

AROUND THE REGION:
Alden's Chief Operating Officer Appointed to State Board
Page 6



MAKING ROUNDS:
Dr. McCarthy of Saints Mary and Elizabeth Receives 2011 Pfizer Teacher Development Award
Page 7



PSRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Palm Beach, FL
Permit #4595

Visit us online at www.chicagohospitalnews.com

November 2011 Volume 10 • Issue 5 • \$3.00

Chicago Hospital NewsTM and HEALTHCARE REPORT

THE REGION'S MONTHLY NEWSPAPER FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS & PHYSICIANS

HOME CARE & HOSPICE

Hospice and Palliative Care: Creating a Niche in Uncertain Times

BY JAMIE M. O'MALLEY, M.S., R.N.

The palliative care and hospice world is at a crossroads. Healthcare reform presents numerous opportunities as well as challenges. And this year the first wave of nearly 80 million baby boomers turned 65, aging onto Medicare. Whatever changes lie ahead, we must be prepared to manage the care of a patient population that seeks to live well as they age, even with complex and chronic health con-

ditions. Thus the need for palliative care and hospice has never been greater.

At Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter, we have positioned ourselves for transition with increased flexibility, curiosity, enthusiasm, creativity and a willingness to explore opportunities that will increase access to care. As a freestanding healthcare organization, we partner with other providers to ensure that we are able to serve those in need. These collaborative relationships allow us to respond to the

patients' needs across sites of care while partnering with providers to improve services and outcomes.

Distinct advantages

Distinct attributes position Midwest CareCenter to meet the growing end-of-life care needs of our community despite the uncertainties of today's healthcare environment. These advantages include:

- We have more specialists - physicians and advanced practice nurses - in palliative care and hos-

Continued on page 9



Jamie M. O'Malley

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

■ Are You Ready for the New HIPAA Rules? Page 2

■ IN THE 1ST PLACE Networking Strategies for the Holiday Party Season Page 3

■ ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY Leveraging Technology to Improve Patient Satisfaction: The Role of the Informatics Nurse Specialist Page 4

BIM: The Standard for Healthcare Design Page 5



■ Weiss Memorial Hospital Unveils New Center for Radiation Oncology Page 5

■ HOSPICE Hospice is About Life Page 8

■ EDUCATION University of St. Francis Launches New MSN in Administration Program Page 10

MCHC Committed to Developing Physician Leaders with ACPE Programs Page 11

■ MONEY MATTERS Is the Time Right for You to Refinance? Page 12

■ WHAT'S NEW Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare Announces Plans for Berteau Campus Page 13



■ ACCOLADES 2011 Nurses of the Year Announced by Leukemia Research Foundation Page 15

EDUCATION

Become a Leader in Healthcare with Graduate Studies at Lewis University

Lewis University alumni are finding graduate education prepares nurses to advance careers, provide better patient care and become leaders in their field. Their education benefits the nurses as they are becoming full partners, with physicians and other healthcare professionals, in redesigning healthcare in the United States.

"We want to continue to be leaders in healthcare. A better educated nurse takes better care of her patients and achieves better patient outcomes. I truly believe in lifelong learning," commented Dr. Concetta Zak, associate dean for faculty scholarship and director of graduate studies at Lewis University.

Continued on page 10



Lewis University professors give personal attention to professional nurses pursuing graduate studies and advancing their careers.

Nurse Practitioner Reduces Unnecessary Emergency Department Visits

Adding a nurse practitioner (NP) to a busy hospital staff can decrease unnecessary emergency department (ED) visits, according to a study published by researchers at Loyola University Health System. This study ran in the latest issue of Surgery. Researchers found that the nurse practitioner reduced ED visits by improving the continuity in care and troubleshooting problems for

patients. The addition of the NP also resulted in an improved use of resources and financial benefits for the health system.

