

ValleyHospitalFoundation.org

## Jayne and Scott Schroeder Look Ahead to Valley's Next Chapter

For Jayne Schroeder, an appreciation for The Valley Hospital spans generations. A Ridgewood native and Valley-born, she remembers her mother and aunt refusing to go anywhere else. "For them, the level of attention, personal monitoring, and care was such a different experience," she explains. Husband Scott's first exposure to Valley, however, was a bit different. When Scott was a newlywed living in Glen Rock, his grandfather had come to visit and ended up needing medical treatment. "I had never been to a hospital in the area or had to call 911 before. In under five minutes, an ambulance responded," Scott remembers. His grandfather received care at Valley and upon release told Scott that he had never been treated so well at a hospital in his life. Impressed, Scott initiated a visit with the care team. "It was such a positive experience, meeting the doctors, the nurses, everything," he explains.

From that point on, The Valley Hospital has been an integral part of the Schroeders' lives. All four of their children were born there, with the couple joking that they've returned for "lots of Emergency Department visits." Jayne has been involved with *Women For Health* and Valley Home Care's *Butterflies* endowment.

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## News from the Chief Development Officer

I am starting to see hopeful signs that the pandemic is losing its frightful grip on our health and psyche. As we emerge from our protective cocoon, we are starting to enjoy and appreciate life – the big things and the little things.

Much of this is possible because of the COVID-19 vaccine, which has allowed us to move forward towards a brighter and healthier future. As of this writing, Valley has vaccinated over 150,000 individuals. Our facilities continue to follow guidelines for healthcare institutions set forth by the CDC and adopted by the state, and we encourage all who are eligible to receive a vaccine to do so. If you are looking to schedule an appointment, please visit [www.ValleyHealth.com/Vaccine](http://www.ValleyHealth.com/Vaccine).

Our recent experience has inspired a renewed appreciation for the continued work of our Valley doctors and staff who care for patients and are at the forefront of vaccination efforts. This was especially on display on March 30<sup>th</sup> for National Doctor's Day, a day to recognize medical professionals for their dedication and contributions to society. This year it was especially poignant to see gifts made in honor of our compassionate Valley physicians, with over 750 donors participating.

Since 1951, Valley has played a critical role in our region and in the hearts of our community. As we look ahead to The Valley Hospital's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we speak in this issue with dedicated donors who reflect on their own history with Valley. For some, the hospital has served their families for generations. For all, they are inspired by our next chapter: The Valley Hospital in Paramus. Philanthropy helps Valley achieve a culture of excellence and innovation, and I am grateful for their support and investment in our future.

This June, I took a hard-hat tour of the new hospital site. As construction continues and milestones are achieved, it is amazing to see our new facility take shape. As we were led through different "pavilions" and "floors," it felt strangely familiar, and how could it not? Whether I was showing renderings to donors, touring mock-up rooms, or hearing updates from our Operations team, I had already spent so much time virtually "on-site." To actually have the opportunity to walk through brought home the reality of the project.

As the weather gets nicer and days longer, I hope you will take some time to go see the site for yourself. I cannot wait to share what's in store. Please keep an eye on your inbox for future updates and an exciting announcement coming this fall.

Best wishes for a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,



**David J. Bohan**  
Vice President and Chief Development Officer

*P.S. Please contact us if you are interested in taking a virtual tour of Valley's new state-of-the-art hospital in Paramus.*

*Call 201-291-6300 or email [VHF@ValleyHospitalFoundation.org](mailto:VHF@ValleyHospitalFoundation.org).*



## Jayne and Scott Schroeder Look Ahead to Valley's Next Chapter *(continued)*

In March of 2005, Scott was approached by Denis Sullivan, then the Chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, who asked if he would consider becoming more involved at Valley. "I went to dinner with Denis, Tom Palmer, Buzz Rukin, and Audrey. Sitting down with that group, I was blown away. I never had a chance," he says with a laugh. He spent a year on the President's Council before joining the Board in 2006.

