

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Lisa Church  
lgchurch@brhc.org  
660-829-7788

April 20, 2012

## BOTHWELL REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER RECOGNIZES VOLUNTEERS AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON

SEDALIA, MO - Bothwell Regional Health Center thanked American Red Cross, Bothwell Auxiliary, Hospice and Chaplain volunteers at its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon held in conjunction with National Volunteer Week. Nearly 140 volunteers and friends attended the luncheon on Thursday, April 19, at the First United Methodist Church Celebration Center.

“Our volunteers are a valuable resource to our patients and our community,” said John Dawes, president and chief executive officer of Bothwell Regional Health Center. “They generously give of their time and their talents to help our patients and their families have an excellent experience at Bothwell.”



From left, American Red Cross volunteers Betty Burford, LeRoy Wimer and Viola Hiatt were honored during Bothwell Regional Health Center's 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Burford and Hiatt were honored for 40 years of service to Bothwell. Wimer was recognized as American Red Cross Volunteer of the Year.

Ninety-three Bothwell volunteers received Presidential Service Awards for more than 100 hours of volunteer service to the health center in 2011.

LeRoy Wimer received Bothwell Regional Health Center's Volunteer of the Year 2011 for the American Red Cross. Wimer volunteered 343 hours of service to the hospital in 2011.

Ervene Nothwehr received Volunteer of the Year 2011 for the Auxiliary. Nothwehr volunteered 512 hours of service to the hospital in 2011.

Each group nominates members based on service, character and dedication. Group members then vote to select the volunteers of the year, who are recognized at the annual appreciation luncheon.

Bothwell also recognized two American Red Cross volunteers, Viola Hiatt and Betty Burford, who have volunteered at Bothwell for 40 years. Burford recently retired from volunteering, but Hiatt still volunteers every week at the Information Desk in the main lobby. Both women were recognized with an American Red Cross 40-year-pin, tiara and sash. Sedalia Mayor Elaine Horn also presented Burford and Hiatt with a special Missouri House proclamation from Rep. Stanley Cox for their years of service to Bothwell and the community.

According to the American Red Cross's formal records, Burford and Hiatt are the first two Pettis County volunteers who have reached 40 years of service, said Valarie Swanson, executive director of the Pettis County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

"I have been so blessed to work with them," said Swanson. "Through all the changes these ladies have seen in life, the one thing that stays the same is the need to serve and show compassion to others. They have stepped up and done this faithfully. I am humbled and inspired by both of them."

"We appreciate everything that Betty and Viola have done for us," said Dawes. "They are both remarkable women who have truly dedicated their lives to Bothwell. Our patients and their families have been the true beneficiaries of Betty's and Viola's service, compassion and caring."

###



Bothwell Auxiliary President Joyce Monroe, left, congratulates Ervene Nothwehr after she was named the Auxiliary's Volunteer of the Year.