

Cancer Patient Benefit Dinner

History repeated itself as 2014 dawned! Unfortunately for a local family, the young wife and mother’s diagnosis came back with bad news – “The cancer has returned and this time it probably can’t be cured!”

In 2008 the Grange spearheaded a community effort to raise funds to help Bobbi Jo Cauffman Rumfelt and her family during her first bout with colon cancer. That effort raised almost \$12,000 to assist the family financially with medical costs to treat the cancer.

On New Year’s Day, January 1, 2014, the Grange spearheaded a second benefit for the family. Using the title “Sock It To Cancer”, the centerpiece of the benefit event was the Grange’s long established New Year’s Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner. Support from the community at large was again immediate and generous. Contacts were made with all local churches requesting donations of food and/or cash to support the project. Food or cash donations provided most of the dinner supplies, raffle prizes were donated and hundreds of dollars in direct donations were received. On the day of the dinner there were so many volunteers to help that it was a challenge to keep everyone busy despite serving almost 400 hungry patrons.

A Grange fellowship dinner was held on Friday, January 10th with the recipient and her family present to express their appreciation to the members of the Grange and a large number of the community volunteers who worked on the project. Proceeds of \$6,005.53 were presented.



Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

West Juniata Parkway & Owl Hollow Road
Millerstown, PA 17062

January 10, 2014

Pay to the Order of:

Bobbi Jo Cauffman Rumfelt **\$6,005.53**

Six thousand five dollars and *53 cents*

Orrstown Bank
Newport, PA 17074

For: Proceeds of 1/1/2014 benefit diner

Douglas A. Bonsall, Treasurer
Perry Valley Grange #1804, Inc.

The Grange was the catalyst that brought the community together for a truly outstanding benefit dinner.



Presentation of New Year's benefit dinner proceeds to Bobbi Jo Cauffman Rumbel and her family at the January 10, 2014, meeting of Perry Valley Grange

Article appearing in local newspaper the week following the benefit dinner

Grange donates dinner proceeds to Rumfelt family

By WADE FOWLER
Staff Writer

The news no one wants to hear — "Your cancer has recurred" — landed on a Millerstown family like a ton of bricks.

Fortunately there are plenty of people willing to share the load in the case of Bobbie Jo (Cauffman) Rumfelt.

The 35-year-old school teacher survived a bout with colon cancer five years ago, but a recent trip to the doctor confirmed that the back pain she had been experiencing portended an ominous diagnosis.

That's the source of Bobbie Jo's Hopes and Dreams, the banner under which fundraisers on her behalf have

proliferated. Readers may visit the page by that name on Facebook and make contributions to a fund at Juniata Valley Bank set up on her behalf.

The most recent and prominent of the fund-raisers was the Perry Valley Grange's pork and sauerkraut dinner served up on New Year's Day. The annual event was re-tasked as a fund-raiser for Bobbie Jo and her family, which also includes her husband, Lee, and their son, 7-year-old Ethan.

Renee Hetrick, lecturer for the Grange, was among the organizers. She reported the dinner raised about \$6,000, which can be put to whatever use Bobbie Jo and her family

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LENDING A HAND — Renee Hetrick (center) presents a check on behalf of Perry Valley Grange for \$6,005.63 to (back, from left) Lee Rumfelt, Bobbie Jo Cauffman Rumfelt and (front) Ethan Rumfelt. The Grange donated the proceeds of its annual pork and sauerkraut dinner to Bobbie Jo who is suffering from cancer.

Grange

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find most pressing.

Her medical expenses exceeded her insurance coverage by \$500 in the first month of treatments alone, but the money also might be put toward a family vacation to Disney World. A vacation with her husband and little boy while she is still healthy

enough to enjoy it is prominent among Bobbie Jo's Hopes and Dreams, Hetrick said.

The Grange's pork and sauerkraut extravaganza is worthy of the word. Hetrick reports it drew 400 diners who consumed 300 pounds of potatoes, 320 pounds of pork and 40 gallons of sauerkraut.

The event also featured a

bake sale and raffle baskets for Bobbie Jo's benefit.

"The public dinner already was in the works and we thought we could expand upon it. I was happy we had a good turnout," Hetrick said.

The proceeds were turned over to the family on Jan. 10 during the Grange's monthly dinner meeting.