

Volunteer Voice

July/August 2020

Hammond-Henry Hospital Auxiliary *Ice Cream Social*

The “virtual” ice cream social this year was a success. Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, \$5,716 was collected for the Auxiliary’s scholarship fund—to assist local students studying health care careers. Thank you all!



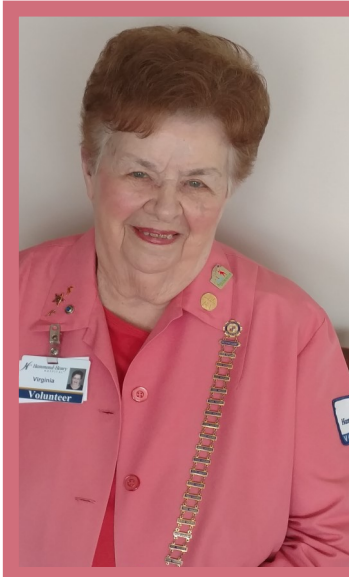
Tribute to Virginia Humbert

On June 26, 2020, a long-time volunteer and special friend to Hammond-Henry Hospital and the Auxiliary passed away.

Virginia Humbert, age 98, had been involved with the Auxiliary since 1996. During that time she logged over 9000 hours of volunteer service. For 13 years she had been Gift Shop manager, retiring from that in 2009. Since then she volunteered in the Information Desk and served on the Auxiliary telephone committee.

She was a special lady and I thank her for the legacy she leaves of service to others—not only at HHH but throughout the community.

Virginia, we miss you, but will remember the life lessons you shared with us. Thank you!



When This is Over

When this is over,
may we never again take for granted
a handshake with a stranger,
conversations with neighbors,
a crowded theater, Friday night out,
the taste of communion, a routine checkup
the school rush each morning,
coffee with a friend, the stadium roaring,
each deep breath, a boring Tuesday, life itself.

When this ends,
may we find that we have become
more like the people we wanted to be,
we were called to be, we hoped to be.
And may we stay that way—
better for each other because of the worst.

Laura Kelly Fanucci

Julie West, Volunteer/Auxiliary Manager
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Hospital Updates

These are certainly challenging and interesting times for health care. If you have not been to HHH since the COVID-19 pandemic in mid-March, you will notice several new procedures to protect the health and safety of our patients and staff.

All staff are required to practice social distancing, wear masks and practice frequent hand sanitation. Additional cleaning and sanitizing practices have been put in place. All patients entering the building continue to be checked for symptoms. These safety precautions continue in all the clinics as well.

The drive-thru COVID-19 screening clinic at HHH has tested a total of 3,465 as of July 18. Of those, there have been 142 positive results—not all of which are from Henry County. Also there is COVID-19 screening available at the Regional Health Partner's Clinic in Kewanee.

All patients are tested prior to elective surgeries and/or before being admitted to the hospital as a patient.

We are pleased that no employees have been furloughed, despite nationwide health care worker cutbacks. Employees in departments with reduced workloads (surgery, physical therapy, etc.) have been reassigned as other needs have arisen, such as answering calls in the COVID-19 call-in center, temperature check stations, etc.

We appreciate the support of so many businesses and individuals in our community that have helped us prepare for the health care challenges we are facing. Please take a moment to view a brief YouTube tribute recognizing many of those who have donated time, talents, supplies and services to help us through this time: <https://youtu.be/DbeUf8MmuBk>

We are truly grateful to be living in such a supportive community.

Other Things of Note:

- All of the specialty clinics have returned to their usual schedule. (cardiovascular medicine CVM, orthopedics with Dr. Stewart—OB-GYN, Sleep Lab, and Urology) - Dr. Engebrecht. Urological Associates (Dr. Kresowik) is scheduled to start back in September.
- Dr. Matt Heberer, General Surgeon, will be joining Hammond-Henry Hospital in August.
- At the beginning of August, the HHH medical offices in Geneseo, Kewanee, Cambridge, and Port Byron will be renamed to: **Hammond-Henry Hospital Medical Group**. Regional Health Partners (RHP) will no longer be used.
- As of July 13, Long Term Care residents are now allowed to have up to two visitors in our outdoor courtyard area as long as a six-foot distance is maintained between the visitor and the resident. We have designated area under the gazebo to accommodate residents & their visitors. Everyone will be required to wear a facemask or face covering at all times. If you wish to visit a resident, please contact the Activities Department @ 309-944-9155, only scheduled appointments are permitted at this time.
Note: This is subject to change should infection rates change and HHH restrictions be tightened.

Trading Places

Effective August 3, UnityPoint Clinic Geneseo Family Medicine (including Dr. Van Kerrebroeck; Annetta Nordstrom, NP; Brittany Courson, NP; Rhonda Misfeldt, NP; and Allison Blade, NP; will swap space with Hammond-Henry Hospital Medical Group, formerly Regional Health Partners—Geneseo, which includes: Dr. Brown, Dr. Snider, Dr. Soria as well as Kati Grimes, NP; and Stacy Circello, NP. All phone numbers will remain the same.

AmeriCorps Member

Even though Junior Volunteers were not allowed to volunteer on site this summer, college student Brynn Johnson, was able to assist this summer through the AmeriCorps program.



Brynn has been a Jr. Volunteer the past five summers, so she has had lots of experience at HHH. This summer she covered several shifts in the Gift Shop, assisted with patient check-in in the cardio vascular clinic, made deliveries of items to departments, picked up shredding, and other courier tasks.

Brynn heads off to Arizona State University in August to pursue a degree in Nursing.

Thanks for all your help, Brynn!



Health Care Advocacy Award

The Hammond-Henry Hospital Auxiliary was recently recognized by the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA) with the Health Care Advocacy Award for 2019. This recognition, presented by the Constituency on Volunteers in recognition of demonstrated support in the Legislative area.

Our Auxiliary is one of only fifteen Auxiliary's recognized from throughout the state.

This award is usually presented by our CEO to the Auxiliary at our Annual Meeting.



Above, **Mark Kuhn**, HHH CEO is shown presenting the Health Care Advocacy certificate to **Mary Bostwick**, HHH Auxiliary President. The certificate is displayed on the wall outside of the Volunteer Office.

Volunteers Returning to Service

Volunteers are invited to return to service only if they are comfortable doing so. Some of the areas where volunteers could assist include: CVM clinic, surgical waiting, checking temps and screening those at HHH entrances, courier and Gift Shop. (Volunteers screening at the entrances is an early shift beginning at 5 a.m. for any of you early birds!)

Contact Julie (309/944-9130) if you would be interested in volunteering for shifts in August or September. These will be scheduled if there are appropriate tasks. Safety is a priority and precautions will be followed. Everyone must wear a mask and keep at least 6 feet from others when possible. Hand gel and sanitizing wipes are provided at volunteer stations to wipe down any surfaces that are frequently touched.



"I always get to where I am going by walking away from where I have been."

*Winnie the Pooh
(A. A. Milne)*

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