

Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association

Spring/Summer 2020 Newsletter

Greetings and welcome to this **ABBREVIATED** edition of the Spring/Summer Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association Newsletter. Although this KKAA newsletter is not as lengthy as past ones, it is a way for us to *stay connected*.

We usually receive lots of information to include in our newsletter, but I am sure most of us have been doing the same things for the last few months: staying at home as much as possible and observing CDC guidelines to stay safe during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

I want to share some updates about the Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association. Membership in KKAA has grown to 273. The names of our newest members are listed in the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE section. Remember, if you keep in touch with former KKI colleagues, please encourage them to join KKAA.

When you peruse the SOCIAL COMMITTEE updates, you will find the plans for this year's Kennedy Krieger's Festival of Trees. There is also information about KKAA's Annual Luncheon.

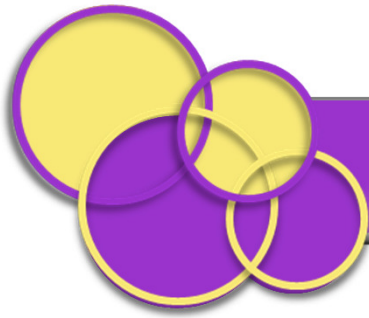
In I REMEMBER WHEN, Joe Pillion comments about a few of his favorite memories.

Valuable and timely information about recognizing the symptoms of COVID-19, plus tips to care for your mask/face coverings can be found in the HEALTH CORNER.

I hope this newsletter is a welcome distraction from the current period of uncertainty. Please stay safe and well. Until next time, *let's stay connected*.

Take care,
Roni





MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association
is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Frank Pidcock, M.D.

Dr. Pidcock joined the staff of Kennedy Krieger in 1994 and served as Vice President for Rehabilitation.

Elizabeth Moore

Elizabeth worked with the Nursing Department team for 20 years.

Andrew Corcoran

For 6 years, Andrew was a partner in Neurodevelopmental Medicine Department.

Tova Hoicowitz

Tova spent nearly 8 years in the Child and Family Support Program.

Shernica Miller

Shernica was a part of the Special Education Program for 11 years.

Kara Kristaponis

Kara worked 8 years in the Neurogenetics Department.

Maureen Adams

For 17 years, Maureen was a member of the Occupational Therapy Department team.

Mariam Cypress

Mariam spent 28 years in the Institute's Nursing Department.

KKAA's membership continues to grow. We now have 273 members.

Remember, if you know former KKI colleagues who have not joined the Kennedy Krieger Alumni Association, please send us their contact information so we can extend an invitation to them to become a member.

The Alumni Email address is webmaster@kkalumni.org.



WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT TIME

As you know, we had to cancel our 2020 Annual KKAA Luncheon hosted at Blue Stone Restaurant due to the Pandemic. We have begun planning our 2021 luncheon and we hope that we will be able to see each other then. Be on the lookout for updates.

**SPRING
LUNCHEON**



Festival of Trees
KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE



ALERT: For four years, the SOCIAL COMMITTEE has offered complimentary tickets to **Festival of Trees**.

Unfortunately, this year we will not be able to do so because of the changes to the Festival due to the pandemic.

Here's what we know so far, **Festival of Trees will happen!**

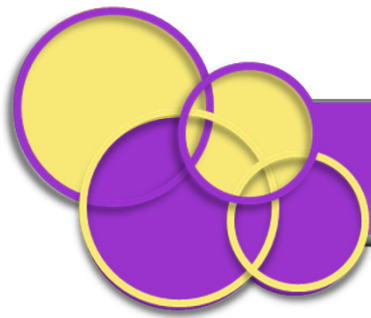
Kennedy Krieger will **NOT** be selling general admission tickets or bringing the public to the Maryland State Fairgrounds.

In fact, the Institute describes this year's Festival as "hybrid".

It will be a blend of past traditions such as designers decorating trees for sale, and the use of technology to execute other traditions like the Silent Auction. There also will be plenty of fun activities for youngsters including the very popular photo with Santa.

A lot will happen at this year's **Festival of Trees**.

As soon as we have additional information, we will forward it to you.



I REMEMBER WHEN

When you ask people about their memories of Kennedy Krieger, the name **Elmer Anderson** is frequently mentioned. Elmer worked at Kennedy for 41 years.

Joe Pillion, Audiology, remembers when the kitchen was on the Lobby floor at 707 and Elmer was the chef. Joe would occasionally pass him in the tunnel returning from Johns Hopkins with fresh fruits and vegetables in his cart.

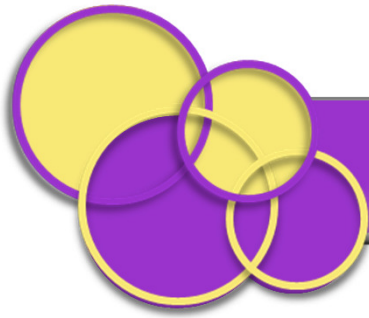
After KKI closed the kitchen, Elmer manned the security booth at the entrance of the Fairmount parking garage. He kept the glass of the booth spotless and was frequently seen cleaning the glass. Joe says it was a very bad way to start his day when he arrived at the booth without his hang tag on display in his car. Elmer would always ask, "*Where's your hang tag?*" before reluctantly allowing him to enter.

What memories do you have from your years at Kennedy Krieger?

We really enjoy hearing about them!

Contact Jean at smootjean@yahoo.com





MEMBER NEWS

What have you been doing since you retired? Have you had a great trip, a new or interesting hobby, a move, exciting family news? Do you volunteer? We would love to know what you are up to. Share your “news” with us in the next edition, Fall/Winter 2020 by emailing Jean at smootjean@yahoo.com



A.J. Bowen, son of **Bernice Bowen**, Special Education, received the Gattus Award-Security Officer of the Year. Officer A.J. Bowen is assigned to the 707 Broadway Security Desk. He has been with Kennedy Krieger Security since 2011. A.J. is described as a hardworking and dedicated professional who cares deeply for the staff and patients of Kennedy Krieger.



