**

- ♥ ABC Bus, Inc.
- Cities 97/Clear Channel Cities 97 Sampler CD sales
- ▼ LaCannes Marine, Inc. 2012 Golf Tournament & Silent Auction
- ♥ Suzy's Smile Shines Golf Tournament

## **General Donations \$500—\$1,000**

- Church of St. Dominic, Northfield
- ▼ Faribault Area Childbirth Education Association
- Joshuah D. Neubauer Memorial Fund (Softball Tournament)
- ♥ Northfield Hospital & Clinics

#### **General Donations \$250—\$500**

- Blue Sky Mechanical
- ♥ Divine Mercy Catholic Church & School, Breath of Heaven Concert
- Gemini Inc., by Karen Ottman
- ♥ Ladies Eagles Auxiliary, Faribault

#### **General Donations Under \$250**

- ♥ Bruzek Funeral Home
- Cenneidigh, Inc.
- ♥ Peace United Methodist Church, Morristown
- ▼ Rice County Child Care Association
- ♥ St. Patrick's Church of Shieldsville CCW
- The Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour, Faribault
- ♥ Truist Donations
- Allina Health System Dollars for Doer: Starlett Thorson
- Community Shares of Minnesota-Allina: Marianne Vandereide
- Lia Sophia Jewelry: Sharon Langerfeld
- Thrivent Financial Foundation:
- Deborah Greising ▼ Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign:
- Anaid Vilchis, Emily Velishek,

  JD & Margaret Walker



# **Donations Received in Loving Memory of the Following Infants**



- Jeremiah Jonathan Simek Jenny & Keith Simek Cynthia, Paul, Brian, & Jack Tomlinson
- Anthony Michael Zimprich
   Vanessa & Jon Zimprich
   Dennis & Jean McBride
- Owen Jake Ostlund Kristin & Clay Ostlund
- Jake Michael Schaffran
   Kristin & Clay Ostlund
- ♥ Evan D. LaCroux Rory Ostgulen
- Trey Willour
   Sierra & Kaben Nimtz Charitable Fund
- ▼ James Richard Brown IV

  Laura & Jimi Brown III

  MaryAnn & William Brown

  Nancy & Gary Dupont
- ▼ Lizzy Sammon Dienst Beth & Nick Dienst
- Alexus Brooke Kuglin Kristine & James Kuglin
- ▼ Emma Kaye Ward Lisa & Nathan Ward
- Brian James Jacobson
   Yvonne & Mark Ackmann
- Evelynn Pearl Bauernfeind
   Katie & Josh Bauernfeind
   Kathy & Richard Cap
- Nathan Earl Cory
   LeaAnn, Kevin, & Alex Cory
- Preston Hugh Crooks Natalie & Leif Crooks
- ▼ Melvin Thorleif Crooks Natalie & Leif Crooks
- ▼ Hazel May Mielke Larry & Hailey Harn
- ▼ Lila Nash Novotny Shannon & Miranda Schornack



- ▼ Taylor O'Connor Laura & Nicholas O'Connor
- ▼ Logan O'Connor Laura & Nicholas O'Connor
- ▼ Hope Kuennen Deanna & Allyn Kuennen
- ▼ August Michael Kuennen Deanna & Allyn Kuennen
- Christian Joel Kriesel
   Tiffany & Joel Kriesel
   Julie & Larry Kriesel
- Ariana Trotman
   Bonnie & Ryan Trotman
   Ellen & Lance Trotman
- ▼ Korbin Allan Lemieux Amalie Lemieux
- Kelly Jean Vandereide Marianne & Jay Vandereide
- Erica Kay Vandereide
   Marianne & Jay Vandereide
- ▼ Erin Grace Kriesel Julie & Larry Kriesel
- ♥ Christian Joel Kriesel Julie & Larry Kriesel
- ▼ Baby Bedford Stacey Bedford
- ▼ Nathan Tyler Neitzel Christina LaBathe
- ▼ Corbin Lawrence Wall Theresa Szczublewski
- ♥ Lucas James Loomis Andrea & Mark Loomis
- ▼ Dillyn Langerfeld Sharon Langerfeld
- ▼ Jaidyn Langerfeld Sharon Langerfeld
- ♥ Baby Sarah Karen Ottman
- ▼ Korbin Allan LeMieux Allan & Becky Baker



- William Thomas Wagner Sheri & Tim Wagner
- Daniel Piepho Kathy & Kenneth Ryks
- ♥ Grace Elizabeth Anderson Jane & Steve Cross
- Teagan Nutzger Roseann & Steven Schweisthal
- Derek Joseph Sundwall
   Diana Sundwall
   Margaret & JD Walker
   Helen Kelley
- ♥ Garrett Robert Sterling Amy & Brad Sterling
- Thomas Joseph Markman Lori Jo & Todd Markman, Tonita & Harold Amundson
- Sara Jane Murray
   Tonita & Harold Amundson
- Marissa Muller Gladys Barsness
- Ethan Culhane Linda & David Field
- ♥ Blake Robert Stadler Cheryl Armagost Fleck
- All children & families I
  worked with in 2012 who have
  lost their babies
  Megan Henry (Dahl) Metro
  Area Nurse
- ♥ Cole Brent Krenzke Charlene Krenzke
- Cash Lonny Berge Charlene Krenzke
- April Louise Cripe Vivian & Roger Cripe
- ▼ Trevor Pint