"This study demonstrates the important role that nurse practitioners have in our increasingly complex health-care system," said senior author Margo Shoup, M.D., FACS, Division Director of Surgical Oncology, Loyola University Health System. "With resident work restrictions and changes in reimbursement, the

addition of a nurse practitioner to a busy practice can fill a void and maintain communication and care after a patient is released from the hospital."

This study evaluated the addition of a NP to a department with three surgeons. Patient records were analyzed one year before (415 patients) and one year after (411 patients) the NP joined the staff. The two groups were statistically similar in age, race, type of surgery, length of hospital stay

and hospital readmissions. Patients were tracked after they were sent home from the hospital to determine how many unnecessarily returned to the ED. Researchers defined this as an ED visit that did not result in an inpatient admission.

Mary Kay Larson, BS, MSN, CNN, APRN-BC, is the nurse practitioner who was involved with this study. She communicated with patients and coordinated

Continued on page 12

**CUNNINGHAM,
MEYER &
VEDRINE, P.C.**

Providing legal representation to hospitals, healthcare professionals and the insurance companies that protect them
Since 1995

4200 Cantera Drive • Warrenville IL 60555
630-260-8600
One East Wacker Drive • Chicago IL 60601
312-578-0049

William F. Cunningham
wcunningham@cmvllaw.com

Mark C. Meyer
mmeyer@cmvllaw.com

Kevin J. Vadrine
kvedrine@cmvllaw.com

David C. Burtker
dburtker@cmvllaw.com

Michael R. Slovis
mslovis@cmvllaw.com

Robert L. Larsen
bob@cmvllaw.com

Spyridon J. Demakis
sdemakis@cmvllaw.com

Marni R. Slavick
marni@cmvllaw.com

WWW.CMVLLAW.COM

CMV is pleased to be listed on the Online Resource Directory for Healthcare Lawyers page of the Chicago Hospital News web page at <http://www.chicagohospitalnews.com/lawyers/>

Are You Ready for the New HIPAA Rules?

Sometime before the end of the year, the federal government is expected to release new changes to the privacy and security portions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), which affects hospitals and healthcare providers everywhere. Although the content of those changes has yet to be finalized, drafts of the proposed rule changes have been shared with the public throughout the rulemaking process. If the changes go into effect as proposed, then many hospitals will likely need to adopt some new business practices and develop some new capabilities.

A key area called out in the proposed rule change is the need for covered entities to be able to generate an accounting of all disclosures of protected health information (PHI). As a result of recent legislation, patients now have a right to receive a report showing all of the disclosures of personal information made to carry out treatment, payment and healthcare operations.

The government proposes to allow covered entities to comply in one of two ways: a) offer patients a detailed accounting of all the disclosures of their PHI, or b) offer patients a shorter, less-detailed "access report" of disclosures. The former would list in detail the who, what, why, and when of all the times in which their health information was disclosed by one entity to another. The latter would provide information merely on who has accessed an individual's electronic PHI,



BY JARED RHOADS

not including details about each particular disclosure.

The purpose of the access report is to offer an alternative that will satisfy most patients' inquiries while being less burdensome to providers. Some organizations cannot generate a full accounting of disclosures automatically. Their systems may be old, decentralized, or simply not fitted with this capability. They will have to introduce new procedures for compiling this information manually.

Like some of the other proposed HIPAA requirements, the new accounting of disclosures requirements will extend to business associates, such as vendors hired to provide coding services and independent contractors that assist with billing and data backup. Covered entities could provide either an accounting of the business associates' disclosures, or at minimum provide the names and contact information for all the business associates so that an interested patient could follow up with each associate.

Will these requirements go into effect as-is? That remains to be seen. Several prominent associations and groups have expressed concern that the new requirements are too burdensome and go too far, too fast. They point out that the requirements could be difficult and costly for some providers to meet, and that instituting such a requirement at a time when organizations are working hard to reduce their administrative costs could be a setback.

