Millie’s involvement with Anderson Hospital began in 1967, a decade before the hospital opened. She was part of the visionary group dedicated to building a hospital to serve Maryville, Troy, Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, Collinsville and surrounding communities. The group played an essential role in the establishment of Anderson Hospital. Millie was there when they broke ground in 1974 and was the Volunteer who wheeled in the very first patient on opening day, January 5, 1977. Since then, Millie has been a constant presence at Anderson Hospital, serving on the Board of Trustees and the Auxiliary in which she served as President for two terms.

In 2000, she was awarded the coveted Founders Award which recognized her as an instrumental figure in the development and ongoing success of Anderson Hospital. For years, she volunteered alongside the Materials Management staff and most recently volunteered at the Information Desks of the Hospital and Cancer Center.

She was honored in 2018 when the Administrative Board Room was named after her. The following is a story that accompanied the honor in the Troy Tribune which gives great insight into the wonderful woman that Millie was… to everyone.

The following story by Charles Feldman/Troy Times-Tribune.
Reprinted with permission.

Millie Belobraydic and Anderson Hospital go back a long way. She was one of the original founders of the hospital's Auxiliary and has served on the Anderson Board for many years from the beginning. She was even at the 1974 groundbreaking.

And now a room has been dedicated in her honor. The Administrative Board Room was dedicated July 17.

"It was quite a surprise. I knew nothing about it," said Belobraydic, 87, of Maryville. "I was very humbled by it, let me tell you."

She served as Auxiliary president from 1982-84 and from 1992-94 and has served on its board of trustees for many years. She is one of the representatives from the village of Maryville for the Troy Maryville St. Jacob Marine Chamber of Commerce.

And she helped form the Auxiliary years before the hospital admitted its first patient. It all began when an East St. Louis hospital decided to open a satellite facility in the area during the mid-1960s.

"I started out as a gray lady at St. Mary's Hospital and the sisters were going to build us a hospital where Collinsville High School is right now," Belobraydic said.

"After about a year of working with the Auxiliary, the sisters backed out and decided they couldn't afford to build a hospital. But we had already formed our Auxiliary and so for ten years before Anderson Hospital opened
we were known as the Auxiliary without a hospital," she said. "We continued raising funds. We pledged $10,000 to be paid off in ten years," she said. "We paid it off in eight years. We were pretty proud of ourselves for a little organization that just did petty fundraisers."

Ground for Anderson Hospital was broken in 1974. "When the hospital opened on January 5, 1977 we opened the doors. I wheeled the first patient in on January 6."

At the time, Belobraydic had been visiting different area hospitals to see how their Auxiliaries were run. After Anderson opened, the director of nursing worked with her to set up how the Auxiliary would take care of patient visits, work with the staff and do the things they do now.

Well, some of the things.

"You've got so much now with state rules so we have to be cautious with what we do," she said. "We used to have volunteers that would help deliver meals and we don't do that anymore."

What the Auxiliary does these days is cover a lot of areas. They have volunteers in the emergency room changing sheets. Helming the admissions desk in the O.R. waiting room and the Wellness and Cancer Centers. Minding the gift shop, making things for babies, taking things to the lab, driving the shuttle bus and serving as runners for hospital personnel.

"You go where you're needed," Belobraydic said. "Over the years I don't keep track of what I do. I just do it."

They need volunteers, she said. "Those interested can contact the hospital," Belobraydic said. "There's applications at all the desks and they can go online. All they have to do is call the hospital and they'll connect them with somebody. They'll be happy to contact them.

"We need everybody," she said. "We need shuttle drivers. We need somebody at the desk. We're getting bigger and bigger, you know."

"This hospital has been the love of my life for a long time," Belobraydic said. "It is just very hard for me not to be involved with it. The hospital is very, very special to me. It's an excellent hospital."

"I will be as active as I can possibly be because I am not going to slow down," she said. "If I do, I might stop."
We are all tired of COVID-19 and the changes it has forced upon us in our professional and personal lives. It would be well received if the infectious disease specialist explained that we are through the worst of this pandemic and our world would be returning to normal. But sadly … this isn’t the case.

Most experts indicate that the pandemic is holding against our efforts to control it and in some parts of the country the situation is deteriorating. At Anderson we have seen our inpatient COVID-19 volumes rise and fall and now they are increasing again.

