

Connections

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

December/January 2021/22

Happy Holidays! Welcome to the combined December/January issue of the volunteer Connections newsletter. Thank you for your service this year. You have each played an important part in making Roper St. Francis Healthcare warm and welcoming for our patients and families during this unusual and difficult year. You have helped make it possible for us to continue to earn national recognition for quality, patient care and employee satisfaction. We hope you and your families have a wonderful holiday season.

It has been good to see volunteers reactivating again. We will try our best to find a rewarding role for you if you are considering returning.

*Joan Perry * Rebecca Buffum * Marianne Seabrook
Peg Hughes * Kathleen Whitfield * Judy Blewer*

Volunteers Recognized



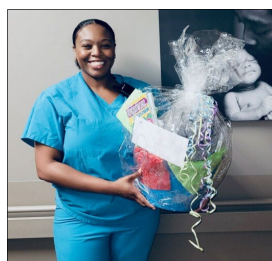
Bob Nadobny was recognized with an Acts of Kindness nomination for his service in the BSSF Phlebotomy Lab. Manager Amanda Norris wrote, "I am so grateful for his support in my busy department. I am certain he plays a role in our excellent customer service scores." Bob is pictured with wife Christine - RSF Berkeley Hospital volunteer.

We were pleased to learn that three representatives from the volunteer program will be honored at the Charleston Regional Business Journal's Healthcare Hero presentation on 12/2. Donna Blake (pictured right) and Eugenia Felsingner will be honored in the Volunteer category and Wendy Zettle and Beau Beau in the Pet Therapy category. Congratulations!



Baskets of Pandemic Relaxation

The volunteer department sponsored treat filled baskets offered for a free chance drawing in the hospital facilities. We wish we could have given one to each and every staff member but one lucky winner in each hospital facility won a basket. Pictured right, Quina Carter, won the basket at RSF Berkeley Hospital.



Welcome Roper Hospital Volunteer Manager

Welcome Marianne Seabrook as Roper Hospital Volunteer Manager. Marianne has worked with Roper St. Francis Healthcare for over 16 years with Senior Services and most recently worked with the Bariatric program at Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital.



Marianne lives downtown with her husband and two children. She is excited about her new role and looks forward to working with the volunteers. If you have friends or family members who might be a good fit, encourage them to contact Marianne to explore volunteer opportunities.

Welcome Mount Pleasant Volunteer Manager



Welcome Peg Hughes as new volunteer manager at RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital. Peg was born at Roper Hospital and grew up in Mount Pleasant. She recently married David Hughes of Charleston, bringing her back home from Miami, where she lived and raised her two daughters, Virginia and Rachel. Peg has worked in healthcare her entire career and has a passion for people and community.

Peg and David are active members of St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Mt. Pleasant. In her spare time, Peg enjoys paddle boarding and being on the water. She is learning pickle ball and golf. Peg and David have a Chocolate Lab, Ollie, who loves the beach and singing as she practices piano. Peg greatly appreciates and values the work of volunteers and is very excited to meet everyone soon.

New Year Baby Baskets

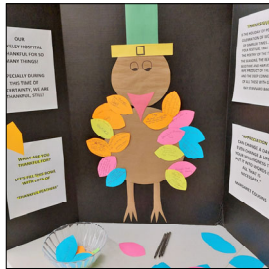
RSFH has a New Year tradition of welcoming the first born boy and girl in the new year with a basket full of gifts and good wishes from the volunteer team.

This year we will want to fill four baskets - two each for RSF Berkeley Hospital and Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital. We have a start with lovely blankets made by volunteers. You are invited to contribute a toy, book or item of clothing.



Berkeley Hospital News

- Berkeley Hospital volunteers supported numerous causes this fall, including our Day of Caring - "Bundles of Joy" Diaper & Wipes Drive, stocking the Blessing Box and participating in the annual "Thankful Turkey Feathers," gratitude project.
- Quina Carter, PCT won RSF Berkeley Hospital's free raffle basket of "Pandemic Relief," sponsored by the volunteer department. Quina works night shift in Labor & Delivery and attends nursing school during the day.
- We are building up our Berkeley Hospital stock of handmade blankets and hats for the nursery. Lynn Karlson and Abby Mittelmann continue to amaze us with their talent and gifts.
- December will bring holiday fun. Keep an eye out for Letters to Santa, Gingerbread House decorating contest and Cookies with Santa. If the situation allows, we will hope to have singers and musicians on campus during Christmas week.