In March, **Chris Small** from Information Systems, his wife Whitney and sons Parker and Rylan welcomed a precious baby girl Samantha to their family. She is growing fast and is a constant source of joy and wonder to all of them.

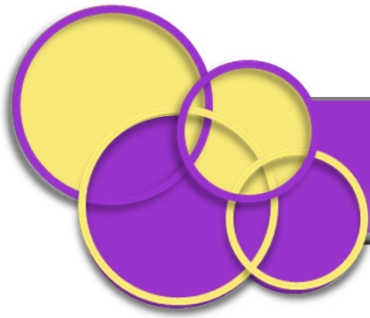


Lainy Lebow-Sachs, Administration, is making the most out of retirement even in the midst of the pandemic. She keeps in touch with former coworkers, is involved with many organizations, and was asked to be a lifetime member on the board of her synagogue. Her greatest joy, though, is spending time with her children and grandchildren. Lainy describes them as fabulous and delicious, which pretty much sums it up!



Joe Pillion, Audiology, and his wife are taking advantage of technology to stay in touch with family during the pandemic. Their daughter Hanna is able to work from home, so she is spending a couple of weeks with them. They have used FaceTime every day with their oldest daughter, Kaitlin and their three grandchildren, and have been reading books with their two year old granddaughter. Their youngest daughter, Rachel just graduated from Gallaudet University in May with a Masters in Speech Language Pathology. She will start her job next month at a private school in D.C.

Plans for a trip to Rome, Kotor, Dubrovnik, several Greek islands, and Athens are on hold for now. Hopefully, they will be able to go next year and we will hear all about it.



Kennedy Krieger News

Kennedy Krieger has established the Pediatric Post COVID-19 Rehabilitation Clinic.

Children who have recovered from the COVID-19 virus are more likely to have long term physical, cognitive and emotional effects that linger after recovery. The Pediatric Post COVID-19 Rehabilitation Clinic will treat children and adolescents under age 21 who have recovered from the virus but also need additional support to regain lost neurological and physical function.



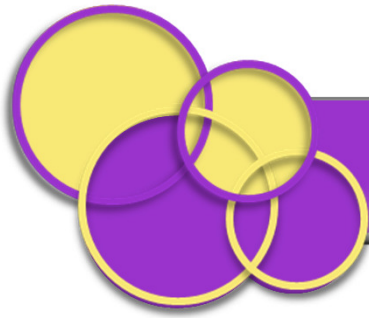
The interdisciplinary clinic will provide neurology, pediatric rehabilitation medicine, mental health, PT and OT services.

Additional information is available at www.kennedykrieger.org.



A special *thank you* to Jean Smoot, Vice President, KKAA, who, along with community organizations and other individuals, teamed up to make and distribute over 17,000 masks for patients, families and staff at Kennedy Krieger.





HEALTH CORNER

Recognizing Some of the Symptoms of COVID-19

If you have chills and shaking, muscle pain, cough, sore throat, fever, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, and/or frequent or prolonged headaches, please contact your physician or your local health department and inquire about being tested for COVID-19.



Caring for your face mask/face covering:

The CDC recommends washing your cloth face coverings after each use. It is important to always remove face coverings correctly and wash your hands after handling or touching them.

Remove your face mask carefully.

- Untie the ties behind your head or stretch the ear loops to remove
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing and wash hands immediately after removing.

How to clean your face mask:

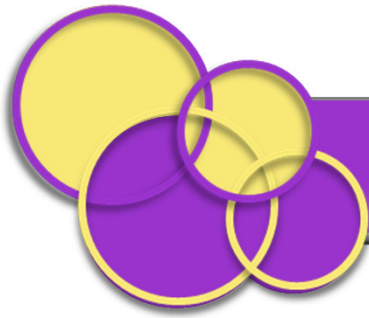
You can wash your face mask in the washing machine with your regular laundry using the warmest water setting possible. You can also wash by hand using a bleach solution of 4 teaspoons household bleach per quart of water.

Check the label to be sure your bleach is intended for disinfection.
Dry your mask in the machine or air dry.

Remember to social distance, practice good hand hygiene, and avoid contact with people who are sick.

Additional information is available at [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019)





COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

I hope you have enjoyed our abbreviated edition of the KKAA newsletter. As always, we really want to hear from more of our members. Send me your thoughts for the HISTORY OF KENNEDY KRIEGER, the I REMEMBER WHEN Column, MEMBER NEWS, and any other ideas you might have for the newsletter.

Important Request

*During the past year, have you received emails from the KKAA?
If you have not received an email from us,
we either don't have your email address or we have an incorrect email.
Our address is webmaster@kcalumni.org
Please share your email address with us
so you are in the loop concerning news and activities.*

Also, if your address or phone number have changed let us know.
We don't want to lose our ability to stay in touch with you.

Let's stay connected!

Jean



HOW YOU CAN STAY IN TOUCH

Join our Facebook group, Kennedy Krieger Alumni
Check out our Website kcalumni.org
We keep it simple; we have one main Email address...
email the Alumni at webmaster@kcalumni.org
President Roni Gross at webmaster@kcalumni.org
Vice President Jean Smoot at webmaster@kcalumni.org
Membership Committee at webmaster@kcalumni.org

To reach us by phone: 410-215-8972
KKAA Newsletter smootjean@yahoo.com

Be sure to keep us up to date with any changes in your email address, your mailing address or phone number.