Should we be concerned? I think so … with schools and universities opening; and even with the limited opening of businesses, there is increased personal contact and potential exposure. What can we do? Our best efforts remain focused on the following guidelines:

- Wearing a mask.
- Social distancing when we must be exposed to the public.
- Hand washing when we have contact with the public or are in public spaces.

These measures are proven and important while a vaccine is developed. They are not pleasant, they are not normal and they are not universally accepted by the public … but that does not make them wrong.

As healthcare workers we have the knowledge that while many who test positive for the virus appear not to have any symptoms, there are people getting very sick from COVID-19 virus and while many are elderly and have medical problems, there are also young adults without known medical issues that have succumbed to COVID-19. The virus is not fair and we don’t know where we fit in this spectrum until it happens and by then our exposure to family and friends brings further risk.

So let’s set the example, let’s do the right thing, let’s be strong even when others aren’t … let’s follow the guidelines.
Meet Our Newest Anderson Medical Group Providers

**Dr. Sara Cannon** is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and has been practicing in the area for the past fourteen years caring for women throughout all stages of life from puberty, to childbearing, to menopause and beyond. Dr. Cannon grew up in Bethalto, Illinois and graduated from Civic Memorial in Bethalto. She returned to this area in 2006 after finishing her medical training including medical school at St. Louis University and residency at University of Cincinnati. She is currently seeing patients in Maryville, Bethalto and Staunton offices.

**Dr. Manisha Shah**, a Board Certified Ob/Gyn, has over a decade of expertise in the latest advances in women’s care. Following the completion of medical school at the prestigious M.S. University Baroda College of Medicine in her native India, Dr. Shah completed her residency training in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at Allegheny General Hospital/Allegheny Health Network, affiliated with Temple University School of Medicine, where Dr. Shah served as Chief Resident. Since 2016, Dr. Shah has been delivering exceptional quality care to women in Madison and St. Clair counties. She recently joined Dr. Erin Wright and Dr. Patrice Staten in their Maryville office. In addition to Maryville, Dr. Shah will extend her service to the communities of Highland and Bethalto.

**Dr. Joel Franco** is a board eligible (oral boards not offered secondary to COVID-19) Otolaryngologist specializing in Rhinology/Sinonasal disorders as well as general otolaryngology. He recently joined the office of Dr. Jeffrey Fierstein in Glen Carbon. Dr. Franco was born and raised in Milwaukee, WI and obtained a bachelor’s of science degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Franco then obtained a master’s degree in medical sciences from Mississippi College and ultimately a medical degree from Indiana University. During his 5-year residency in Otolaryngology at Saint Louis University, then pursued an additional year of fellowship training at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Rhinology and Skull Base Surgery.

**Endocrinologist, Dr. Gianina Usera**, has joined Anderson Hospital’s diabetes wellness team. She was born and raised in Puerto Rico. She attended University of Puerto Rico Medical School and completed her residency in Connecticut and fellowship in New York. Her office is located inside the Wellness Center located at 2133 Vadalabene Drive, Suite 1, (618-288-4350).
Welcome to Anderson Healthcare

Meet Our New Director of Cardiovascular and Neurology Services

Anderson Hospital is proud to introduce Misty Smith, MSN, RN, as our new Director of Cardiovascular and Neurology Services. Misty spent the last 4 years as the Nurse Manager/ Director of Cardiovascular Services at SSM Health St. Mary’s Hospital prior to joining Anderson Healthcare. She had responsibility for the Cardiac Cath Lab, Electrophysiology Lab, Cardiopulmonary Rehab, Diagnostic Cardiology as well as oversight of the STEMI program and STEMI Coordinator. “I’ve worked in the world of healthcare for nearly 16 years and have been a nurse for more than 10 of those years. I have a background in Interventional Radiology and Emergency Nursing in addition to Cardiology Services,” said Misty.

As the Director of Cardiovascular and Neurology Services, Misty has 24/7 responsibility and accountability for all administrative and operational functions in the Cardiac Cath Lab, Chest Pain Center, Diagnostic Cardiology and Neurology. She also partners with the Medical Director of the Cardiac Cath Lab to directly oversee the STEMI program at Anderson Hospital.

“I’m looking forward to continuing to get to know my peers and to truly becoming part of the Anderson Family, said Misty. “I am also looking forward to collaborating with my colleagues and being able to serve the community where I live.”

When Misty isn’t at work, she loves spending quality time with friends and family. “My husband I love taking our two boys on lots of adventures! During more normal times I enjoy traveling and spending time at the beach,” she said.

