

The Good Samaritan Center



"A HEALING PLACE"

Providing a safe, Christ-centered environment that gives our patients quality, coordinated, and affordable health care.

Spring 2022

Celebrate 30 Years With Us on June 14!

by John Willome

Please join us on Tuesday, June 14, from 5-7 p.m. at **Texas Heritage Vineyards** as we celebrate 30 years of neighbors helping neighbors with their healthcare needs!

In 1992, Sara Allerkamp, RN, was an ICU nurse at Hill Country Memorial. She and Dr. Ottis Layne were already organizing medical mission trips to northern Mexico when Sara found herself at a Christian conference in Dallas. The pastor challenged the audience to "serve God where he has you planted." Hearing this, Sara felt the Holy Spirit tell her, "People here need help too."

Never stopping her Mexico work, Sara returned home to Fredericksburg and recruited doctors, nurses, and lay people to start a one-night-a-week free clinic.

Thirty years have passed and that one-night a week free clinic evolved into today's Good Samaritan Center. Our work is a critical part of our community's provision for our uninsured, low-income neighbors.

When people come for a tour, they are amazed at the breadth and depth of services we offer our patients, I am always quick to point out two things:

1. We are only able to be here doing what we do because the entire community, including our medical partners, helps and supports us.

2. This all began with one woman obeying God and doing what she felt called to do. He then used her step of faithfulness, blessed it, and grew it — one faithful step at a time — into what it is today: a safe, Christ-centered environment offering quality, coordinated and affordable health care.

So come and celebrate with us. This is a **FREE** event and the entire community is invited. There will be music by local favorite, **Dan Evans**, snacks, fellowship, and a short program at 6:00.

Texas Heritage Vineyards is located at 3245 US Hwy 290 E in Fredericksburg.

2022 Good Samaritan of the Year Awards & Dinner!



Michael Brunsvold, DDS



Arnold Cuellar, DDS



David Heinrich, DDS



Zach Hoerster, DDS

These eight dental professionals are our 2022 Good Samaritan of the Year Award recipients.



Jay Lindsay, DDS



Veronica Strackbein, Hygienist



Sandra Striegler, Hygienist



Kenneth Wiendenfeld, DDS

Our **2022 Good Samaritans of the Year** are the eight dental professionals who volunteered in our clinic in 2021!

When our building was completed in 2004, **Dr. Paul Panaceck** recruited several local dentists to volunteer once a month in our new dental clinic. The next year, several hygienists joined them. Three of those original dental professionals are still volunteering with us: **Dr. David Heinrich** and hygienists **Veronica Strackbein** and **Sandra Striegler**.

Over the years, others joined us. Currently, in addition to those listed above, we have a retired periodontist, **Dr. Michael Brunsvold**, helping with deep cleanings; and **Drs. Arnold Cuellar, Zach Hoerster, Jay Lindsay, and Ken Wiendenfeld** doing fillings and extractions.

We hope you will be able to join us — in-person! — on May 3 for Spring Fundraising Dinner to honor these individuals as well as our 2020 and 2021 honorees, Drs. Andreassian, Fincke, Love, and Stauffer. We can all be proud and grateful to live in a community along with these **Good Samaritans!**

A Samaritan's Story

In early February, an adult daughter brought her aging father for a dental appointment. While most seniors have Medicare, many still need access to our dental clinic because Medicare does not cover dental work.

When the patient arrived at the Center, he was very short of breath. Concerned, our office administrator talked with the daughter and learned the man did have an O₂ concentrator at home, but he did not have a portable one. His daughter looked into getting one for him, but it was too expensive.

While he saw the dentist, the man's daughter spent time with our Executive Director John Willome looking for an affordable portable O₂ concentrator for her father. If she could get a device for him, it would make a huge difference in her ability to get him out of the house as she cares for him.

They ultimately found one, but when her father heard about it he protested that he did not need it. The daughter ignored his objections and, with our help, they ordered the device.

Fast forward a few days: the portable concentrator arrived, the man's home health nurse helped them set it up, and yet he still insisted that he didn't want to use it. However, later, after he thought his daughter had left, she came in to find her father trying it on. Now he is excited to have it.

Of course, his daughter is incredibly grateful. Please know, we would not be here without the support given by people like you. Thank you for being part of their story too.



