

Connections

Newsletter for the hospital volunteers, students & friends of Roper St. Francis Healthcare

Pandemic Issue 2020

It is difficult to imagine hospitals without volunteers, but you are exactly where you should be - safe at home. Although you aren't here physically, RSFH volunteers and community volunteers have been very visible offering support through prayers, donations and actions. We put this pandemic version of the newsletter together to stay in touch and let you know some of the wonderful things that have been happening and the meaningful support you and community members have shown our essential teammates.

Stay tuned with Roper St. Francis Healthcare activities and progress through [Vital Signs](#), which is updated daily. Stay home, stay healthy. We love you.

*Joan * Lynne * Laurie * Rebecca*



Volunteer Bailey Fallon sent a greeting of support to front line teammates

Good Deeds for the Cause

Ellie & Magnus send greetings as they practice social distancing at home. Mary Hritz (pictured) and Laura Kratzok delivered masks for RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital teammates. Balloon artist Judy Volkman has been making displays to cheer up her neighborhood and is working on one for Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital campus.

Lynn Karlson dropped off cloth masks for RSF Berkeley Hospital teammates and their families. Lynn has made 150 herself bringing the Berkeley donated total to over 500. Colleen Turick heard that the elastic on the masks was hurting the staff's ears and started crocheting mask extenders to protect ears. Other volunteers joined the project crocheting and donating buttons for the cause. Joan Perry's son Cameron joined the project, printing 3d mask extenders. Bobbye Wilson baked a pound cake for the BSSF ED staff. Thank you all for your support.



CitiTrends Donates Scrubs

As RSFH cross-trained staff to prepare to work at bedsides if needed, we realized they might not have scrubs and put out a call for scrubs donations. Along with filling our own barrels, CitiTrends in Goose Creek filled volunteer manager's cars with their complete stock of scrubs. The scrubs were sorted in the Roper Hospital volunteer office to be ready in case they were needed.



Easter Baby Hats

Solveig Bracy planned ahead making Easter bunny hats for newborns born over Easter weekend bringing a happy smile at a stressful time. Thanks, Solveig!



West Off Newspaper

The first digital version of the popular West Ashley newspaper featured Joan Perry, volunteerism during the pandemic and featured RSFH photos. Click here to subscribe: <https://www.westof.net/unbound/>

Getting to Know You - RSF Berkeley



Kay Travinski grew up in Wichita Falls, Texas, moving to Dallas at the age of 18. She began a career in Human Resources in Dallas, Texas, working for a small boutique retail chain. In 1977 she moved to Waco as the Human Resources Manager for M & M Mars and met her husband, Dean. For the last fifteen years of her career Kay managing a large senior living community encompassing

Skilled Nursing, Rehab, Assisted and Independent Living seniors. Dean spent his career as a Microbiologist.

Dean and Kay have been married for thirty-nine years, combining Kay's four children with Dean's three. Together they have seven children, twenty-one grandchildren and one great-grandson. After many moves, they retired to Georgetown, Texas in 2010 and then on to Destin, Florida to live on the beach and enjoy gulf living. In 2018, they settled in Summerville, SC, to be near their two sons and to watch their youngest granddaughter grow up.

Kay joined the Berkeley Hospital volunteer team and will at the information desk on Mondays. Kay is also a baby hat knitter.

Home Depot Donates PPE

Manager Chris Ranew of the West Ashley Home Depot filled Joan Perry's cart with donations of masks and face shields.



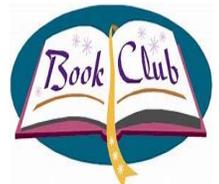
We Heard From You:

- "Wish I could be there, but staying safe at home. Miss the staff in the ED, and we are keeping them in our prayers." Gary Gardner
- "I hope this finds you doing as best you can in these days. Ace and I are missing our friends at Bon Secours St Francis Hospital so much. I would love to bake a pound cake for the staff in the ER if we can figure out a way to get it to them. Can you advise me on any possible way? Thank you." Bobbye & Ace

RSFH Teammate Message to You!



MPH Volunteers Leave Sidewalk Message of Encouragement



Volunteer Book Club

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek *by Kim Michele Richardson*

In the 1930s, Eleanor Roosevelt started the Kentucky Pack Horse Library System as a WPA project. Ms. Richardson wrote this novel after extensive research on the library system and the Blue People of Kentucky. There is a sect of people in Kentucky known for their blue skin, dark blue lips, and chocolate brown blood. Using these facts, Ms. Richardson wrote this novel.

Cussy Mary Carter is one of the Pack Horse Librarians. This area of Appalachia is extremely poor and few people had access to any reading material. Cussy, who is known as the last of the blue people, is also called Blue. Blue would pack up her books and walk or ride her mule - Junia for miles over treacherous mountain paths to deliver books to isolated areas. The books themselves weren't new, but had been discarded or donated. The school teacher loved to receive books and used them as a teaching tool. Children were encouraged to borrow them to take home and read to their parents who were unable to read.

People were happy to see Cussy, but some who treated her with fear and bigotry because her skin was blue. She suffered from a disease called "methemoglobinemia." The skin and blood are this color because of a lack of oxygen in the hemoglobin. A cure was found which consisted of shots that would turn the skin white, but it also caused significant pain and discomfort.

It is interesting to note that there is currently another novel released by a well-known author covering the same topic of the Pack Horse Librarians. There is some controversy over which novel came first and if there is any plagiarism involved.

Community Support

- Members of the Berkeley, Charleston and Mt. Pleasant Police & Fire Department have shown support with parades and displays of gratitude in front of RSFH hospitals.
- Cru Café Catering provided bags of groceries for Environmental Services staff.
- Organizations like FLAG (Front Line Appreciation Program) and Feed Our Heroes have funded deliveries of meals from restaurants to our essential staff on duty.
- Heroes Work Here signs were posted on RSFH hospital campuses. Families created heart shaped signs of encouragement to welcome staff.

Happy Quarantine Birthday!

5/1 Lydia Nazario
 5/2 Carol Reis
 5/3 Sapna Patel
 5/4 Ursula Limpert
 5/5 Richard Schramm
 5/6 Linda Travinski
 5/10 Dakota Hill
 5/11 Philip Cook
 5/12 Janie Kramer, Kylie Burroughs
 5/14 Florence Jackson, Gale Matthews, Isabel Petyak
 5/15 Penny Perkins, Kathleen Jenkins, Prosser Bennett
 5/18 Alexander Huss, Bob Weaver
 5/20 Christine Constantine, Karen Rogers
 5/21 Madelyn Wilks
 5/22 Marilyn Shaw
 5/25 Bill Heck, Sharon Wolcott
 5/26 Joann Gibbons
 5/29 Paul Farthing
 5/31 Judy Volkman, LeRoy Weathers, Karin Stewart



RSF Berkeley Hospital Teammates sent a message to their volunteer team.

Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital: Joan Perry: 843-402-1156

Roper Hospital: Lynne Steele: 843-724-2080

RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital: Laurie Glass: 843-606-7502

RSF Berkeley Hospital: Rebecca Buffum

Hospice Volunteering: Laurie Beckman: 843-402-3260

Lowcountry Senior Center: Kimberly Palmer: 843-990-5555

Waring Senior Center: Peggy Chausse: 843-402-1990

Hospital volunteers sent greetings of support from home. Pictured are Bonnie and Gary Bell, Ursula Limpert & James McGarry, Pam Chesney & John Osmore, Karen Roger's pup, and Ginny & Conrad Hodges. They were exactly where they are supposed to be - safe at home!



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