In Memory of Beau Beau

In memory of beloved pet therapy dog, Beasley, Meg Mauro worked with the Roper St. Francis Foundation to create a pet therapy fund to provide supplies and support to our therapy pets and their owners. This wonderful program brings smiles and comfort to our patients and their families.



To make a donation, mail a check to the Roper St. Francis Foundation, 125 Doughty Street, Suite 790, Charleston, SC 29403, designated for the Pet Therapy Fund or use the [Roper St. Francis Foundation](https://www.roperscfoundation.org) site. Select Pet Therapy from the drop-down menu. Funds will be used for expenses related to the Pet Therapy program.

Thanksgiving Cards to Brighten Patients Stay



Sue Ann and Emily Russell continued their family tradition of making handmade cards for hospitalized patients by delivering 200 Thanksgiving cards for Roper St. Francis Healthcare patients hospitalized over the holidays.

Bon Secours St. Francis News

- **Welcome volunteers:** Pet Therapist Meg Davidson returns with Whiskey. Gail Maginnis (pictured right with Nancy Ashcraft) to the Infusion Center and Steve Ash. Ellen Kay has reactivated to staff the Cancer Center reception Desk and Charlie Black is back at the Information Desk.
- Our sympathy to the friends and family of Beulah Gorecki. Beulah passed away 11/3 at the age of 94. Beulah had served 5,200 hours, lending a hand in the OR Waiting Room, the Caring Clown program and most recently the Cancer Center. She will be with us forever smiling, pictured on the patient tower elevator door.
- Betty Hilton, Mary Vogel (pictured) and Patty Fulmer spent time catching up in the volunteer lounge as they stuffed discharge folders.
- Volunteer opportunities: We have shifts available serving as escorts in Phlebotomy and Mammography. Talk to Joan about current needs.



RSF Mount Pleasant News

- RSF Mount Pleasant volunteers bid farewell to manager Laurie Glass. Laurie led the volunteer team for five years developing strong friendships and programs during her time with us. We wish her all the best in her new position.
- The Wednesday volunteer group was caught in action, including Steve Schoenbaechler, Lauren Sullivan, Bob Driscoll & Elizabeth Shuster.
- Eucharistic Minister, Mary Helen Gammon (pictured right), shared that she is part of a Grief Ministry coordinated through St. Benedict Parish. The ministry prays daily for deceased loved ones, all who grieve, and for the ministry. They lead a 12 week Understanding Grief Support Group three times a year and provide booklets and resources on grief topics. They offer individuals companion volunteers for their grief journey. For more information contact Mary Helen Gammon or Jane Talbot at griefministry@stbenedictparish.org.
- Stop in to meet Peg Hughes - Volunteer Manager. She will begin full time on 12/8.



Happy Birthday

12/02 Gretchen Tremann
 12/03 Edna Marie Arcobascio
 12/06 Bonnie Luthy
 12/08 Christine Nadobny
 12/09 Barbara May, Deborah McDonald
 12/07 Linda Logan
 12/12 Denise Roberts
 12/15 Donald West
 12/16 Bruce Chodosh
 12/18 James Glover
 12/25 Charlie Black
 12/26 Patty Fulmer
 12/28 Sarah Franklin
 12/31 Patricia Ann Gunn
 1/3 Susan Norris
 1/9 Zyne Sharite
 1/10 Lynn Branton, Barbara Evon, Claire Hudson
 1/11 Gary Gardner
 1/16 Sissy Horn
 1/18 Ginny Hodges, Dana Walters
 1/21 Jill Crocker
 1/26 Arlene Christel
 1/29 Danielle Marka Rodgers
 1/8 Jean Gill

Roper Hospital News

- Roper Hospital volunteers were pleased to support the Pastoral Care Department with a grant. Chaplain Rob Arp sent his gratitude, writing, "The Pastoral Care Department is greatly appreciative of the \$20,000 grant improving training and adding equipping for chaplains and chaplain residents who serving at Roper Hospital. The resources will provide crisis training for chaplains, additional books, training materials and seminars for support to patients,

families and teammates. A portion of the funds were used to purchase Grief Support & Compassion Fatigue resources to provide better care to our own RSFH teammates. In January 2022, the Pastoral Care Department will implement **Operation Compassion Aid**, specifically targeting teammates exposed to workplace trauma and experiencing compassion fatigue."

