

Connections

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

Dec 2023/Jan 2024

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 the 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.

*Marianne Seabrook * Rebecca Buffum * Trudi Campbell
Peg Hughes * Susan Morgan * Susan Sutton*

Berkeley Volunteers honored for their kindness



(Pictured: Jennifer Crawford, David Hudspeth, Mike and Lynn Witte, Rebecca Buffum, and Patrick Bosse)

Roper St. Francis Berkeley Hospital Volunteers Lynn and Mike Witte recently were recognized with an Excellence in Action for their “truly selfless” act in giving a grieving gentleman a way to honor his late wife. During one of their shifts, the couple noticed an elderly man, who was clearly distraught in the hospital lobby. He was grieving his late wife, and wanted to attend one of Roper St. Francis Healthcare’s memorial services. He thought it was going to be held at RSF Berkeley Hospital but learned that it was actually going to take place at Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital. “It broke my heart to see him so upset and alone in the lobby,” Lynn said. “Mike immediately told him that we would take him where he needed to go.” So, Lynn and Mike took it upon themselves to drive the husband to the service. They even took him to lunch. “If I hadn’t been working the service that day, no one would have ever known what they did,” said Chaplain David Hudspeth. “Lynn and Mike are truly selfless. They gave this lonely gentleman a way to honor his wife.” The couple has been volunteering at RSF Berkeley Hospital since it opened in 2019. This kind act comes as no surprise to those that know them. “They have the biggest hearts,” said Rebecca Buffum, volunteer manager. “We’re so lucky to have them.” For Lynn and Mike, volunteering is an important part of their life. “Our mission in life is to help other people,” Mike said. “And this organization gives us a place to do that.”

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Concert with pianist, Holly Slice
and flutist, John Samuel
12/6, 10:30 a.m., Mt. Pleasant Hospital

Volunteer Holiday Party at Sena Café
12/7, 4 p.m., Mt. Pleasant Hospital

Holiday Craft Fairs
12/8, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., MPH
12/8, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., Berkeley

Senior Center Chorus Performance
12/8, 11 a.m., Roper Hospital

Carolers Rounding on
12/8, 1 p.m., Roper Hospital

Concert with pianist, Holly Slice
and flutist, John Samuel
12/11, 10:30 a.m., Berkeley Hospital

Volunteer Holiday Luncheon
12/12, Berkeley Hospital

Olde Pipes Quartet
12/12, 2 p.m., Roper Hospital

Pet Therapy Parade with Santa
12/12, 11 a.m., Mt. Pleasant Hospital

Volunteer Holiday Luncheon
12/15, Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital

Holiday Festivities at Berkeley Hospital
Week of 12/18

Holiday Festivities at Mt. Pleasant Hospital
Week of 12/18

Concert with fingerstyle guitarist
12/18, 10:30 a.m., Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital

Concert with pianist, Holly Slice
and flutist, John Samuel
12/18, 1 p.m., Roper Hospital

Visit from Santa
12/19 and 12/20, Roper Hospital

Storytelling

We are all **storytellers**. Engaging our imaginations while innovative ideas emerge when we hear the stories of the work you do. We are eager to hear your story – please share at Gertrude.campbell@rsfh.com.

BSSF volunteer Charlie Black has offered his thoughts: *I have been a volunteer at St Francis Hospital serving at the Main Information Desk for 23 years and have enjoyed every minute of it. It is quite rewarding to help incoming patients, family members, and guests to find the way to their correct destination. A smile and a greeting, "Good morning, may we help you," makes them seem more at ease.*

People talk about "Giving Back," but I prefer the term "Giving Forward" as giving back is the past, but giving forward is giving service for the future.

Hospital settings provide many stories. One such story is about an elderly gentleman who came to the Information Desk and asked, "Where can I find patient E. Brown"? I checked and said, "We do not have an E. Brown at this hospital." He said, "Sure you do. I dropped her off here this morning but went back home to gather some items for her." I checked with Admitting and they did not list E. Brown as a Patient. I then asked the gentleman if she would go by another name, and he said, "I'm sorry, we were just married last weekend, and her new name is E. Smith." I checked again and said, "Yes E. Smith is in room 310."

I truly enjoy volunteering at St Francis Hospital and hope people will volunteer to "Give Forward."



Arts in Medicine

Promoting Healing Through the Arts

RSFH's Arts in Medicine program offers regular art events at each hospital. This program is looking for visual artists of all kinds, musicians, performing artists, poets, writers and other creatives to volunteer their time.

Upcoming Events:

12/7, 10 a.m. - Nationally awarded Wando Orchestra, MPH Lobby

12/13 - Guitarist in Residence to play on units (MPH)

12/19 - Bernadette Wladyka, watercolor artist (BH)

1/9 - 2/13 - Charles DeAntonio, local master artist, will be in the lobby with an interactive painting project. Come put your brush stroke on the painting which will hang on the art wall when complete.

