

1991	\$1,750,000	Emergency Room Renovation, 2 MICU Vehicles, Tel-Med System, Pediatric Hospital Video, Lifeline Emergency Response System
1995	\$2,000,000	Journeys Program, Maternal Child Health Program, Family Wellness Renovation, New Intensive Care Unit
1999	\$2,000,000	Reception Suite, Luckow Radiation Oncology Suite, Telehealth Patient Education System, Pediatric Asthma Program
2003	\$1,650,000	Luckow PET Scanner, Pediatric Suite, <i>Butterflies</i> , Pediatric ER Renovation, Maternal Fetal Medicine Suite
2006	\$2,000,000	Inpatient Pediatric Unit, Women's Health Unit, <i>Butterflies</i> , 64 Slice CT Scanner
2010	\$500,000	Center for Women's Heart Health
2011	\$500,000	Maternal Fetal Medicine Suite, Maternal Child Health Program
2012	\$1,500,000	Breast Surgery Program at Luckow Pavilion, <i>Butterflies</i> Endowment

TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE: \$17,310,000

MEMBERSHIP FOCUS: NANCY LARACY



Although she has only been a member of the Auxiliary for about a year, Nancy Laracy is already making a major contribution to patients at Valley Hospital through her pet therapy program.

After completing hospice training last spring, she and Muffin, her therapy bunny, have begun to visit adult hospital patients. They will soon start home visits with children in Valley Home Care's *Butterflies* program. Last September, Nancy and Muffin spent time at the Auxiliary Booth at the Franklin Lakes Town Fair to help introduce the community to the *Butterflies* program, currently a major beneficiary of the Auxiliary's fund raising efforts.

On March 21, Nancy and Muffin will participate in the Teddy Bear Festival, an annual event sponsored by Valley Home Care for children with cancer and their siblings. In keeping with this year's Disney theme, Nancy will dress as Snow White, carrying Muffin in a basket. She will bring gifts for all the children, read them special bunny books with age appropriate lessons, share some unique bunny trivia, and give them each the opportunity to hold her bunny.

Several times a month, Nancy and Muffin visit nursing homes, including the Christian Health Care Center and Oakland Rehabilitation Center. They have also spent time in Newtown, Connecticut with the children of Sandy Hook, in Tenafly at Camp Dreamstreet for children with cancer, and with inner city and special needs children. She will soon begin additional work with children through Cancer Care of Ridgewood.

Recently, Nancy pioneered the first New Jersey branch office of Bunnies in Baskets, a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Oregon. Several Auxiliary members and local businesses have contributed baked goods, stuffed bunnies, bunny books, and craft supplies for Nancy's programs. "I am always looking for donations to use with the groups I visit," she said, noting that most donations to Bunnies in Baskets are tax deductible. She can be reached at nanski100@netscape.net.



As a chronic pain sufferer with a connective tissue disease and fibromyalgia, Nancy discovered firsthand the therapeutic benefits of animal-assisted therapy a number of years ago when she spontaneously purchased a pet bunny. Nancy says that Bunny Boy, her first rabbit, saved her life figuratively by becoming her avenue to overcome chronic pain. He also literally saved her life when he pioneered a medical treatment at the Animal Medical Center in Manhattan that subsequently was used on humans.

She has become an advocate for the chronic pain/disease community through her website and blog at www.nancylaracy.com. She has also written and been the subject of various magazine articles and has been featured on NJ News 12. She is currently seeking a publisher for her memoir *Bunny Boy & Me: One Woman's Triumph Over Chronic Pain with the Help of the World's Luckiest, Unlucky Rabbit*.

Nancy grew up in Wanaque and is one of five children. After graduating William Paterson College with a BA in Business Administration, she worked as a Human Resources Executive for 12 years and then consulted in the field for a few years. She is married and has two children, a daughter who currently teaches at an inner city school in Philadelphia, and a son in college.