- Brenda Pitts and Betty Rourke admired the raffle Basket of Pandemic Relaxation. The basket at Roper Hospital was won by Vivian Porter.
- Radiation Oncology manager Jackie Diones says it is a holiday tradition - Roper volunteers fund poinsettias for patients arriving for outpatient oncology treatments at Roper St. Francis Healthcare facilities. The staff find the best deal in town and load up on poinsettias for their patients.
- Welcome back to Ginny Hodges. We look forward to more friendly faces returning in the near future. You have been missed.
- Marianne Seabrook is settling in her office and enjoying meeting the Roper Hospital volunteer team. If the pandemic led to a break in service and you are considering reactivating, touch base and come in to meet Marianne and learn about role availability. There is currently a large packet stuffing project to be done in the volunteer lounge.



Cards for Heroes Program

Roper St. Francis Healthcare teammates paused on Veteran's Day to write meaningful messages of gratitude on holiday cards to be delivered to active duty service members by the Red Cross.



Dates/Locations for RSFH Flu Shots

Flu Season: Flu shots shouldn't be forgotten! Documented flu shots are due by 12/1 for actively serving volunteers. If you get yours elsewhere, ask for a copy and bring it in to keep your file up to date. See below for RSFH options. Wear your ID badge.

Roper Hospital

- Available on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Location: Roper MOB, Suite 280

Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital

- Available on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Location: East MOB first floor inside the HR Dep

RSF Berkeley Hospital

- Available Oct. 15 from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Additional dates to follow.
- Location: Room 1601 (located on the first floor of the main hospital in the back hallway)

RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital

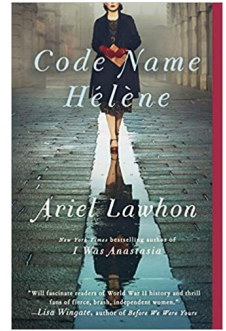
- Available every Wednesday from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- Location: Room 1341 by Outpatient Lab

Volunteer Book Club

Code Name Hélène

By Ariel Lawton

This is a story about a young woman, Nancy Wake, who was born in Australia and left home at the age of 16. She became a correspondent and was sent to France in the 1940's. It is also the story of her courtship and marriage to Henri Fiocca, a wealthy French industrialist. Nancy became aware of some of the Nazi atrocities that were happening and was determined to try to stop some of them. She became involved with the "Marquis", a French resistance group and eventually became one of the leaders. Beside the code name Hélène, she was also known as Madame Andre, and the White Mouse. She was the Gestapo's most wanted person. This book is considered a novel because the author took liberties with dates and place names but Nancy Wake and the other characters in the book were real people, as were the activities they carried out. You can learn more about Nancy Wake on YouTube.



RSFH Current Masking Guidelines have been updated to allow vaccinated teammates to remove their masks in small groups in non-patient facing areas.

RSFH Healthcare Personnel (HCP)

- RSFH will follow current CDC masking guidelines.
- All RSFH teammates/volunteers will wear a mask when entering any RSFH facility and when in public spaces within a facility. Mask must meet RSFH criteria.
- Masks are required in all patient-facing areas.
- When providing direct patient care, all teammates will wear a "medical grade" (isolation or surgical) mask or respirator depending on the care provided, regardless of teammate's vaccine status.
- RSFH teammates with a COVID-19 vaccine exemption must wear a mask at all times, unless actively eating or drinking.
- RSFH will provide teammates with appropriate masks. However, teammates can wear their own cloth or medical grade mask when not performing direct patient care.
- **Masks may be removed in non-patient facing areas in which interaction is limited and with other vaccinated teammates. Examples include entering a private office and small group meetings.**
- Scheduling and location for meals and breaks should ensure at least a 6-foot distance can be maintained between staff.
- Masks will be changed daily or earlier when visibly soiled or torn.
- Hand hygiene is essential to maintaining employee safety even if wearing a mask. If the facemask is touched, adjusted or removed, hand hygiene should be performed.



During this period of staff transition, these email addresses will always get you to the volunteer manager:

Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital
VolunteerStFrancis@rsfh.com

Roper Hospital
VolunteerRoper@rsfh.com

RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital
VolunteerMPH@RSFH.com

RSF Berkeley Hospital
VolunteerBerkeley@rsfh.com