

Celebration of Life Tree Farm

This past holiday season, our Executive Director, Christine Scott, was contacted by Ken Garmin, the owner of Patricia's Tree Farm in Boston, NY. He had heard about our organization through Karen Cwalina, Labor and Delivery Bereavement coordinator at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, and her family.



Ken and his family were touched by all that our organization does and wanted to help. They decided to support our Network by raising dollars, but also by creating a program where families can plant a tree that will remain "forever" in honor of loved ones who have passed away. The program is called "Celebration of Life." They have committed the area surrounding the farm for planting these trees. These Celebration of Life trees will remain on the farm to be visited by families at

any time. With the Celebration of Life tree, the Tree Farm will also plant a Christmas tree that your family may have once it is large enough to be cut down and used.

They have begun creating the Celebration of Life area and naming the roads. One of the roads will be named Wings of Love Blvd. Another road will be named by Karen Cwalina in honor of the work she does to help families and honor lives.



The program is still in its fledgling stages, but the details that have been worked out are:

1) A \$299.00 donation will buy two trees: one which stays in the Celebration of Life garden and one which will be planted and grown for five to seven years, until it is large enough to be cut for Christmas. When the Christmas tree is cut down, a Christmas ornament for the family will be created from a piece of what is left over.

2) There is a "Dollar Meter" on the website's donation page for other monetary donations. When the Dollar Meter is full, a Celebration of Life package will be given away to a family who may not be able to afford the \$299.00. Determination of the eligible families for the give-away is yet to be determined.

The opening day of planting is May 8th, 2021! An event to mark the Celebration of Life program is in the beginning stages of planning. Please check the websites for the WNYPBN as well as Patricia's Tree Farm for more information as it becomes available.

<https://wnypbn.org>

<https://www.patriciaschristmastreefarm.com>

If you have any comments, questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the WNYPBN offices at 716-626-6363.