Misty lives in Edwardsville with her husband and two sons, Jackson (4.5) and Beckett (almost 3).

Meet Our New Director of Laboratory Services

Anderson Hospital is excited to introduce our new Director of Laboratory Services, Cathy L. French, MT (AAB). Cathy brings with her 40 years of experience. While she has worked in hospital settings within the BJC and SSM systems, she has also worked in multi-specialty physician practices including an oncology practice.

As the Director of Laboratory Services, Cathy oversees daily departmental clinical/technical workflow operations. She ensures the lab is operating per regulatory provisions of the government and the organization. This includes the examination of data, testing and reports, and management of staff.

Cathy is an avid believer in performance improvement processes and looks forward to making a difference in patient care here. “I hope to make a positive impact in patient care by utilizing Quality process improvements for best practices to ensure accurate, timely results for our patients,” said Cathy.

When she isn’t working, Cathy enjoys being outdoors. “I enjoy walking in nature, working in the yard, tennis and traveling and spending time with family,” said Cathy. Cathy, born and raised in Collinsville, still resides in Collinsville, is proud to be a local and still roots for the Kahoks!

She and her husband, Mark, met on a blind date on a Friday the 13th! “It worked out,” she joked. “We’ve been married for 29 years!” In those years she has been blessed with 2 daughters, Bridget and Michele; 4 grandsons: Blake, Lucas, Jackson and Brandt; and 2 great-granddaughters: Brianna Nichole and Arianna Grace.
Anderson’s Acute Rehab Unit Ranks #1

Congratulations are in order for The Rehabilitation Center at Anderson Hospital! They were recently recognized as the #1 ranked acute rehab unit out of 32 sites in Kindred Healthcare’s Valley Region. “Our patients achieved the highest functional improvement gains, enabling them to return home to their families after their stay in 2019,” said Alisabeth M. Hardnock, BS, RN, Program Director of The Rehabilitation Center at Anderson Hospital.

You have the choice to choose Anderson Hospital for your Acute Inpatient Rehab Setting! Call today at (618) 391-5230
Ronald’s Success Story: In His Own Words

“I was out sawing logs the day I was taken to the hospital. I had sawed logs for 5 hours the day before and had been sawing about 3 hours that day. I went to the house to let in the person to install the internet and the guy asked me if I was feeling ok. I was slurring my words and just not feeling well overall so he called for my wife. I was lucky enough my son and daughter-in-law were there and my daughter-in-law is a nurse. When she asked me to lift my arm I just couldn’t control it. They called 911 and I was taken to a local hospital. Once they discovered I had a stroke I was flown in a helicopter to a hospital in St. Louis. After spending three days there I made the decision to come to Anderson’s rehab because it was closer to my home and I had heard it was a great program. My experience here has been wonderful. It was a very wise decision for me to come here. During these difficult times, the staff was always very cheerful and helpful. They did everything I ever asked them to do. I am almost back to 100% now and I couldn’t be more thankful for everything you all have done for me here. The rehab program here at Anderson has just been a really great experience and I am happy to share my story if it helps anyone else.”

Outcomes

Ronald discharged home after a 16-day rehab stay. He progressed from needing max assistance (75%) to get into a chair to being independent. He went from requiring max assistance with bathing and dressing to bathing and dressing himself. He went from walking 10’ with assistance to walking >450’ without help. The following reflects Ronald’s functional gains on a 0-6 scale, where higher scores indicate greater independence.
Community Hospital of Staunton Receives Generous Donation

The family of the late Josephine Oltmann presented Community Hospital of Staunton (CHS) with a generous donation on Tuesday, August 18.

Josephine’s daughter and grandchildren presented a check for $725,000 to the CHS Board. The donation, from the Trust of Josephine Oltmann, was the third donation received by CHS earmarked for the improvement of medical care at the hospital. In total, the Trust has provided CHS with $1,203,075.

“Ralph and Josephine Oltmann were the owners of First National Bank of Staunton, and prominent business leaders in the community,” said Sue Campbell, CEO of CHS. “They were huge supporters of non-profit organizations in the community such as the hospital, their church and other charitable organizations.”

Josephine, who enjoyed spending time at CHS visiting with staff and friends in the café, established a trust to continue her support of the hospital after her death. “CHS, as well as the City of Staunton, have been blessed to have had the Oltmann family as citizens of the community.”

In addition, CHS made a $5,000 donation to the Helping Hands Center in memory of Josephine Oltmann. Ailee Taylor, CHS board member and Director of Helping Hands, was present to accept the donation.