Scott's 12 years on the board were marked by many accomplishments, including serving as Chairman of the Board and assisting in the Foundation's fundraising efforts of \$135 million during his tenure. Today, he sits on the Valley Health System Board while serving as an Honorary Trustee of the Foundation. Scott speaks fondly of his years with Valley, especially in regard to the opportunity he has had to work with his fellow trustees and hospital administration. "There is no ego in the room. All decisions are made in the best interest of Valley, and that comes from the top down. Audrey and Rich have set a tone at the hospital for decades, and it shows. Valley didn't become what it is today overnight. It's a result of hard, well-thought-out planning that's created this unbelievable hospital."

Jayne and Scott are enthusiastic supporters of The Valley Hospital in Paramus, committing \$300,000 in early 2021 to name the hospital's Ambulance Entrance. "Valley is a good neighbor and always extremely generous," Jayne explains. "It was a no brainer, we were always going to support this," Scott adds. "It will be the premiere hospital in New Jersey. Our community is lucky to have Valley."



*Scott and Jayne Schroeder*

## Foundation Trustee Honors Lifesaving Work with Gift to New Hospital



*Janet Hunt*

Janet Hunt, Esq. credits The Valley Hospital with helping set the course for her life. As a sophomore at Ridgewood High School and intent on being a doctor, Janet signed up to volunteer at the hospital, which was at the time only five years old. "That was when I discovered I had a weak stomach," she jokes. She quickly realized she ought to consider a new career path. "Valley was instrumental in helping me figure out what I didn't want to do." Instead of pursuing medicine, Janet attended Harvard Law School, where she was one of only 20 women in her graduating class. She returned to Ridgewood and passed the New Jersey bar, but with no interest in practicing law, she went to Wall Street. Janet built a successful 22-year career at the Irving Trust Company, eventually retiring as Senior Vice President and Manager of the Personal Asset Management Division.

After years of purpose-driven volunteer work serving on multiple boards of directors, it was an invitation to an event from clients who were generous Valley donors that brought Janet back to the hospital. As time went on, she found herself more involved with various Valley committees and initiatives and was recommended to the Foundation's Board of Trustees in 2009. There, her financial acumen allowed her to quickly emerge as an investment authority, joining the Investment Committee and later assuming the role of Chair.

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## Foundation Trustee Honors Lifesaving Work with Gift to New Hospital *(continued)*

Even with an almost lifelong connection to the hospital, it was several uncertain cancer diagnoses in a short period of time that allowed Janet to see Valley's lifesaving work firsthand. Fortunately, she was referred to Dr. Thomas Ahlborn, who determined that her tumors were primary tumors, not metastases, which meant that treatment could be very effective. She credits Dr. Ahlborn's compassion and confidence in an ultimately favorable outcome with her own positive outlook and focus on survival.

"How do you thank someone for saving your life multiple times?" Janet asks, reflecting years after her initial diagnosis. Her gratitude inspired a generous blended gift commitment in 2019 that includes a campaign gift in support of The Valley Hospital in Paramus, where she will name an Operating Room in Dr. Ahlborn's honor, as well as a planned gift through her estate to create the Edward C., Helga J. [her parents], and Janet E. Hunt Endowment to support programs and services of greatest need at Valley.

Janet is preparing to step down from the Foundation Board after 12 years of remarkable service. A longtime Valley ambassador, she has introduced many new advocates and supporters, all while leading by example with her personal philanthropy as a *Women For Health* member, Legacy Donor, and Lifetime Benefactor. She has no plans to go quietly, however. For Janet, it will be business as usual, just as an Honorary Trustee. "You stay with Valley for the doctors, and because there is a personal connection. I have shown up for the hospital for over 60 years, and plan to keep doing just that."

## Longtime Valley Donors Hope to Inspire Others with Their Gift



*John and Anne Oros*

When The Valley Hospital in Paramus opens in December 2023, its Conference Center will bear the name of the Oros family, donors to Valley for over three decades. For John and Anne Oros, the naming opportunity follows other leadership gifts the couple has made over a number of years. "We are proud to be identified as supporters of the hospital," John explains. "I believe when people in the community step up, it helps to demonstrate support and raise additional funds for the hospital. That's when 'naming' can be a good thing."

