



Around the House...

DECEMBER 2018

ADOPT-A-DAY 2018
DECEMBER 15

In Memory of Aaron Pauley.

ADOPT-A-DAY 2018
DECEMBER 27

**First United Bank & Trust,
 Morgantown Region.**

ADOPT-A-DAY 2018
DECEMBER 31

Adopted by Beth McIntyre.

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 Like us on Facebook at Rosenbaum FamilyHouse

A Gift of Love

Pinkey Mullens is from Glen Fork, WV. Pinkey and his wife stayed with us during his cancer treatments. On a return visit to WVU Medicine they stopped by to say hello and present us with this beautiful gift of metal roses. Pinkey created the base and the roses over the course of two days. He said that he wanted some way to display his appreciation for what the House and our staff had done for him and his wife. He said that the leaves circling the stems represent how he feels about the care he received here – he said he was circled by love!



The roses are permanently on display in the front lobby. Thank you Pinkey for this gift of love.

Thank you to all the wonderful donors and dinner groups that helped make the holiday season brighter for our families. Your generosity is beyond compare and you ARE truly appreciated!

At RFH, we consider all of our guests' part of our family. The connection staff and volunteers make with guests is different in every case. The goal, however, is always the same - to make a positive difference in our family's lives. Thanks to James Ericson, we are able to share a little of that with you.

James Ericson is from Berkeley Springs WV and works for ITS Trucking Company. James was a guest at Rosenbaum Family for several weeks. In a conversation with one of our staff James shared his RFH story. When first becoming a guest at the house he was angry. Angry at his cancer, angry for having to be away from home, and frustrated for having to follow rules (no food in the guest rooms, not being gone from the house for more than 48 hours, etc.) Over time, however, James has come to feel that his stay here has been an important part of his journey. He has formed friendships with a variety of other guests, become a regular member of the Wednesday Bingo crew, is making a quilt, and is always ready to lend a hand to other guests. James even goes out of his way to let us know when he goes home for the weekend he's not gone for longer than the allowed time.



James inquired one day about the possibility of going to a WVU football game. Thanks to an anonymous donor, James and Robert Jewitt (left side of group photo) surprised another guest, Charlene Robertson (middle of group photo) by taking her to her first ever college sporting event. The group was invited to tailgate with members of the Yates Construction team (also pictured). The WVU Book Exchange and Yates Construction donated WVU gear for them and they had a wonderful time.



Each year we decorate the Family House with wreaths that are donated for the wreath auction. James immediately came and inquired about purchasing the wreath that hung on his door. He explained that he isn't going to be here for the auction and wanted to make sure he was able to take the wreath home. James said, "the wreath is part of my journey, I need to take it home!" He offered a donation for the wreath and we were happy to tell him that the wreath was his. James and his wreath are pictured at right.



James also made a quilt while he was here and he wanted to make sure we included that in his story as well. He and another long term guest worked side by side to create their masterpieces. Not only is his quilt a beautiful keepsake, the connection he made with a fellow guest is one that will last a lifetime.

While a wreath and a quilt may not mean a lot to some people, to James, they are part of his journey. That journey includes him going from someone who was frustrated and angry, to someone who has created memories he will always treasure. His journey is also one that has made a huge impact on the staff of Family House and helps us remember why we do what we do every day. This is a true example of the Rosenbaum Family House mission – creating a home away from home for our guests while they deal with some of the most difficult times in their life.

Thank you James for letting us be a part of your journey!