FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2015



FAMILY CAREGIVERS TO GET A NIGHT OFF AT INSPIRATIONAL EVENT HOSTED BY LOCAL COMEDIC TALENT ON APRIL 6th IN CELEBRATION OF CAREGIVER RECOGNITION DAY

A benefit for the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, presented by Comforts of Home – Care

Winnipeg, MB—Comforts of Home – Care (COHC) is proud to present the 2nd annual *Celebrating Family Caregivers! Inspiration & More* event, sponsored by Brematson & Associates and Assante Wealth Management, on Monday April 6th in celebration of Caregiver Recognition Day.

"Caregivers are selfless, giving people," says Katherine Peters, COHC President & CEO. "But it's a tough job; it's taxing emotionally, and Comforts of Home – Care recognizes the challenges that caregivers go through. That's why we want to do something great for them. This event is all about giving people the break they deserve."

This FREE event offers family caregivers the opportunity to take an evening off from their daily caregiving responsibilities. More than 200 family caregivers are anticipated to attend this event and enjoy inspiration, storytelling, and the comedic talents of local celebrities, including award-winning speaker and CJOB radio host Stephanie Staples, Juno nominated children's entertainer Aaron Burnett, comedian and motivational speaker Big Daddy Tazz, Amazing Race Canada winner and Parkinson's activist Tim Hague Sr., and clinical social worker and professional speaker Ruth BZ Thomson.

Celebrating Family Caregivers! Inspiration & More is a great way to kick off Caregiver Recognition Day (Tuesday April 7th), a provincially-recognized day to celebrate and honour the family caregivers across Manitoba whose compassion and caring makes a difference in the lives of the elderly and chronically disabled. Family caregivers make up one-third of Manitobans, according to Statistics Canada—which is higher than the national average of 28%.

Not only will this event celebrate and honour family caregivers, but it will also benefit the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba. The Alzheimer Society of Manitoba seeks to alleviate the individual, family, and social consequences of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders while supporting the search for a cure through community awareness, education, support programs, and research funding.

Celebrating Family Caregivers! Inspiration & More will take place at the Caboto Centre, 1055 Wilkes Avenue, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday, April 6th. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Learn more about this FREE event by visiting ComfortsofHomeCare.ca.

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FAMILY CAREGIVERS! Inspiration & More

APRIL 6TH, 2015

7:00 TO 9:00 P.M. • DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 CABOTO CENTRE, 1055 WILKES AVE, WINNIPEG



STEPHANIE STAPLES
Award winning speaker and
radio host
Helping you bring your
"A" Game to Work and Life

AARON BURNETT

Juno nominated children's entertainer, his original bluegrass rhythms and warm sense of humor is fun for all ages



BIG DADDY TAZZ
The Bi-polar Buddha
Equal parts comedian and
motivational speaker

TIM HAGUE SR.

Winner of Amazing Race Canada, Tim's message of strength and courage will leave you motivated to meet life's challenges





RUTH BZ THOMSON

With kindness and comedy, Ruth will lead you to an emotional tune-up on the journey of life

FREE ADMISSION

Registration: www.ComfortsofHomeCare.ca or phone 204-949-3234

AN EVENING FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS
TO BENEFIT

Alzheimer Society

MANITORA

Dementia Care & Brain Health





Refreshments
Silent Auction • Door Prize

Presenter Bios

Stephanie Staples (Event Emcee):

Award-winning speaker, author of two books, and CJOB radio host of Your Life Unlimited, Stephanie Staples is a woman on a mission – to re-inspire, re-energize, and re-engage individuals to live their lives with full gusto! Her present career as a professional speaker, consultant, and life coach has been inspired by her eclectic background of nursing, fitness, business, and communications, as well as her passion for personal growth. She infuses humour and heart with practical, relevant, and doable content to activate everyone to leave with the tools they can use immediately to improve the course of their lives, personally and professionally. Laughing, crying, and regular "Aha!" moments are all part of the Your Life Unlimited experience.

Aaron Burnett (Event Speaker):

Aaron Burnett is a Juno nominated children's entertainer described by the Winnipeg Folk Festival as "one of Canada's most treasured performers and musical educators." His original songs about Canadian animals feature toe-tapping bluegrass rhythms, intriguing stories, and a warm sense of humour for all ages.

Big Daddy Tazz (Event Speaker):

Often described as "one of the most talented comics in the business," Big Daddy Tazz has been delighting crowds at fundraisers, corporate events, festivals, and on television for more than a decade and a half. Known as the "Bi-Polar Buddha," Tazz is equal parts comedian and motivational speaker, who likes to enlighten, educate, and inspire. As a result, his one-man shows have drawn rave reviews and standing ovations from coast to coast.