Our Wish List:

\$2,500 to replace essential plumbing backflow valve damaged in recent freeze (see photo above).

Please call GSC (830-990-8651) to verify whether someone has already donated towards this item.

Thank you!

Loving our Neighbor as Ourselves through COVID

By John Willome, Executive Director

For most of the landmark events in our lives, we have a moment when, after we first hear the news, we realize it was one of *those* moments. Anyone who knows me knows I am a huge college football and basketball fan. My “ah-ha” moment about COVID came two years ago when I heard they had canceled the Big 12 basketball tournament and then they canceled the NCAA Tournament. For the sports “powers that be” to leave that much money on the table was stunning.

As the weekend of March 13, 2020, progressed, I started to get worried. I decided this was worth fasting and praying over, so I took that Sunday, March 15 to fast and pray. I spent some time that day in the clinic’s chapel, eventually taking out my laptop and typing an email to our medical director, Dr. Myers, dental director, Dr. Cully, and Licensed Professional Counselor, Patricia Garza. I was praying through what I thought our response should be so we could 1.) keep our staff and volunteers safe, and 2.) be what we needed to be for our patients.

The four of us emailed back and forth and developed a plan we presented to the staff that following Monday morning. Then we had an emergency meeting of our Clinical Services Committee. By the end of Tuesday, March 17, our plan was ready to go.

Looking back over the last two years, I’m really proud of our response and how you, our

community—our neighbors—reached out to help us be here to care for our patients’ needs. Thank you for that!

Our first response was to provide our COVID -positive patients with the medications and equipment they needed (pulse oximeters and nebulizers). In some cases, our community health worker, Delia, would make take these items to patient’s homes, ensuring that the patients knew how to care for themselves.

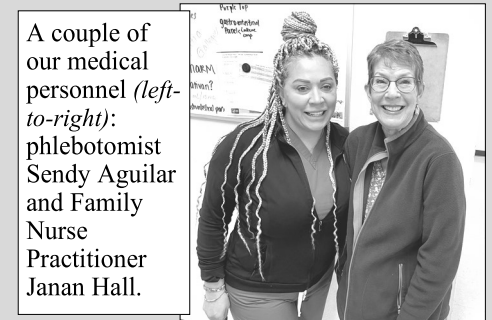
When Hill Country Memorial established the vaccination hub, staff, volunteers and board members worked as volunteers at the site itself as well as in their call center.

Looking back, I think one of the biggest contributions we were able to make to the local medical community’s response was helping patients rent supplemental oxygen so the hospitals could release them to go home and make room for more COVID patients.

By now, nearly all of us know someone who lost their life to COVID. We’ve grieved for and comforted those who mourn. We have compassion for frontline workers in the hospitals who cared directly for them. It has been hard. While it might not be over, I am prayerful that God will not let this pain be wasted. He will make it count. I know He has changed me over the last two years. I suspect he has changed you too. Let’s not waste this experience, but use it to learn to love our neighbors and Him better.



A pair of front-desk faces (left-to-right): Volunteer Coordinator Amelia Munoz and Office Administrator Zulema Hernandez.



A couple of our medical personnel (left-to-right): phlebotomist Sindy Aguilar and Family Nurse Practitioner Janan Hall.



Our staff dental clinic team (left-to-right): Dr. Tara Cully, dental assistants Norma Aguirre and Courtney Reddick.



Let’s Go to Luckenbach Texas



Mark your calendars!

A portion of the proceeds from both events will benefit The Good Samaritan Center.

Saturday, May 28

Sunday, June 12



FOOD TRUCK
Festival

LIVE MUSIC: KYLE NIX (OF THE TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS), SUMMER DEAN, RICH O'TOOLE, AARON MCDONNELL, & GEORGIA PARKER



