

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

Mar-Apr 2007

Now on the web at <http://www.phelpshospital.org/auxiliary/index.php>

EDITED by JIM REIDY



Maarten VanHengel, Phelps Board Member, Dies at 79

Maarten van Hengel, a Scarborough and Fishers Island resident passed away quietly at home on December 29, 2006. Born in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, on March 29, 1927, he was the fourth of six children of Adrianus J. van Hengel, a prominent Dutch banker, and Helena van Hengel-Gips. While showing unwavering dedication to many community and business endeavors, family was always at the core of this man rich in power, emotion and love.

Mr. van Hengel was an active leader in community service to local health care agencies. He was a Director of the Donald R. Reed Speech Center, Phelps Memorial Hospital, Stellaris Health Network and Kendal-on-Hudson. In his 30 year association with Phelps he served twice on the board, including a term as chairman, and worked to guide expansion projects from the nurses' residence to the medical office building. His culminating contribution was the development of a life care community with the Kendal Corporation. Until the time of his death he remained the Chair of Kendal-on-Hudson, and he held honorary Board memberships on the Phelps and Stellaris Boards.

Pharmacy Returns to Phelps

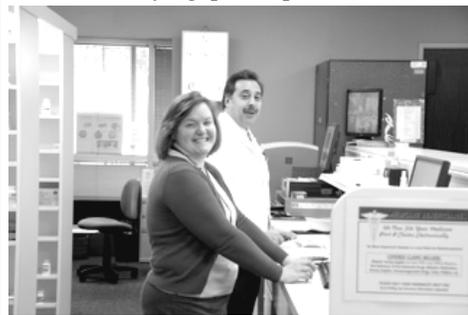
By Jim Goldsmith

After a long absence, Phelps once again has a retail pharmacy on its campus. The Phelps Community Pharmacy opened in January. It is run by Joe Paternoster, R.Ph.,M.M. the Supervising Pharmacist and Sally Smith, Pharmacy Technician. Besides carrying prescription medicines, there is a full line of retail medicines,



vitamins, greeting cards, stamps, snacks, drinks, and film developing and/or photo printing.

The pharmacy takes most major insurance plans and of course most major credit cards.



It is a friendly, no pressure way to shop and both Joe and Sally are ready and willing to discuss any pharmaceutical questions or issues you might have. Drop in and just look around next time you are at Phelps. They are located on the ground floor of the 777 Building.

Welcome to our Newest Volunteers

Dennis Capossela - Briarcliff Manor
 Helena Greco - Pleasantville
 Michelle Sacurato - Chappaqua
 Susan Seibert - Sleepy Hollow
 Siva Budda - Ossining
 Mike Sena - Scarborough
 John Dignam - Ossining

→ Main Lobby/Exit ↑ Medical Records
 ↑ Restrooms ♿ ↑ Administration

Wow, what a difference a day makes! All of a sudden you can now look up and see Phelps's fabulous new signs that will clearly lead you to any part of the hospital you want to go to. Not only are there large signs hanging from the ceiling, but there are also directional signs in the corridors, and by the elevators. It has been a long time coming, but the wait was well worth it. The directions are clear, evenly spaced, and make navigating around the hospital very easy.

Remember, if in doubt, look up.

Look Up

→ X-Ray/Radiology ↑ Cardiovascular ↑ Outpatient Lab
 ↑ West Elevator ↑ Echocardiography/EKG ↑ EEG

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

March

Thurs.	March 8	Exile CD's
Fri	March 9	D & D Jewelry
Mon	March 12	Sock Exchange
Thurs	March 15	Books are Fun
Fri	March 16	Books are Fun
Thurs	March 22	Leather Outlet
Fri	March 23	Angielins Uniforms
Fri	March 30	Candles & Games

April

Thurs	April 12	Save on Socks
Thurs	April 19	Tupperware
Fri	April 20	Activewear Plus
Fri	April 27	PRA Sterling Jewelry

MEETING THE VOLUNTEERS

- Aileen Maher -

By Joyce Moes

Recently, I had the pleasure of interviewing Aileen Maher who volunteers at our Phelps Care Desk. Aileen became a Volunteer in 2003, and acts as the liaison between the Operating Room, the Recovery Room and the families in the Waiting Room; she also relays patient status to the Information Desk. She tells us that volunteering at the Care Desk is one of the most fulfilling and rewarding positions she has ever held. As we talked about her busy life, which includes her family of brothers and sisters, a niece, a nephew and seven grandnieces, she said her life had taken many twists and turns. For fifteen years she taught math at Our Lady of Victory, Dobbs Ferry High School. After she left the teaching field, she thought of going to nursing school, but because of the need to earn a living, it was not one of her options. She joined AT&T and for fifteen years her math and computer skills plus a Masters were considerable assets.

