

Streamlines

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Emory Johns Creek Hospital Auxiliary

Editor: Barb

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#### Kuester



**Cheryl Pressly** 

#### **President, EJCH Auxiliary**

National Volunteer Week falls in the third week April of each year and provides an opportunity for organizations to celebrate the impact of their selfless and inspirational volunteers. At Emory Johns Creek Hospital, our volunteers are an integral part of the team within the organization that helps support our patients, families, staff, and community. Volunteers truly make a difference to our patients and their care partners when they visit the hospital. Volunteers often do the little extra things that staff don't have time to do – the things that sometimes make the biggest difference in the patient's experience while they're here.

To recognize and applaud the amazing work that our volunteers do, Emory Johns Creek Hospital hosted its 2022 Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on April 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Ives Country Club. Special recognitions are mentioned in the newsletter. The highlight of the luncheon was the presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Award. This year's prestigious honor went to Marty Fellers. Among her many outstanding contributions, Marty has volunteered 12,500 hours of service, was the first President of the Auxiliary when the hospital opened in 2007, and has volunteered in almost every area of the hospital in the last 15 years.

It is through the thousands of hours of service that all of our volunteers have collectively given of their time that they have made a difference to the patient care experience at Emory Johns Creek Hospital. We thank them all for their ongoing commitment and dedication as volunteers.





Volunteers receiving their 15 Year Pins are: Rich Diggelmann, Becky Coats, Walt Van Winkle, David Hyman, Jane Radman, Joan Holt, Sarah Gail Hytowitz, Al Fellers, Marty Fellers, Barb Kuester, Margaret Irace and Henry Irace.

Those receiving 10 year pins are Kathy Hoenig, Eileen Kovalchik, Chris Johnson, Richard Loehn and Wayne Morgan. (No picture available)

#### **HOURS OF SERVICE AWARDS**

#### 12,500 Hours of Service Marty Fellers

7,000 Hours of Service Barbara Kuester Jane Radman

#### 6,500 Hours of Service Albert Fellers

Joan Holt

#### 5,500 Hours of Service

Sarah Gail Hytowitz Walter Van Winkle

#### 5,000 Hours of Service Chris Johnson

4,500 Hours of Service Olivia Montgomery\*\*

#### 4,000 Hours of Service **Becky Coats\*\***

#### 3,500 Hours of Service

Rich Diggelmann Kathy Hoenig Ted Lynam Jane Macking Don Radman Mary Ann Stabile

#### 3,000 Hours of Service

David Hyman Eileen Kovalchik

#### 2,500 Hours of Service

Carol Enzman **Edward Holt Margaret Irace** Alan Shapiro

#### 2,000 Hours of Service

Sue Arenstein Henry Irace Robert Sullivan 1,500 Hours of Service

#### Peggy Allan\*

Linda Gallagher\* Cecil Johnson\*

#### 1.000 Hours of Service

Kay Edwards Frances Munoz

#### 500 Hours of Service

Helen Adrian Christine Allison Virginia Harrison **Eileen Parsons** Karen Patrizzi Cheryl Pressly Peggy Smith

#### 100 Hours of Service

Theresa Holladay Kelli Jordan Becky Lingg Deborah Quinn Lakshmi Rao Gregg Zandy

After 9/11 President George W. Bush saw a need to renew the interest in helping our neighbors and called upon all Americans to help by volunteering their time. The President's Volunteer Service Award program began in 2003 to encourage and reward America's proud tradition of volunteer service. The PVSA recognizes the valuable contributions volunteers are making in our communities and encourages more people to serve. Receiving awards today are:

#### PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER GOLD AWARD

Peggy Allan, Linda Gallagher, Cecil Johnson, Carol Enzman

**AND** 

#### PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER LIFETIME AWARD

**Olivia Montgomery and Becky Coats** 



Pictured: Cecil Johnson, Becky Coats, Peggy Allan, Olivia Montgomery



# How Do I Love Thee, Volunteers Marilyn Margolis (with apologies to Elizabeth Barrett Browning)

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways

I love thee from the entrance doors to the concierge desk.

