As the hospital prepared for the arrival of hurricane Irma, plans were put in place as to who should be at the hospital and who should stay safe at home. The planning was critical to insure the safety of the patients, the staff and their families. The hospital went on lockdown (no one in or out) as of noon on Sunday, September 10th with 200 patients, one family member who was staying with a patient, 250 staff and families and ZERO volunteers. It was important that the volunteers were home and safe.

Ambulances quit running when the winds reached 45 MPH because it was too dangerous for them to be out. This is true for all emergency services during such events.

The hospital was fully staffed the duration – including the cafeteria. For the safety of the staff, the Saturday workers were released in time to get home to their families and those working through the lockdown were to arrive Saturday. The employees working during the shutdown were allowed to bring their families with them, but it was “BYOB” – Bring Your Own Bedding. They also had to bring their own water, food, and entertainment but at least they were all together and in a safe place – and for this they were quite thankful. They were even able to bring their puppies and a separate wing was established for them. Michael Pittman even let a few stay an extra evening due to difficulty in their getting home.

Everyone worked so well together. They all stepped up and worked hard and were definitely patient focused. Disasters can bring the best out of caring people. Of course they immediately missed the volunteers. Hospital staff gets so used to having help that it was really noticed that they were absent. Thankfully the volunteers had all the needed supplies in order in advance of their leaving.

This account is based on Susan Williams’ experience while at the hospital from Saturday through Tuesday.
PRESIDENT’S LETTER
October 2017

“LET US ALWAYS MEET EACH OTHER WITH A SMILE, FOR THE SMILE IS THE BEGINNING OF LOVE”

Mother Teresa

Well, I’m certainly glad that September is past history!
I am so very grateful that this area did not suffer more damage than it did from Irma. And I hope that all of our volunteers are now doing well and have their power back and their homes back in shape. My husband and I were in Ohio for a football game and missed the storm but our flight home was cancelled so we decided to drive. After 20 hours of driving, which should have taken less than 10, we finally reached The Villages. We are very thankful that our home was fine—no damage and very little debris.

It’s time for our seasonal volunteers to begin returning ... and we welcome them back. Please remember that when you are returning from time away you should contact the Volunteer Placement Office (VPO), 751-8176. There may be some requirements that you will need to complete before you begin your volunteering again. And the VPO will know if your previous position is still available and if not they can review the current openings with you.

As of August 31, 2017, we have 906 volunteers with 120,760 hours of service year-to-date. We currently have over 90 open shifts for volunteers and can always use more volunteers. If you would like to add a shift to your current schedule, please contact the VPO.

Have you been to one of the parades on the Town Squares?
Well now you can be part of one. The Auxiliary is participating in the Oktoberfest parade on October 17 and we could use your help. Come walk with us and show your pride in being part of the Villages Regional Hospital Auxiliary. If you would like to join us, please call the Auxiliary Office, 751-8061.

Have you purchased your raffle ticket yet ...
for a 7 night Viking River Boat Cruise? This is a major fundraiser for the Auxiliary Foundation. Tickets are on sale at the Gift Gallery for one for $50 or three for $100. It’s a great opportunity since only 1500 tickets will be sold. The drawing for the winner will be held on October 26. In addition to the cruise the winner will receive $2000 to help with airfare.

I am extremely proud of all our volunteers and the service they provide. I appreciate each of you and the time you give to The Villages Regional Hospital.
All participants need to be there ready to go by 2:30 pm. We are Slot 19 in the Parade and we will line up behind the Rialto Theater. All who want to join us to walk the parade are welcome, but please wear your uniform! The parade route is just 30 minutes long however, there may be some time of waiting in place during the parade. We will have room for 5 people to ride if they can’t walk the route. We will need two people to carry the banner and be in front of the cart.

We will have one 6 seater golf cart, driven by Jim Lemon, to decorate so creative ideas are needed as well as fall decorations to use on the cart. Collectively, we will create the best looking entry of course, the goal is to be the most supported by walkers. If you have any creative ideas or have a lot of fall decorations available to bring, The Auxiliary Office a call at 352-751-8061 or Lou Emmert at 702-203-0570. jdemmert@embarqmail.com

The Parade begins at 3:30 pm if you are only able to come to cheer us on.