  Elizabeth & Lambert

  Hoffman
- Dillon Bendt April & Kyle Bendt



- Londyn May Samora
   Allison & Corey Samora
   Wells Fargo Foundation
- Brady Bruce Velzke Kristen & Bruce Velzke Rice County Chapter of Pheasants Forever, Inc.
- William Robert & Bethany Agnes DeGrood

Connie & Joe DeGrood

- Cameron Gentz
   Eliza & Jeff Gentz
   Gary & Ann Lazarz
- ♥ Ben Tonjum Anne Dienst
- ▼ Sara Connelly Jones Inez Farl
- Zach Schmidt
   David & Jean Marie Baudhuin
- ▼ Joshua Daniel Neubauer Angie & Dan Neubauer Emma & Alexis Neubauer Margo & Tom Young Catherine Benkert
- ♥ George David Thorkelson Dave Katz
- ▼ Vicky Graves Tammy Graves
- ▼ Aubrey Corionna Dozark Lori & Peter Dozark
- ▼ Scott Arthur Carver

  Judy & Gary Carver



# From Diana's Desk



It has been a while since our last newsletter was mailed and we apologize for the delay. Moving two times in one year has been difficult and has made us prioritize many things, unfortunately it also made us fall behind on a few things. I do feel that our new home was well worth the all of the delays, hard work, and tears. I would again like to thank all of you

who have been so kind and generous in turning this beautiful home into the "IRIS House". So far we have had approximately \$50,000 in repairs and/or updates. Thanks to your generosity we have spent approximately \$2,000 for those repairs and updates. Thank You to the following businesses for their generosity:

Blue Sky Mechanical – Le Center Buff and Coat - Northfield Edison Custom Electronics - Faribault Fette Productions - Faribault Judy Cross Painting - Faribault kilkenny Heating and Air- Kilkenny ServiceMaster - Northfield Trent Creger Painting - Faribault Bob's Electric - Faribault Donahue's Greenhouse - Faribault Fette Elctronics - Faribault Floor to Ceiling - Faribault Kettering Properties - Faribault Roehrick Painting - Faribault Servpro - Faribault

Please join us at our Open House on October 13th to see what has been accomplished so far! I promise you will be impressed!

I would also like to extend a very warm WELCOME to our two new staff members to the IRIS office, Lori Mickelson and Jessica Davison.

Lori has filled our part-time Administrative Assistant position, and Jessica is working as an intern from South Central College to complete her Administrative Assistant degree. I would also like to thank Jessica for development of this newsletter! Be sure visit with both Lori and Jessica at the upcoming open house.

Take Care Diana



### **State Bank of Faribault Give Back Program**

The State Bank of Faribault is offering a donation to IRIS for referrals. If you have banking needs (car loans etc.) and choose to bank at the State Bank of Faribault be sure to mention that IRIS is making the referral. IRIS will receive a donation for your efforts.

The concept is simple. When a non-profit group refers business to the Bank, that referral is recognized with a cash donation to the non-profit organization that made the referral! Referrals can come from your board members, leadership team or any member of your organization. It is that easy!

# SBF Give Back Program Donations\*

Loan Type MinimumLoan AmountDonation AmountConsumer Loans\$5,000\$100.00Commercial Real Estate Loans\$150,000\$350.00

If you need additional information or have questions regarding the SBF Give Back Program, please contact:

Matt Carlander at 507-332-4614 or mattc@tsbf.com Lisa Evert at 507-333-0302 or lisae@tsbf.com.

\*Does not include consumer home mortgages.

# Infants Remembered In Silence

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www.irisRemembers.org

#### Inside this Issue . . .

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- Open House
- Turkey Trot
- Holiday Service
- ▼ Poem







# A Season of Many Feelings

Author Unknown

Fall is a season of many feelings. Autumn is here once again as it comes every year. And with the leaves my falling tears. This time of year is the hardest of all. My heart is still breaking. Once again it is fall. Memories once so vivid seem to fade. My time spent with you seems some other age. This season reminds me of grief and of pain. But yet teaches hope and joy once again. For the trees are still living

beneath the gray bark.

And you my sweet child

are alive in my heart.

#### Just Because

Author Unknown

Just because you don't see me cry doesn't mean the tears don't fall. I choose my moments to let go.

Just because my baby isn't here doesn't mean he left my heart.

Don't be afraid to mention his name.

Just because I smile a lot doesn't mean I'm all better now. Please don't push me too fast.

Just because it's been a while doesn't mean I can move on. My life won't ever be the same.

Just because his crib is empty doesn't mean we aren't his parents. Our job is to keep his memory alive.

Just because I seem calm to you doesn't mean I'm not screaming inside.

Remember me in your prayers.

Just because I'm holding it together doesn't mean I don't need your help.
Lend me your ear, your shoulder, your heart.

Just because my son is in Heaven doesn't mean he's far away. Speak of him and he'll draw nearer to kiss my tears away.



**November 14, 2013** 

Help Support IRIS
November 14, 2013
Watch for more details on Facebook
And the IRIS website
www.irisRemembers.org