However, Aileen's career did not stop there. After retiring from AT&T she was an Office Manager for an Import & Export company for seven years. Finally, retiring from the business world, it was time for Aileen to take a twist and a turn to an area where she had always wanted to be - in a hospital. When Aileen talked about her work as a Volunteer at the Care Desk, I could hear the enthusiasm and joy in her voice: "I have found my life's satisfaction in working at the Care Desk. I am able to talk to the families of patients. This gives me an opportunity to work with people on a personal level."

During the course of the interview, I learned very quickly that Aileen has devoted herself to learning and caring for people throughout her life. It did not surprise me further when she said that she audits classes in astronomy and anthropology as well as computer science courses at Westchester Community College. The same ring of enthusiasm and joy was in her voice when she said, "I don't need the credits. I love learning."

Through all these twists and turns in her life, Aileen has found her way back to the hospital atmosphere where she has always wanted to be. We are so fortunate to be able to make use of her skills, love of learning and caring for people at the Care Desk. She is a prized member of the Phelps Hospital family of Volunteers.

By the way, Aileen, keep a sharp look out -- you might see me at Westchester Community next year!

Bee Line to Accept MTA MetroCard Senior/Disabled Discounts Available

By Jim Reidy



The Westchester County Bee Line Bus Service has recently announced that the MTA MetroCard will be accepted for all Bee Line services, starting **April 1st**. As anyone familiar with the MetroCard used on New York City subways and buses can tell you, the MetroCard is a convenient and easy-to-use method of paying for use of the public transportation system. Using the MetroCard also provides the County with a much more efficient and cost effective method of collecting fares for their services. (Exact change will continue to be accepted, but coins only. Dollar bills, passports, and ticket books will not be accepted after April 1st.)

MetroCards can be purchased at the windows and ticket machines at most Metro North train stations and from many local stores and merchants. MetroCards can also be ordered on-line at <http://www.mta.info/metrocard>. For seniors (65 and older) and those with qualifying disabilities, reduced fare cards are available by applying to the MTA. For those without internet access, please call 1-800-METROCARD, Monday through Friday, 7AM to 11PM for more information. Written application for these discount cards must be submitted to the MTA along with proof of age or disability. If you plan on taking advantage of this new discount service, you should get your application in so that you have your card by April 1st.

Application forms are available on-line at <http://www.mta.info/nyct/fare/rfapply.htm>. Select the appropriate application from this page.

Information about the new MetroCard service is also available by calling the Bee Line System hotline at 914-813-7777. There are many purchase options available, including pay-per-ride cards, 7 and 30 day unlimited ride cards, and special discount cards.

Thank you, Joyce Weiser



On behalf of the newsletter committee and all of the members of the auxiliary, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Joyce for her years of help as a member of the newsletter committee. Joyce has resigned her position with the committee so she can pursue other joys in her life. - *Jim Reidy*



President's Message

Jim Goldsmith, Auxiliary President

Our Annual Meeting at the James house honoring Ruth Balli on April 9th is rapidly approaching. Yes, I realize it is only March, but already it is getting lighter late in the day, we have so far avoided any major snow, but that could change in a New York minute (which is both the good and bad news). Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow, so can April be that far away?

Your Auxiliary remains strong as far as number of members, but it still remains fundamentally weak as far as accepting leadership positions and responsibility. For the past four months I have asked anyone to step up and take an active part in your Auxiliary and help run it, but with over three hundred and seventy Auxilians, not one person has come forward. The Executive Board of the Auxiliary has been playing

musical chairs for too long and we would all like to see new faces with new ideas run our organization. If you are as tired of reading my pleas as I am of writing them, then you will do something about it.