ARCE TESTING

Annual Regulatory Compliance Education & Risk Safety Module
(Same Testing, New Name, Still Mandatory!)

For NEW VOLUNTEERS & GOLF CART DRIVERS
October 10 & 24 • 8:00-11:30 am

3rd floor of East Campus in the room off the elevator
You will get your TB test and your eyes checked the same day. East Campus, 2nd floor, Classroom 2

For ANNUAL VOLUNTEERS
Any Tuesday... But, the 2 Tuesdays above may be busier than the other 2.

FOR EYE TESTS: The Employee Health Care nurse will be available for volunteers eye testing on Tuesdays. Eye Tests are available at Employee Health Care Office on the 3rd floor of the East Campus.
That’s right folks, it’s “Happy Fall Ya’ll” time in the Gift Gallery, and have we got great Fall items for you to purchase and enjoy. We have ghosts and witches floating around and about the store just waiting for you to come in and see what we have for sale! Come in and visit with our ghosts that whirl and spin, sing and dance for your enjoyment. Our witches will entertain you as well.

If you want to emulate Kate and Pippa Middleton, come in and check out our “witches hats” that look very much like the small hats called “fascinators” that ladies wear.

New Fall wreaths are in and ready for you to make a purchase.

Come on in and enjoy Fall Ya’ll!
AUXILIARY PLEDGE

Believing that the hospital has real need for my service as a volunteer worker:

I will be punctual and conscientious in the fulfilment of my duties and accept supervision graciously.

I will consider as confidential all information which I may hear directly or indirectly concerning a patient, doctor or any personnel, and will not seek information in regard to a patient.

I will take any problems, criticisms or suggestions to my department chairperson.

I will endeavor to make my work of the highest quality.

I will uphold the traditions and standards of this hospital and will interpret them to the community at large.

The buildings of Ye Olde Thrift Shoppe have been standing for over 100 years, so they have probably weathered a lot of tornadoes, torrential rains and strong winds, but still as Hurricane Irma approached volunteers started getting the buildings ready. The Shoppe closed Friday evening and was unable to open again for customers until 12 days later. Some of the workers spent Friday and Saturday securing the buildings, preparing for possible water invasions, and taping up the windows.

Once the storm was past, there was no electricity in the buildings for 7 days – this means no lights and no air conditioning! Of course this didn’t stop some of the workers from cleaning up the parking lot, un-taping the windows and receiving donations. If that wasn’t enough, with directions and encouragement from our Creative Director/Store Manager, Karen Harkins, they rearranged the book area of building 2 – opening up the area to allow for more floor space without loss of shelving area for the books and CD. She kindly provided only one small battery operated fan, but even that helped as the volunteers attempted to do what they could during the aftermath.

Meanwhile a volunteer demonstrated what it is to be part of the YOTS family. Knowing another of the volunteers was not comfortable being alone during the storm; she picked her up and brought her to their home. They don’t even work on the same day, but had met each other at the store and then later found out they both took a class together every week. “It was not big deal” the hosting volunteer said. “We had fun with her and it kept us from fretting about the wind and rain”.

HUFF AND PUFF
BUT YOU CAN’T BLOW US DOWN

Just try to blow these doors open

Someone went wild with the tape!

No water allowed

Rearranged book area
AUXILIARY PRAYER
Almighty God and heavenly Father, bless our endeavors as we strive to bring comfort and hope to all who are in distress of mind or body.

Guide us so that we may use the privilege given us to help the aged, the ill and the very young -- and with gentleness.

Give us the strength to labor diligently, and the courage to think and to speak with clarity and conviction but without prejudice or pride.

Grant us both wisdom and humility, directing our united efforts to do for others only as You would have us do.

Amen

A FOODIE’S VIEW of Hurricane IRMA

A hurricane’s coming! Oh what shall we do?
I think we should run out and buy – just a few Emergency supplies, batteries and such Water and ice and thing we can munch.

The wind is sure blowing as best I can tell. I guess that explains the loss of my cell.
The rain and the wind are raging outside. We’re tough Floridians who take that in stride.