WAYLON'S
BIRTHDAY BASH

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Teresa & Jack Clem
Dian Graves Owen Fnd.
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Gladys & Buddy Frels
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Elizabeth Hatten
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Sandra & Daniel Poole
- Jacques Castro**
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Sandra & Daniel Poole
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Judy Chase
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- Woody Farris**
Janan & Bill Hall
Lance Tatum
- Nancy Loth Ferrigno**
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Ruth Kott
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Jackie & Jim Heupel
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Camey Stewart
- Francine Fricks**
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- Anne Marie Fritz**
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Sharon Joseph & Mac
McAfee
- Jack Graves**
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- Ralph Greenlee, Sr.**
Sara & Curtis Allerkamp
- Gerald Gribbin**
Maureen Seals
- Ernestine Grunau**
Margaret Bierschwale
Susan Thompson
- Gerhard Gruschkus**
Karen & Mark Cornett
- Ronnie Hampton**
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Rhonda & Vaughan Usener
- Emil Hartman**
Judy & Jerry Luckenbach
Rhonda & Vaughan Usener
- Robert Hassinger**
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Duncan Holmes
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Judy & Jerry Luckenbach
Julia Mays
Julia & Carol Weden
Camille & Marc Williamson
- Bill Lindemann**
Susie & John Bernard
Camey Stewart
- Alberta Lochte**
Darlene & Atlee Lochte

IN MEMORIAM *Continued from page 6*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Jack Locy <i>Jill Locy</i> | Frederick Petmecky <i>Linda & Don Urbanec</i> | Peggy Schmidt <i>Kenneth Hartwein</i> | Anthony Thielen <i>Leonard Thielen</i> |
| Trevor Majors <i>Beverly & Bill Counts</i> | Frances Pfister <i>Jeanette Hartmann</i> | <i>Charles Schmidt</i> | Rita & Douglas Travis <i>Paige Travis Conn</i> |
| James Mayer <i>Diane Mayer</i> | June Phillips <i>Gathered & Good</i> | Dorothy Schmidtzinsky <i>Mary Lietrich</i> | Bill Treude <i>Peggy & Joe Hannon</i> |
| Esther McHalek <i>Ricardo Castillo</i> | Wilbur Pressler <i>Ruth Kott</i> | <i>Linda & Vernon Treibs</i> | <i>Linda & Vernon Treibs</i> |
| Merle McKay <i>Jacqueline & Frank</i> | <i>Susan Thompson</i> | Theresa Schuch <i>Judy & Jerry Luckenbach</i> | Al Weinzierl <i>Gretchen & Richard</i> |
| <i>Youngblood</i> | Bruce Pyka <i>Rhonda & Vaughan Usener</i> | <i>Linda & Vernon Treibs</i> | <i>Weilburg</i> |
| Mark Meyer <i>Camille & Marc Williamson</i> | Sam Rainey <i>Clare & Ed Holland</i> | Bernard Scrogin <i>Rebecca Howard</i> | Henry Welge <i>Kevin Leago</i> |
| Kirby Miller <i>Anonymous</i> | Pat & Harley Reavis <i>Becky & Mike Reavis</i> | <i>Jeannine & Carlton Wendel</i> | Sheila White <i>Mitzie & Justin Dolgener</i> |
| <i>Judy Dittmar</i> | Allison K. Rohling <i>Tara Cully</i> | Vernell & John Segner <i>Segner's Jewelers</i> | Tom Whitehead <i>Rhonda & Vaughan Usener</i> |
| Lena Mueller <i>Jackie & Jim Heupel</i> | Damian Rosa <i>Judy & Jerry Luckenbach</i> | Ellen Smith <i>Maryneil Dance</i> | Donald Whitney <i>Norma & Walter Heard</i> |
| <i>Ruth Kott</i> | Mary Rothband <i>Paul Rothband</i> | Rosebel Smith <i>Ray Smith</i> | Bill Wiemers <i>Margaret Bierschwale</i> |
| Virginia Munroe <i>Edyth O'Neill</i> | Joan Rudd <i>Kenneth Hartwein</i> | Leon Spaeth <i>Dittmar, Dittmar & Haschke</i> | Lois & Jack Wiemers <i>Mary & David Wiemers</i> |
| Alton Nebgen <i>Robert & Elsie Kuykendall</i> | Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Ryan <i>Gay & John Youngblood</i> | Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stafford <i>Caroline & John Stafford</i> | Harold Wills <i>Pam & Marston Cotten</i> |
| Edward Nigh <i>Marlene Emerson</i> | Alice Salinas <i>Ricardo Castillo</i> | Nancy Steinbach <i>Cheri & Bill Snyder</i> | Lache Wolf <i>Priscilla Williams</i> |
| Paul Nixon <i>Carol Seminara</i> | Shirley Salsman <i>Rhonda & Vaughan Usener</i> | <i>Linda Richardson</i> | Dr. & Mrs. J. Wade Youngblood <i>Gay & John Youngblood</i> |
| <i>Megan & John Willome</i> | Virginia Sauer <i>Stanley Sauer</i> | George Stewart <i>Dana Stewart</i> | Tommy Zenner <i>Charles Nemeck</i> |
| Martha Perez <i>Evelyn Ibbotson</i> | | Melburn Suenram <i>Pam Suenram</i> | |
| Rose Lou Petermann <i>Florine Bruns</i> | | Robert Synek <i>Judith Synek</i> | |
| <i>Ruth Kott</i> | | | |