Tim Hague Sr. (Event Speaker):

Tim Hague Sr. overcame the odds when he went from a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease to – just three years later – becoming the inaugural winner of CTV's *The Amazing Race Canada*. Tim's message of strength and courage leaves audiences motivated to meet life's challenges and do more than they ever thought they could. As a Registered Nurse and professional speaker, Tim is active in the promotion of healthy, balanced lifestyles, and deeply involved in the promotion of Parkinson's issues.

Ruth BZ Thomson (Event Speaker):

Blessed with a huge zest for life and an infectious sense of humour, Ruth BZ Thomson engages older adults in re-strengthening their belief in self and in their family role. As a clinical social worker with a Master's degree, Ruth recognizes life transitions occur at all ages. With kindness and comedy, she creates an environment where it is conducive to reflect upon matters of the heart. Whether it is about health challenges, changes in self-esteem, or trying to compose a strategy for living, Ruth creates a positive setting which helps to discover strengths. Together the joy of life is rediscovered.

Sponsor Bios

Brematson & Associates (Partner Sponsor)

Susana Scott is the founder and president of Brematson & Associates Inc., a national fee-for-service advocacy organization based in Winnipeg. She created the company in 2004 as a direct result of the disability issues she encountered when her daughter was born with Spina Bifida.

As a full-time caregiver to her daughter, she understands the often heart-wrenching challenges and commitments involved in caring for loved ones while balancing career and life commitments. With respect, compassion, and understanding, Brematson represents the disabled, liaises with the medical community, and provides assistance with applications and appeals. Over the last decade, her company has recovered millions of dollars in tax credits and benefits for thousands of Canadians with disabilities.

Assante Wealth Management (Partner Sponsor)

Shaun Humphries is a partner in the Assante on Taylor Branch in Winnipeg. Outside of his practice, community, and family, his passion remains focused on staying healthy. His financial services career, experience in the sport of triathlon, family life, and community involvement have had a powerful influence over the design and content of his programs and planning processes. All of his experiences provide powerful metaphors and new understanding that he applies to the wealth planning his company offers to their clients.

Assante Wealth Management's mission is to deliver complete wealth management solutions for professional advisors and to support them in creating wealth and prosperity for Canadian families who entrust Assante with their affairs.

About the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba

As a province-wide organization, the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba offers help for today through supportive counseling, caregiver and professional education, support groups for people with dementia and their caregivers, public awareness, and MedicAlert® Safely Home® and *Hope for Tomorrow*® by funding dementia research and advocating for change within all levels of government.

About Caregiver Recognition Day

Manitoba, the only jurisdiction to have a legislated day recognizing caregivers and a Caregiver Recognition Act in Canada, celebrated its first Caregiver Recognition Day in April 2012.

Caregiver Recognition Day is held on the first Tuesday of April each year. It is an opportunity to celebrate and honor family caregivers and their social and economic contributions, as well as to provide caregivers with additional resources and information. Caregiver Recognition Day is about giving back to the caregivers all across Manitoba.

The Caregiver Recognition Act can be viewed online at the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba website.

About Comforts of Home - Care Inc

Katherine Peters, President & CEO of Comforts of Home – Care, always had a passion to help and serve others. Her work at Health Science Centre as a social worker alerted her to the fact that there was a great need for people who "fell between the cracks" – the people who were not well enough to stay at home without assistance of some sort, yet were not "sick" enough to remain in hospital or enter a personal care home.

In 2005, she founded Comforts of Home – Care. The service is personalized, professional, and 100% Canadian, offering non-medical, preventative comfort and care to seniors. With a mission to make it possible for seniors to live confidently and age gracefully in their own homes, Comforts of Home – Care has provided reliable, affordable care that has improved the quality of life for more than 1,170 vulnerable and elderly clients and their families.

Katherine is an outspoken advocate for seniors and for vulnerable people. She is active in work to prevent elder abuse, recognize caregivers, and support organizations that provide services to seniors and the vulnerable. Katherine has been honoured with the 2011 Women's Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Excellence in Service, and she has also been awarded a Better Business Bureau Torch Award for Marketplace Excellence in recognition of superior commitment to exceptional standards.

Comforts of Home – Care reflects Katherine's values and dedication to seniors and the chronically disabled. Caregivers on the Comforts of Home – Care team are well-trained, highly qualified, and carefully selected individuals who are thoroughly screened, completely trustworthy, and extraordinarily caring of others. The caring service allows its elderly clients to maintain as much independence as possible by providing appropriate in-home assistance and companionship, lifting the spirits of both the elderly and the family caregivers as well.

Learn more about Comforts of Home – Care at www.ComfortsofHomeCare.ca.

"Our organizing group of concerned Manitobans wants to help raise awareness for how important it is to value and recognize the many thousands of Manitobans who each and every day balance life and work commitments with helping and caring for others."

Katherine Peters, President & CEO, Comforts of Home – Care