



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Edward G. Munster • September 2011

WELCOME ABOARD

Linda Matzigkeit is senior vice president of strategic planning and human resources of **Children's Healthcare of Atlanta**. She serves as executive leader for strategy and business development, service excellence and child wellness. Linda began her healthcare career 20 years ago and joined CHOA in 2003. Originally from central Illinois, Linda is passionate about wellness. She is an avid runner and a frequent speaker on wellness and becoming an employer of choice.

SUMMER AT YMCA CAMP HIGH HARBOUR

It's a summer tradition for local families: thousands of kids spend part of their summer at **YMCA Camp High Harbour**. New this year was the opportunity to attend the camp's recently-acquired permanent home **on Lake Allatoona, the former Fort McPherson Army Recreation Center**, leased to the Y by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This is the result of our strong, collaborative efforts: we've built a great relationship with the Corps by working together on other Corps-leased waterfront camps, the Cherokee Outdoor Y and the Forsyth County Family Y's Eagle Point summer camp.

Speaking of resident camp and the Corps, earlier this year the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit denied Forsyth County's motion for an injunction against the Corps over the lease of Bethel Park to the Y. The county dropped its lawsuit, which removes all barriers to achieving a new site for **YMCA Camp High Harbour at Lake Lanier**. A fundraising campaign is underway for a phased development of the camp. More information to come.

TEENS GAIN HANDS-ON LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Here is a snapshot of what **240 high school and middle school students** from 16 local YMCAs accomplished during **Mission: Atlanta**, an intense week of volunteering in some of Atlanta's most underserved areas. Students lived at the Y for a week: evenings were filled with leadership training, special events or field trips.

- 1,050 children's books distributed, and teens read books to children;
- 250 children participated in YMCA day camp in their own community;
- 750 healthy lunches served to children in need;
- 12 senior citizen homes landscaped and one porch painted;
- new garden built for a work-study program for disabled students;
- sorted 1,500 pounds of donations for MUST Ministries;
- more than 1,250 lunches prepared and delivered to many of Atlanta's homeless;
- 80 hygiene kits delivered and given to homeless men and women;
- 2 homeless shelters deep cleaned;
- landscaped 4 transitional homes for women in rehab.

JOIN ATLANTA'S LARGEST CAUSE-DRIVEN GOLF EVENT

A Y golf event will be held **October 3 and 4** at courses throughout metro Atlanta. The Y and **Canongate Golf Clubs**, thanks to Y board member **Joe Guerra**, are partnering to benefit local kids and teens. Over two days, 1,000 golfers will play at four premier courses. Proceeds of the golf event will ensure involvement in Y preschool, after-school enrichment, youth sports, teen leadership development, and summer camp for local kids and teens who cannot afford these vital youth development programs. It's just \$100/player/day, so register today at www.ygolfevent.org.

Sharing news and events with friends of the YMCA of Metro Atlanta

YMCA of Metro Atlanta • 100 Edgewood Avenue NE, Suite 1100, Atlanta, GA 30303 • Tel: 404-588-9622 • www.ymcaatlanta.org

Y-CEO HERITAGE INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT TURNS 25

Atlanta CEOs are invited to a day of golf, fellowship and an opportunity to support Y programs for at-risk children and teens in Atlanta. The event, established in 1986 by Guy Millner and a group of volunteers, will be October 17, at East Lake Golf Club. Tournament co-chairs are **Scott Taylor, Carter USA**, and **Paul Shaildendra** of the **Shaildendra Group**. Since its inception the tournament has contributed more than \$5 million to the endowment fund to directly support teen leadership development programs.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

The 2011 volunteer recognition dinner is **Monday, November 7**, at the Cobb Galleria Centre. Celebrate with Y-High's outstanding volunteer class of 2011 and learn how dedicated volunteers advocate for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

I am pleased to announce these volunteers who were selected for their leadership and Y commitment:

Carol Cookerly, Cookerly Public Relations, is the recipient of the 2011 Bransby Christian Leadership Award, the YMCA of Metro Atlanta's highest volunteer honor; **Bill McLendon**, just retired from **Deloitte LLP**, is the 2011 Kellogg Branch Champion awardee; **Dave Stockert, Post Properties, Inc. president & CEO**, is the YMCA of Metro Atlanta Volunteer of the Year.

2011 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Norman Johnson, Ph.D.
Arthur M. Blank Family Youth YMCA

Marie & Ken Klaer
Robert D. Fowler Y

Brandon Lovett
Summit/Fayette Outdoor Ys

Dalton Knox
Covington Y

Susan Lipscomb
Ed Isakson/Alpharetta Y

Muguet Bradbury
J.M. Tull-Gwinnett Y

Ellen Cross
Coward Family/Ashford Dunwoody Y

Lauren Grzeszkowiak
McCleskey-East Cobb/Northeast Cobb Ys

Shean L. Atkins
The Villages at Carver Y

Paula Gwynn Grant
Decatur Y

Daniel Williams
Northwest Y

Reggie Davis
YMCA Academies of South DeKalb

Rev. Dr. Darrell D. Elligan
ECDC/YMCA Head Start

Lauren Steves
G. Cecil Pruett/Cherokee Outdoor Ys

Kevin Latty
YMCA Camp High Harbour

Lawrence N. Sharp Jr.
East Lake Y

Jay Shorter
Carl E. Sanders Y at Buckhead

Dave Stockert
YMCA of Metro Atlanta

Maria Torres
Forsyth County Y

Kenley Waller
South DeKalb Y

Ronald J. Freeman Sr.
Andrew and Walter Young Y

Watch for upcoming details about this event, and I hope to see you there.

GIVING BACK AND WELCOMING ALL

For the past 16 years, **Ruth Forristel Holmes** has demonstrated her care and concern for others as the **Decatur Family Y's Happy Club** volunteer coordinator. Established in 1992 and now with 250 members in metro Atlanta, the Happy Club provides teens and adults with developmental disabilities the opportunity to further develop their social and community skills. Ruth has organized the monthly trips and activities, which range from going to Braves games, bowling or fishing, to holding a Valentine's Dance every year, beginning an annual beach trip – now in its 11th year – planning quarterly holiday events, and more. She also helped to develop the volunteer program to support the club. Ruth is still a Happy Club volunteer, but she is retiring as the volunteer coordinator. Thank you, Ruth, for your unwavering dedication, unbelievable amount of time and energy, and unsurpassed commitment to youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.



The Y is a powerful association of men, women and children of all ages and from all walks of life joined together by a shared passion: to strengthen the foundations of community.