Yes, I want to help!

You are welcome to help us in any way that you feel led to be involved. 70% of our budget comes from private donations, so those are vitally important to us. But we need volunteers and "Wish List Items" too. We appreciate any way you want to be involved.

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- Memoriam/Honorarium (see below)
- Please make my gift anonymous

The Good Samaritan Center

140 Industrial Loop, Ste 100

Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Phone: 830.990.8651

Fax: 830.990.0852

www.goodsamfbg.org

John Willome, Executive Director

jwillome@goodsamfbg.org



Thank you!



The Good Samaritan Center
140 Industrial Loop, Ste 100
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

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Hilario Villa

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man...?” Luke 10:36a
This Volunteer has the “Write” Stuff

If the name Collier sounds familiar, it’s probably because for 39 years Cathy and her husband, Terry, were the guiding lights of the *Fredericksburg Radio Standard* newspaper. “We’ve been in Fredericksburg since 1973,” Cathy said, “when Terry was hired out of graduate school (at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale) to work as news editor for the *Standard*.”

A couple of native Texans – she hails from Lampasas and Terry was born in San Antonio – it was a chance for the couple to get back to the Hill Country. They both had earned their BA degrees from then-Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos: he in journalism, she in history.

While Terry worked at the paper, Cathy put her Master’s Degree in History to use as a high school teacher in Kerrville. She soon switched posts to Fredericksburg High School, where she added journalism instruction to her teaching schedule; sponsorship of the yearbook soon followed. In short order, she transitioned to teaching journalism and photography full-time, adding yearbook sponsorship to her duties until 1985.

“We adopted two children, Katie and Ben,” Cathy said, “so I went to work at the newspaper

as a reporter and photographer for the flexibility.” In 2012, the Colliers retired from the newspaper business, leaving Cathy free to pursue her other passions: photography, travel, serving as family historian and volunteering.

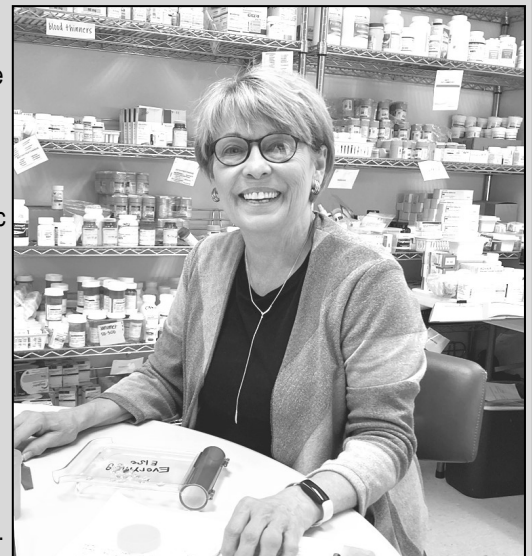
Cathy began volunteering with us in 2013 as one of the behind-the-scenes helpers in the medication room where she processes the chronic meds ordered for patients through our Medication Assistance Program.

“I love coming to the Center,” she said. “I adore the people and the professionalism. Patients are treated with respect and kindness, and their very real needs are met.”

Cathy has also served as the Gillespie County Democratic Party chairperson for the last eight years. In addition to supervising Democratic elections, the group has spearheaded projects in support of Fredericksburg social service agencies.

“Our ‘We’ve Got You Covered’ diaper drive helped the Needs Council,” she said, “and we started the Little Free Libraries movement in town.”

“It feels good to be active in the community, working for positive change,” she said. “Helping people is not partisan.”



“I love coming to the Center! Patients are treated with respect and kindness, and their very real needs are met.”

Cathy Collier
Medication Room volunteer