

## President's Message-

Things First, I feel that a few “Thank you’s!” are in order, so let me start with those. On behalf of the Auxiliary Board, I would like to extend my sincere, heartfelt and abundant thanks to Emily Morris and Nancy Flahan for their hard work, dedication and commitment to the hospital and to the Auxiliary. They’ve kept the office running despite the numerous challenges and obstacles they’ve faced during the past months – from working without a manager to the current COVID-19 crisis. They’ve continued to assist the Auxiliary with drive and determination - I applaud them and their ongoing efforts!



Susan  
Bowers

Next, I would like to thank Memorial Hospital, the Auxiliary Office and the Gift Shop Managers for their acknowledgment of our volunteer service during National Health Care Volunteer Week. It’s nice to be appreciated even though we can’t be in the hospital where we’d like to be!

Thanks also to our Snips & Stitches group who have been working diligently to create surgical style face masks for the hospital. I know their efforts are greatly appreciated!

I would also like to thank the Executive Committee and the Auxiliary Board for continuing their work despite the challenges of not being able to be

physically present at the hospital. I appreciate your devotion to the hospital and to our mission!

Last, but certainly not least, I want to thank all of our auxiliaries and volunteers for your support and commitment to the hospital and to the auxiliary. I’m sure we are all looking forward to being active in the hospital again soon!

*Second, my article...*

It’s a changed world that we’re living in right now, isn’t it? As I stated in my article last month, I am sure that your lives have been changed in ways you never would have or maybe even could have, imagined. I don’t know about you, but there are many things I like about the changes that have been brought about and many things that I don’t. I like having more time to read, to walk the dog, to exercise and to cook. I like having time to get to those projects on my “to-do” list that have been there forever. I like being able to spend more time connecting with my fellow board members. What I don’t like is being nervous about going to the grocery store, having to “go” to church online, worrying about my health or that of my family and friends. I don’t like wondering where I’m going to get toilet paper and worrying about the uncertainty of the future. I don’t like that events I enjoy participating in are being cancelled, and I really don’t like not being able to volunteer and help others in the ways in which I am accustomed.



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I think that we're all figuring out a way to deal with or adapt to the changes in our lives. Friends of mine have said, I just don't feel like cleaning or I just don't want to exercise - and that's okay. Everyone deals with things in their own way. I know that I've had a range of emotions throughout this situation – anger, fear, sadness, frustration, and anxiety, but I am dealing with the emotions and making the best of the changes. I've started grocery shopping through an app, so I don't have to go into the grocery store. I've watched church services from churches all over the country and have been uplifted in new ways. And I've had more time to connect with family and friends through texts, emails, and phone calls to see how they're doing. I still

don't know what the future is going to look like - I'm taking one day at a time but on the bright side, I have found toilet paper! If you're feeling stressed about the COVID19 situation, the CDC website has information on how to manage stress:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

As I'm writing this, I've just learned that Illinois has just extended its stay-at-home order through May 30. Sigh!

Please take care of yourselves, be safe and continue to reach out to one another!

*Susan Bowers, Auxiliary President*

## Update - Auxiliary & Foundation Development Manager

Our new Auxiliary Manager, Monica Heshmet, was scheduled to begin on April 27, however her start date has been moved back to July 20.



## June Membership Meeting

Our June Membership Dinner meeting has been cancelled. All hour awards that have been earned will be presented at the next meeting in December.

## Auxiliary Office Hours

On April 20, employees in some departments were asked by Human Resources to use "Special Pay Covid PTO" to reduce our hours.

*The Auxiliary Office will remain open on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 7:00 am - 3:30 pm and close on Tuesday and Wednesdays.*

You can leave messages on our voicemail or send emails with any questions.

## Membership Report

**No new members**

### Sympathy

With our condolences to family and friends, we acknowledge the passing of former volunteer, Rosemary Beran on April 25, 2020 and Life member, Shirley Dickhaut, on April 29, 2020. Our condolences also to Dorothy Hacker on the passing of her son Richard in April of 2020.

### Membership Numbers:

- 99-Active
- 110-Active/Life
- 15-Junior
- 224-Life
- 41-Sustaining
- 489-Total





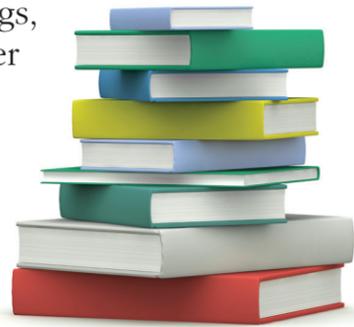
## Fundraising

### Book Bazaar Postponed

The Book Bazaar originally scheduled for April 29 through May 2 is on hold.