When the visitors are feeling cranky and may be a bit of a mess
For the walls of PAT when folks are feeling hungry,

Till they are done with colonoscopies and ready to say Dunkin
I love thee to the level of each and every selfless move you bring

To the atmosphere you provide and never waver or sting

I love thee freely, as you all strive for goodness

I love thee purely, as you turn from praise and act from your heart

I love thee for the passion you put to good use from end to start

I love thee with a love that I save for my family

I love thee with the breath because you help avoid any calamity

Thank you for all you bring to our patients, families and all of the staff. We love you and appreciate your efforts that start with your heart and end with your calves.



## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2022 MARTY FELLERS



Marty Fellers is our Volunteer of the Year for 2022. Starting back in 2006, as the hospital was preparing to open, Marty was already deeply involved in how volunteers would serve, closely reviewing each department and the needs and writing "job descriptions" for the volunteers. She has been tireless in her support of staff and volunteers. In 2007 she was awarded the Frist Humanitarian Award, the first recognition for outstanding volunteerism. The City of Johns Creek also acknowledged her as their outstanding volunteer of the year in 2009. Marty was the first President of the Auxiliary, developed talking points for the Birth Place tours, trained volunteers, conducted Safe Sitter classes, the list goes on and on. We congratulate a most deserving recipient of the Volunteer of the Year award for 2022, Marty Fellers.

#### **OTHER EVENTS AT EJCH**



**CEO Marilyn Margolis conducting the Johns Creek Symphony** 

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Sarah Gail Hytowitz and Eileen Parsons interviewing potential volunteers



**Scholarship Committee Meeting** 

Terry Holladay, Cheryl Pressly, Ed Holt, Walt Van Winkle,

Eileen Kovalchik, Jane Radman, Joan Holt, Barb Kuester (Photographer)

### NIH, HHS leaders call for research and policy changes to address oral health inequities

Americans' oral health has improved over the last two decades, but disparities in oral health have stubbornly persisted and pose a major global public health threat, write National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) Director Rena N. D'Souza, D.D.S., Ph.D., Acting Science Advisor to the President and former National Institutes of Health Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., and U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy, M.D., M.B.A., in a new perspective published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*(link is external).

Oral health is intrinsic to overall health and well-being, yet nearly half of adults over age 30 have periodontal (gum) disease, and 90% have caries, or tooth decay, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These and other oral diseases disproportionately burden people who are from marginalized and underserved groups.

Drawing on findings and recommendations from NIH's comprehensive report on the nation's oral health, Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges, the authors write that equalizing oral health and access to care will require research and policy initiatives that make oral health care more affordable, accessible, and responsive to communities.

The COVID-19 pandemic, which has disproportionately impacted the same groups that experience oral health inequities, highlights the effects of social and systemic factors on health and well-being, as well as the interconnectedness of overall health, mental health, and oral health, write the authors. Patients who lack access to dental care and seek treatment for dental problems in hospital emergency departments are commonly prescribed opioids. Misuse of and addiction to opioids and other substances, which have been exacerbated by the pandemic, threaten oral health. In a similar vein, people with certain mental illnesses have particularly high rates of oral disease. Fully addressing oral health disparities will require research on the environmental, psychosocial, and behavioral factors at the intersection of oral and mental health.

Finally, the authors call for several policy changes to improve access to oral health care. These include integrating oral, medical, and behavioral health care in traditional and non-traditional health care settings, such as schools and community health centers, as well as including communities in the planning, design, and execution of oral health care systems. Efforts are also needed to diversify the composition of oral health professionals, address education and training costs, and build a strong oral health research enterprise. Harnessing these policy changes and fully integrating oral health into a new era of discovery with a greater emphasis on prevention can disrupt inequities and improve the overall health of individuals, families, and communities.

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