

Ansonia man holding tag sale 'to pay it forward'



Chris German at his Ansonia home.

By Patricia Villers

ANSONIA - Priceless. That's one way to describe a tag sale in memory of a lifelong city resident who fought a 15-year battle with metastatic breast cancer.

Deborah Ann German, wife of Christopher German, died Oct. 15 at age 57. Chris German launched the tag sale last weekend at his home at 26 New St.

It's priceless, not only because it symbolizes his love for his wife, but also because the items have no prices. He said he had no interest in quibbling over "a quarter" with customers who might want to haggle with him.

German simply asks that people take what they want and make a monetary donation.



The funds will be split among the Center for Cancer Care at Griffin Hospital in Derby, where Debbie German was treated; TEAM, Inc. in Derby; and the Ansonia Nature and Recreation Center.

I visited German Saturday afternoon, the first day of the sale, and he had already made \$200.

I saw tables full of various items, including housewares, baskets, figurine collections, crochet and craft supplies, framed prints, furniture, and an antique sewing machine. German told me

"I'll do this every Saturday and Sunday until the stuff goes," he said.

"I could have dropped it off somewhere," German said, but on a whim he decided to make an attempt to get some money for the items and "pay it forward."

A daughter, Sara Aylward, described the tag sale on Facebook.



She said her father decided to hold a "non-traditional tag sale" in her mother's memory "as a way to honor my mom and her collections."

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Derby resident Tina Valentine crochets Wednesday while at the Ansonia Market Place in Nolan Field parking lot to raise funds for Homes for the Brave, an organization in Bridgeport that assists veterans.

She was there representing the Marine Corps League Auxiliary in Seymour. Valentine said she collects food for Homes for the Brave at her shop, Do's by T.T., 146 New Haven Ave., Derby.

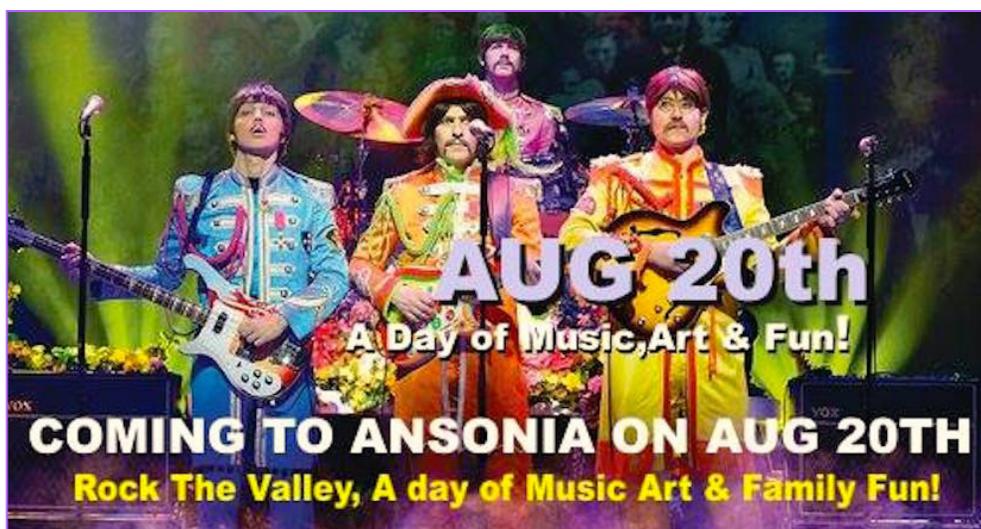
"It's always nice to help somebody else," she said.



Festa! will be held on the Holy Rosary Church grounds, 10 Father Salemi Drive, Ansonia. It will run from 5-10 p.m. Aug. 4, 5, and 6. Admission is free.

The festival features freshly prepared Italian fare, children's activities, games of skill, rides, music, and more.

Learn more at <http://www.holyrosaryfestival.com>



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