At this time, we do not know if it will be rescheduled or cancelled.

All meetings, trainings, fundraising and other events have been cancelled through May 31. We will keep you advised.



Stay safe and healthy!

## Gift Shop

Both of our Gift Shops have been holding their own since the closure in March. While operating out of the Auxiliary Office, to maintain social distancing, we did very well with the Easter merchandise. Starting in May, we will offer Mother's Day gift items at a discount. At Memorial Belleville, we have a bit of a problem with lack of foot traffic as we are not in a highly visible area. We have spoken to Community Relations and they will try to get the word out to employees, either in another mass email and/or flyers to all departments. We are also talking about making individual appointments for employees that would like to come into the Gift Shop to search through a larger selection of gifts.



## Snips & Stitches

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in slowing down for many sectors, but it has been “a call to sew” for the auxiliary’s Snips and Stitches group. The group has put aside projects such as baby blankets, burp cloths, and turbans to focus on face masks. Snips and Stitches group members working on masks include Jane Schwebke (group coordinator), Jean Joseph, Karen Milton, Mary Boxdorfer, Connie Sinn and Adele Theobald. They have been creating pleated, surgical style face masks with cloth ties out of a water-resistant fabric combined with a cotton fabric.

Jane Schwebke communicates with group members at least weekly via telephone, text, and/or e-mail. When a member completes several masks, they are placed in a sealed plastic bag. To maintain safe social distancing, Jane will pick them up from porches and leave additional, bagged



sewing supplies as needed. Jane delivers the masks to the auxiliary office where they are given to Lynn McKinney, Sterile Processing Manager, to be sterilized and distributed accordingly.

Approximately 200 masks have been donated. Each mask takes 30 minutes to complete. The demand for masks has been high, but the group is working hard to make more. Snips and Stitches is desperately in need of double -fold bias tape, quarter-inch elastic, and cotton fabrics. If anyone has any of these items available for donation, please contact the auxiliary office.

## QUILTS

There are baby quilts available in the Auxiliary Office. One has pale yellow backing with animals riding a rocking horse embroidered on the front with a light green bow embroidered at the top. It is priced at \$100. The second has a Winnie the Pooh print front with a honey color back and orange points and is priced at \$35. We also have one baby blanket in the Auxiliary Office priced at \$35. It is made of flannel patches and are machine stitched with hand clipped edges.



The baby items hand made by our “Snips and Stitches” group of volunteers including the “loops of love” and burp clothes are also available and are priced at \$8 each. They make a great addition to baby shower gifts.



**Community of Character  
Word of the Month**

*Self-Discipline*

Thinking about your words and actions and then making choices.



**Disposal of Expired Medications**

Memorial Hospital Auxiliary collects unused or expired drugs or health supplements. The Environmental Services Department disposes of them according to Illinois EPA regulations. You can bring them to the Auxiliary Office any time during office hours.



**Now Accepting Photos for the 2021 Calendar Photo Contest-**

A picture that YOU have taken could appear in Memorial's 2021 calendar! The annual photo contest is open to all Memorial Hospital, Memorial Care Center and Belleville Health and Sports Center employees, Medical Staff members and Auxilians. **Photo must be taken by the person submitting the photo.** Any size photo may be submitted, horizontal photos



are preferred. Polaroid photos will not be accepted. No mats or frames. Photographs should be from one of these categories:

- People (adults, infants and toddlers)
- Health/Wellness/Fitness
- Landscapes (spring, summer, fall, winter)
- Pets/Animals

Three winners will be chosen from each of the four categories. In addition, one GRAND PRIZE winner will be selected and his/her photo will be used as the calendar's cover. All entries must be received in the Communications and Marketing at MHB no later than Friday, **August 20, 2020**. You may enter one photo in each category; include on the back of each submitted photo: name, address, department, and extension. If your photo is a landscape, please include location. If there is a person or pet in the photo, please identify. Judging will be done by a professional photographer. For more information, call ext. 75649.

**Photo Categories:**

- *People (adults, infants and toddlers)*
- *Health/Wellness/Fitness*
- *Landscapes (spring, summer, fall, winter)*
- *Pets/Animals*

*You may enter one photo in each category*



# Working Together

to Keep Our Community Safe

As we work together to reduce the spread of COVID-19, we are all facing new challenges with work, school, and our social lives, while trying to stay healthy both physically and mentally. The Memorial Network is always here to meet your healthcare needs. We are all doing our part to look out for one another and strengthen our community during trying times. [Stay safe!](#)

[mymemorialnetwork.com](http://mymemorialnetwork.com)

**Memorial's Hotline number is**  
**618-607-1259**  
**for community member questions.**

*Community members calling this number can leave a message;  
those messages will be returned within 48 hours.*