John and Anne have long been community and philanthropically minded, with interests spanning education, social services, and healthcare. However, their compassion and kindness go beyond financial support. In 1995, with their youngest daughter about to enter middle school, Anne looked into fostering and found her way to Bethany Christian Services. The organization allowed John and Anne to help children who were hard to place

and in situations of greatest need, right in northern New Jersey. Their work then continued with Children's Aid and Family Services, and today Anne remains a passionate and active advocate in the community for adoption and foster care. Almost 25 years after their initial conversation, the couple has fostered more than 50 infants and children, and adopted one. While they're no longer involved in the day-to-day activities associated with fostering, they proudly consider themselves foster grandparents, and have remained close to the families in their foster network and in the lives of a number of the children who have stayed with them.

Ridgewood residents since 1979, the couple speaks fondly about Valley. As they reflect on the birth of babies, annual checkups, and life-saving procedures, John and Anne are grateful for the years of care the hospital has provided to both their immediate and chosen extended family. This is only part of what has helped to inform their giving history with the hospital. They cite their long-standing personal relationship with Audrey Meyers and her family as another integral reason they've remained close to Valley. Now John and Anne look forward to the hospital's next chapter in Paramus. "We have every reason to be delighted that we have, and will continue to have, a world-class facility close by. And we are thrilled to be in a position in which we can help Audrey and The Valley Hospital."

## RECENT ACCOLADES



### 201 Magazine

The Valley Hospital was named as the Best Place to Work in a two-round (201) *Magazine Best of Bergen poll* with more than 18,000 participants in the first round and more than 31,000 participants in the second round.

### American Society for Radiation Oncology

Valley-Mount Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Care is the only cancer service in New Jersey to have been awarded a **four-year accreditation for our radiation oncology services** from the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO). Accreditation through the Society's Accreditation Program for Excellence, or APEX, is granted to facilities that demonstrate a commitment to safety, high-quality patient care, and the promotion of effective communications, coordinated treatments, and strong patient engagement.

### The Joint Commission

The Valley Hospital has once again received **Disease-Specific Care Certification** in wound care from The Joint Commission. This certification is given to institutions and programs that are committed to providing consistent clinical quality when providing care for their patients.

### NJBIZ

Valley Health System President & CEO Audrey Meyers has been named to NJBIZ's 2021 **Health Care Power 50** and **POWER 100 Individuals** lists. Audrey was recognized as one of the longest-serving CEOs in New Jersey and for her many accomplishments, including her exemplary and continued leadership during the pandemic, her role in establishing strategic and important alliances with Mount Sinai Health System and the Cleveland Clinic to enhance healthcare in our region, and her vision for a new hospital set to open in Paramus in 2023.

## AUXILIARY ANNOUNCEMENTS



On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Auxiliary hosted the Foundation's first in-person event since February 2020. The **48<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing** was held at the newly renovated Ridgewood Country Club, with safety precautions in place for guests. Thank you to Presenting Sponsor Torcon as well as additional sponsors and generous donors for making this first in-person event a resounding success!

The Auxiliary's Employee Branch marked Flag Day with their annual **Honor Ceremony** on June 14<sup>th</sup> in the hospital's Friendship Garden decorated with hundreds of American Flags. This year's virtual ceremony featured speakers Dave Bohan, Audrey Meyers, and Employee Branch Chair Peggy Becher.

*Funds from Auxiliary events support the Auxiliary's pledge of \$3.1 million to establish the Pediatric Section of the Emergency Department of the Valley Hospital in Paramus and \$100,000 to fund an endowment for Valley Home Care's Butterflies—a pediatric in-home palliative and hospice care program for seriously ill children.*

 **SAVE THE DATE – Mark your calendar!**

August 30, 2021: The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Sporting Clays Classic at Hudson Farms

October 29, 2022: The Valley Ball at The Plaza Hotel

**For more information: [www.ValleyHealth.com/Auxiliary](http://www.ValleyHealth.com/Auxiliary)**