Pictured left to right are: Keith Page, Anderson Healthcare President and CEO; Stella Hardnock, Granddaughter; Celeste Hardnock, Daughter; Chris Hardnock, Grandson and his wife Alisabeth; and Don Kasubke, CHS Board Chairman.
Anderson Hospital Foundation’s Annual Golf Tournament 2020

The postponed event finally took place on July 13 at the Sunset Hills Country Club in Edwardsville. While set up a little different for COVID restrictions, over 110 golfers came out and enjoyed a great day on the links, raising $27,475!

FLIGHT A
1st Place: 60
Steve Kuca, H. Justin Hemings, Ben O’Truck, Joe Waldrop

2nd Place: 61
Dan Guarano, Kris Boyd, Greg Sandifer, Alex Stames

3rd Place: 61
Kerry Baugher, David Chung, Tim Childers, Charles Lane

Closest to the Pin:
#6 Dennis Harms,
#15 Diane Robbin

FLIGHT B
1st Place: 63
Kevin Euler, Duston Bahorich, Greg Dix, Kenny Weston

2nd Place: 63
Chris Carroll, Mark Huebner, Vic Buehler, Eric Dunnavant

3rd Place: 63
Diane Robbin, Eric Brandmeyer, Dennis Harms, Corey Stegeman

Longest Drive:
#17 Tom Self
#18 Callie Trosley

FLIGHT C
1st Place: 66
Todd Korte, Jason Weiss, Eric Kues, Chris Schneider

2nd Place: 67
Steve Cooper, Shauna Cooper, Doug Saye, Jim Wright

3rd Place: 67
Dave Arvola, John Clagg, Jeff Dorries, Greg Fowler

Skins Game:
Hole #8  Eagle 2
Todd Korte, Eric Kues, Jason Weiss, Chris Schneider
Medical Staff and Auxiliary Present Scholarships

One of the best things about being a community hospital is when we get the chance to “give back” to the community. Our Auxiliary and Medical Staff do that every year through the scholarship programs they created for area students seeking education and careers in healthcare! This year a total of 11 students were awarded scholarships worth $1,000 each to be used for their education seeking healthcare careers.

The Medical Staff awarded scholarships to:

**Syndney Schwegel (Mt. Olive, IL)**
Attending: SIU School of Medicine
Major: Medicine

**Malissa Huddleston (Staunton, IL)**
Attending: SIU Carbondale
Major: Diagnostic Medical Sonography

The Anderson Hospital Auxiliary awarded scholarships to:

**Courtney Deiters (Breese, IL)**
Attending: St. Louis College of Pharmacy
Major: Pharmacy

**Kennison Adams (Edwardsville, IL)**
Attending: University of Missouri-Kansas City
Major: Medicine

**Marissa Wheeler (Highland, IL)**
Attending: Kansas City University
Major: Osteopathic Medicine

**Yahilin Munoz (Fairmont City, IL)**
Attending: SIUE
Major: Nursing

**Jacob Troeckler (Bethalto, IL)**
Attending: SIUE School of Pharmacy
Major: Pharmacy

**Aaron Peach (Granite City, IL)**
Attending: SIUC
Major: Medicine

**Kennison Adams (Edwardsville, IL)**
Attending: University of Missouri-Kansas City
Major: Medicine

**Emily Duncan (Highland, IL)**
Attending: St. Louis University
Major: Medicine
Exceeding Expectations in Safety

Earlier this year in January, staff responded to a survey about the safety culture of Anderson Hospital. It wasn't a surprise to find that 96% of staff responded very positive to the question "We are actively doing things to improve patient safety". However, a survey wasn't needed to tell us this. We can also see everyone's safety efforts in our publicly reported quality data. The first example is with our readmission rates. Anderson Hospital still remains the hospital with the lowest readmission rate in a 25 mile radius. Everyone should be proud! When a patient is discharged from Anderson they are ready for discharge. They are least likely to return to our hospital (or any other hospital) for any reason within 30 days. Another example is with our infection rates. Our infection rates for CLABSI (Central Line Blood Stream Infection), CAUTI (Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infection), CDif (C-difficile) are combined together and calculated in the Hospital Acquired Condition (HAC) Program. For the fifth year in a row, Anderson has exceed expectations in the HAC Program by having lower than expected infection rates compared to other hospitals in the nation.

Thank you for all you do to continuously improve the care and safety of our patients.