Just holding on to our status quo won't work in the future. It is easy enough to get in touch with me at either: jaalgo@att.net or 914-762-0568.

The purpose of the Auxiliary is a fund raising arm of the hospital. So far we have contributed over \$100,000 a year and are probably the hospital's largest overall donor.

Wouldn't it be nice to double that?

REMEMBER - ANNUAL AUXILIARY MEETING - TUESDAY, APRIL 9th at 2:00PM - BE THERE!

Amazing Progress

Just take a quick ride through the Phelps parking lot and you will see a whole new landscape. These pictures are already old, and they were just taken in early February. Come down and visit and see how Phelps is growing, in leaps and bounds.



A view of the new parking lot mid-construction.



The fully glazed administrative building.



Check us out on the Web

Information about the Phelps Memorial Hospital Auxiliary can now be found on-line, including a brief history of the Auxiliary, information about some of their fund-raising efforts, as well as several of the latest Auxiliary News and Notes newsletters ready to read or to download to your computer. **All links in this newsletter are active links on the on-line versions.**

Come visit us at:

<http://www.phelpshospital.org/auxiliary/index.php>

Bake Sale - April 19th. Call 366-3170 for info.

The Auxiliary welcomes the following new members who have joined our wonderful group

Irene Bisgier, Dennis Capossela, Connie Curran



We are looking for YOU..

The newsletter committee is always looking for people to help out by writing articles and bringing in fresh ideas. If you'd like to become a member, please contact Jim Reidy at (914) 271-5403.

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Editorial Staff and Contributors

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**** Photos courtesy of Jim Goldsmith****

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Please call the Volunteer Office at (914) 366-3170.

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PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY
SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591

Pam's Corner

By Pam Cardozo

Cherry Door

A big thank you to Elaine Cooney for doing such a wonderful job during her tenure as Chairperson of the Cherry Door. Our new Chairperson, Dominique Picon, has had many years of experience at his Church bazaar with sorting and pricing items of furniture and goods, and is doing a great job with this at the Cherry Door. Elaine did a wonderful job bolstering sales which heartily added to the Auxiliary coffers.

On Wednesday, January 10, we had our annual luncheon at The Main Street Café in Tarrytown for the Cherry Door volunteers. Although some of our new people were unable to attend, eight new volunteers did join us and a good time was had by all.

Information Desk

Although we tried to keep it from happening, Martha Dugan has resigned as Chairperson of the Information Desk. Fortunately, however, she will continue as a volunteer. Martha has done a stellar job keeping this high profile service both efficient and customer friendly for many years.

We are fortunate that Ann Caldara, a long-time volunteer, has accepted the position as Martha's replacement. Ann has lots of experience with our busy Information Desk and we know she will do a great job.

National Volunteer Week, April 15-21, 2007

National Volunteer Week is April 15-21. We will be celebrating by distributing new volunteer pins and refreshments will be served to honor those who have given us their time and good will.

Transport

Thank you to Diana Grass for her many years as Chairperson of our Transport Service. We are now handing the baton over to Jerry Sobelson who, I am sure, will also do a wonderful job. This is a big service with lots of responsibility for patient safety and we are grateful to Jerry for taking the reins.

Care Desk

Thank you to Pat Mooney, Chairperson of the Care Desk, who has relinquished her position as Chairperson due to new responsibilities that are taking her away from us. Luckily, however, Pat will stay on as a volunteer.

Mary Kay Olson, who has been an all-day Care Desk volunteer for many years, will step into the role of Chairperson and we know that she, too, will do an excellent job.

HANYS Advocacy Day Wednesday, March 7, 2007

We are gearing up for our annual trip to Albany for HANYS Advocacy Day. With our new Governor it is more important than ever that we have an extra big turn-out of people. We are hoping to include people from White Plains Hospital and some of our neighbors from Kendal. A big turn-out will send a powerful message to our State lawmakers that we need to eliminate healthcare cuts and *invest* in our healthcare system. If you would like to join us, please call the Volunteer Office at 914/366-3170.

Update.....

Our on-line application system for volunteering has certainly caught on. We receive two or three applications per week from people using this internet-based system. To access the system volunteer application yourself, log on to:

<http://www.phelpshospital.org/volunteers/prospective.php>