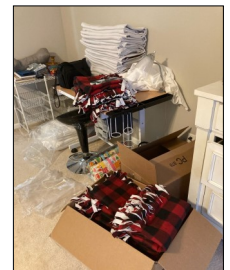
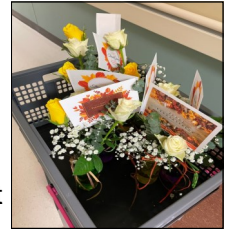
Ongoing Events:

Thursdays - Paula Printerpe, harpist (BSSF)

Second and Fourth Wednesdays - Art Klein, guitarist and singer (BSSF)

Volunteer News

- Cards for heroes program: RSFH 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. We collected over 700 cards to be delivered!
- Sending lots of love and best wishes for healing to MPH volunteer Jean Autullo.
- Volunteers Donna Blake and Jann Owens designed Thanksgiving rose bud arrangements for patients at Roper St. Francis Mount Pleasant Hospital.
- Volunteer department had their annual "dress the turkey" and thankful trees set-up during November for staff and visitors to share what they're thankful for.
- Congratulations to Berkeley and Mt. Pleasant Hospitals! Berkeley Hospital was a finalist in Best Place to be born and Best Hospital in the Best of Berkeley Contest. Mt. Pleasant Hospital was runner-up for best hospital in Moultrie News' Best of the Best 2023 list for medical services. Way to go!
- Berkeley volunteers will present handmade throws given to every patient in-house, and special blankets and hats for our holiday newborns.



Welcome, Susan!

Susan Sutton joined the volunteer team in October and engages with all who enter BSSF! You may find her in the Volunteer Services office, or out at the Main Information Desk. She is here weekdays from 8 am - 12 noon. Susan previously served at the Waring Senior Center in the afternoons and evenings.



Susan has a varied background. When asked what we could share about her story, she said she had a hole in one in golf when she was fifteen! Additionally, she has had poodles since she was 9 years old. Susan and (her dog) Forest are awaiting the arrival of another poodle soon. Please stop by and introduce yourself to Susan when you have a chance.

Welcome New RSFH Volunteers

Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital: Welcome our new volunteers: Cindy Miller, Eucharistic Minister; Janet Price, Cancer Center Desk; Roper Lundgren, Infusion Escort; Mary Carlo, Cancer Center Desk; Carol Fosseen, Lobby Ambassador. Welcome back Cecile Hernandez, Eucharistic Minister.

RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital: Welcome our new volunteers: Cathy Semenoff, Ortho; Roberta Brightman, ICU; Peyton Nugent, Medical/Surgical Unit; Gene Brown, Pharmacy; Gayle Brown, Information Desk. Welcome back Bonnie Luthy and Linda Logan!

Roper Hospital: Welcome our new volunteers: Louis Stroble, Admitting Escort and Clara Etnoyer, Sleep Lab.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **RSF Berkeley Hospital** welcomes Courtesy Golf Cart driver, morning shift, 9 a.m. - 12 noon and afternoon shift, 12 noon - 3 p.m.
- **Mt. Pleasant Hospital** welcomes Golf cart driver on Tuesday and Friday morning shift, 8 a.m.-12 noon; Information Desk Thursday morning shift, 8 a.m. -12 noon; Mammography Suite Tuesday morning shift 8 a.m.-12 noon and Friday afternoon shift 12 noon - 4 p.m.; Medical Office Building Greeter morning shift 8 a.m.-12 noon, Pet Therapy, visual artist, and musicians.
- **Roper Hospital** welcomes volunteers interested in Information Desk, Lobby Ambassadors, Admitting/ Outpatient Escorts, musicians and offsite Infusion Center Support volunteers.
- **Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital** welcomes those interested in assisting as Courtesy Golf Cart Driver, 12 noon – 3:30 p.m., and Imaging and Mammography escorts. Consider making a difference for someone coming in for a test!

Farewell

Denise Roberts, MPH Dietary Aide, has volunteered for six years with over 1,100 hours of service. We will miss Denise's energy and willingness to help in any area needing it!

Joe Sterling, Information Desk, has volunteered for eight years with over 3,700 hours, We will miss your kind and helpful nature! Thank you for all the years of service.

Blue Zones and Volunteering

According to Dan Buettner, Founder of Blue Zones, volunteering is one of the most powerful things you can do for your health. Thank you for your dedication and service to Roper St. Francis Healthcare! Explore Blue Zones to learn more: <https://www.bluezones.com/2019/07/why-volunteering-is-one-of-the-most-powerful-things-you-can-do-for-your-health/>

Flu Shots – Last call

We owe it to ourselves and our patients. Don't volunteer or shadow after 12/1 if you haven't had your flu shot. Shots are still available during regular office hours in the Employee Health offices. If you received yours elsewhere, bring in the documentation.



Dates to Remember

Blood Drive

RSFH is proud to partner with the Blood Connection to host blood drives. The Blood Connection is the exclusive blood supplier for RSFH, and all products donated locally are used locally.

Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital

12/5, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

RSF Mt. Pleasant Hospital

12/6, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Roper Hospital

12/8, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

RSF Berkeley Hospital

12/8, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.



Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital

VolunteerStFrancis@rsfh.com

(843)402-1156

Roper Hospital

VolunteerRoper@rsfh.com

(843)724-2080

RSF Mount Pleasant Hospital

VolunteerMPH@rsfh.com

(843)606-7502

RSF Berkeley Hospital

VolunteerBerkeley@rsfh.com

(854)529-3059



“For it is in giving that we receive.”
-St. Francis of Assisi