We lost our power so no one can cook.
The flashlights are fading and everyone’s shook, Let’s open the cans and eat some cold beans Nothing is really as bad as it seems.

But now it’s over and oh what a mess! The leftover food is anyone’s guess...
Half-eaten Twinkies® and beef jerky strips, Cold instant coffee and wet ’tater chips.

A little peanut butter stuck in the jar.
Yes, the most popular nibble by far!
Who thought we would eat Weiner sausage – Cold from the can - our taste buds held hostage.

A wonderful excuse it was to eat candy,
Energy we reasoned might come in handy.
We ran out of water and had to drink beer, Exactly what happened then is not very clear!

So now that’s it over I’m happy to say The restaurants are opening more each day. Gas and milk are still hard to obtain

But Starbucks is brewing their coffee again!

— Anonymus

WELCOME!

New Members for September

Bryan Bryan
Kathleen Flynn
Linda Halstead
Charles Hoffman
Margaret Logan
Judy Sierota
Wendy Sorenson

James Teets
Sandra Teets
Eileen Disinger
Lynn Hakkila
Katherine Harris
Amy Jessup
Amy Norman

AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS CAN GET THEIR FLU SHOTS FOR free!

- Flu shots and stickers for flu shots would usually be starting by October 1st. Unfortunately, at this time we have learned that we have not received any of our flu vaccinations. We have been told that we should at least get a partial delivery by the end of September. We have a tentative schedule to start our clinics on October 10th.

- If volunteers get their flu shot through TVRH Employee Health, their sticker will be provided immediately after the shot is given.

- If volunteers get their flu shot through their doctor, they must bring in proof of inoculation and that document needs to go to the Day Captain’s Office, it then gets “processed” and then the stickers can be picked up at a later date in the Day Captain’s Office.

- If volunteers does not get, or cannot take the flu shot, they will need to wear a mask in patient care areas.
Ye Olde Thrift Shoppe is open
Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
and is located at 106 & 110 W. Lady Lake Blvd.
just two blocks south of the CR 466
and US Highway 441 intersection and
part of the Lady Lake Historical Park.

For more information call us at 352-259-5853.
We appreciate all your donations and can also pick up large pieces of furniture (just call 352-874-3593).

Ye Olde Thrift Shoppe

The TVRH Auxiliary Foundation Board of Directors was formed in 2012. In 2014 we set up a “Patient Care” Committee. The purpose of this committee is to “identify items/equipment needed by our clinicians to provide and/or improve upon the services and quality of care provided to the patients of The Villages Regional Hospital”. The Foundation Board allocates a set amount of money that can be spent each year in this endeavour.

Different departments submit an application of a need for their department. They must have researched the cost and usage for any item proposed. They turn this in to the CCO (Michael Pittman) of the hospital and we then call a meeting of the Patient Care committee to review each proposed item.

The committee views and discusses each item and decides which item and how many we will buy. We then submit our items and their cost to the Foundation Board for their approval.

In 2017 I was appointed as Chairman of this Foundation Patient Care Committee. Also on the committee are Lou Emmert, Paul Farineau, Dr. Hussein and Scott Sanders.

Some of the items we have bought for the Hospital are:

- 6 – Senior Care ED Recliners
- 12 – Wheelchairs w/Docking Station
- 18 – Mattresses for ER
- 15 – Patient Chair Alarms
- 1 – Platform Gurney Scale for ER
- 2 – AMSCO Blanket Warmers
- 14 – Phlebotomy/Lab Carts
- 7 – Vein Viewers

And many other items in our three year period. Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. This year we have a $100,000 budget to work with.

This is just one of the committees of the TVRH Auxiliary Foundation Board that help support our Hospital.

---Submitted by Jim Lemon

FOUNDATION NEWS

BIG BIKE WEEKEND 2017 --- expecting 500 riders!!
The Villages® Regional Hospital Auxiliary Foundation invites you to save the date for their “Hearts for Our Hospital Big Bike Weekend”
November 10 and 11, 2017.

The Cycling Expo and Health Fair will be held Friday, November 10 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at La Hacienda Regional Recreation Center in The Villages and the Bicycle Challenge will be Saturday, November 11 starting at 8 a.m. There will be five route options, including a 10-mile, 17-mile, 32-mile, 64-mile and 100-mile course. All participants who register by October 22 will receive a free event t-shirt! Visit www.H4HBikeWeekend.com to learn more.

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Big Bike Weekend 2017
Shelly Scarbrough, a 19 year Central Florida Health veteran, is one (of a Team of 9) of the designated “Go To” people in the Foundation office. Armed with a college degree in graphic design and marketing, Shelly joined LRMC, worked with Human Resources and Community Events, transferred to TVRH and is now in her dream job with the Auxiliary Foundation. She works closely with Foundation Donors and our community at large, serves on the Chamber of Commerce of both Lady Lake and Sumter County, is Lead Coordinator on several community events, and offers unwavering support to our TVRH Auxiliary.

Shelly admits the “Gala” is her favorite event, partly because of the importance and glitz of the evening, but mostly because it is one event in which our Auxiliary is involved in a huge way. “I enjoy the “can do” attitude and energy of the volunteers, their smiles, creativity and enthusiasm. Service, time, and dedication of our volunteers are sincerely appreciated.”

The best part of her job is meeting people, and being able to share in the great things we do. “We ...all of us... make a difference. I am proud of what we do. And I totally enjoy my job!”

Shelly quickly shared that she is a family and work oriented individual who is driven to contribute to society. If something is needed, she wants to be one who makes it happen. “I enjoy working with others who will figure out a way to accomplish a goal...and have fun in the process.”

--- Submitted by Pat Kronk

The Villages Regional Hospital and Leesburg Regional Medical Hospital

CHEST PAIN TREATMENT CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE!

This was learned recently after receiving the results from a two-day site survey from the American College of Cardiology.

Chest Pain Centers strive to quickly diagnose cardiac patients, begin treatment within minutes and significantly improve the chance of a positive outcome. Studies show that Chest Pain Centers reduce mortality rates by 37 percent. The emphasis of Chest Pain Centers includes focusing on high-risk patients as well as decreasing unnecessary admissions of low risk patients with chest pain. More than five million Americans visit hospitals each year with chest pain, but only ten to fifteen percent of the patients are diagnosed with an acute myocardial infarction, or heart attack. An estimated 50 to 60 percent of emergency department chest pain patients are admitted to coronary care units and most are found to be free of cardiac disease. Chest Pain Centers achieve success with early intervention and rapid initiation of therapy.

Although it is impossible to list everyone who participated in this process, I would like to recognize the following Team Members and Physicians for special appreciation:

Team Members (from TVRH, Leesburg Reg. members not listed)
- Jennifer Hardy, Chest Pain Coordinator, TVRH
- Ginger Melton, Clinical Informatics Manager
- Addy Ramos, Cath Lab Director, TVRH
- Lori Deforge, TVRH ED Director (interim)
- Marsha Anders, Director Lab, TVRH
- Alex Chang, VP Support Services
- Michael Pittman, VP and Site Administrator, TVRH

Physicians:
- Navin Reddy, MD
- Jeremy Spry, DO
- Kenneth Sampoong, MD
- Hector Garcia, MD
- Roberto Negron-Marrero, MD
- Eze Uche, MD
- Marwan Mihyum, MD
- Thiruvallur Vallabhan, MD

--- Submitted by Pat Kronk

What Do YOU Think?

Getting to Know Us

Pat Kronk has been thinking about having a large book/notebook about our Musicians, but the idea could, and probably should, apply to ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS.

If desired, each volunteer could write up a bio/story similar to Stephanie’s. We all have stories that reflect our past and highlight how we got here and why volunteering in TVRH is so special and important to the volunteer.

No address or phone, but an ID pic could work. One page only. A “Getting To Know You” / “Getting to know Us” book.

Every day I realize how special each volunteer is as an individual, and I wish I could hear more of their stories. Hummingbird articles are not just everyday events, but highlights of people, events, and significant moments in time.

Just an idea.
Do you think it has merit?

If you want to share, please send your article and photo to
skumler@gmail.com