Patient privacy advocates have also criticized the proposed rule from the perspective that the rule does little to protect patient privacy at all. They say that requiring providers to produce an accounting of disclosures upon request is an "after-the-fact" approach, and that the focus ought to be on designing a system that enables patients to give consent before their doctor shares their health information electronically.

The accounting of disclosures rule is not the only issue awaiting a final ruling. Other areas in which new requirements may be issued (or additional clarification given) include encryption, breach notification, the extension of HIPAA rules to business associates, marketing restrictions on PHI, notices of privacy practices, and more. All of the final rules implementing changes to privacy and security are expected to be issued by the end of 2011. The final rule on accounting of disclosures is technically undergoing a separate rulemaking process, but is likely to be published at the same time as the others.

As the case with the accounting of disclosures rule shows, it is important for organizations to stay abreast of the requirements and know when the rules go into effect. Ultimately, the reason to address privacy and security is because it is the right thing to do for patients. But with new and changing rules taking effect - and with significant fines and organizations' reputations on the line - the stakes are higher than ever.

Jared Rhoads, Senior Research Specialist, CSC, can be reached at jrhoads@csc.com.

PDN's Centralized Remote Coding Labs

An Innovative Approach to Inpatient & Outpatient Coding Solutions

- Cost Savings (FTE's/Benefits)
- Eliminate Coding Backlogs
- Enhance Revenue Cycle with Faster Turnaround Time
- Built-In Coding Auditing and Education
- Coding Services Available 24 hrs a Day - Including Holidays



708.747.4361
www.pdnseek.com

During National Hospice and Palliative Care Month and every day of the year ...

We walk beside you.



Call (847) 467-7423
Visit www.carecenter.org
24 hours a day, seven days a week

Services are covered by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance. Charity care and financial assistance is available.

Midwest
PALLIATIVE & HOSPICE
CareCenter™

PALLIATIVE CARE • HOSPICE • GRIEF SUPPORT

Service Area: North/Northwest Chicago, North/Northwest Suburbs and Lake County.

A nonprofit, community-based healthcare organization serving the Chicago area for more than 30 years—first, as Hospice of the North Shore and now as Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter.

In the FIRST Place...

INSIGHTS FOR HEALTH CARE
PROFESSIONALS



BY RUSS JONES

Networking Strategies for the Holiday Party Season

If you are currently not working, don't wonder if you'll be asked awkward questions about your situation at holiday gatherings – count on it.

Perhaps, during a lull in the conversation at a holiday dinner you hear, "Hey Charlie, how's the job search going?" The last thing you want to talk about is why you aren't working, but friends and family can't resist. They're curious and probably mean well, but unprepared, you stammer something like "fine" or "it's going." Now that the subject has come up, it won't go away. Your questioner continues with, "But didn't you get leave from XYZ company in August?" or "What's the outlook in this economy for older guys like you?"

Perhaps you have vowed not to expose yourself to this torture and aren't planning to socialize until after the New Year. Well, you can run, but you shouldn't hide. Over the next few weeks attending holiday events can be the best thing you can do for your job search.

Your sister may be inviting people from her company to her open house. They could be executives, staffing or human resources professionals. Well connected business people may be members of your church or synagogue and planning to attend the potluck. Your neighbor might be inviting his golf buddy – a search firm recruiter – to his soiree. Each individual knows countless individuals and you never know who will lead you to needed information or critical referrals.

Your goal is simply to meet people and form social relationships. Whenever possible, don't discuss work, theirs or your lack of it. Second, anticipate the questions and develop a strategy for dealing with them.

Assume that those who ask about your job search are genuinely interested. If you assume those asking are well meaning, you'll have a positive attitude about them, which will be reflected in your answers. So let's return to "Hey, Charlie, how's the job search going?" Your response should revolve around what you are looking for; not why you haven't found it.

"Sam, I'm glad you asked. It's going really well. At this point, it's important to me to find the right opportunity in a place where I really fit. Unlike what our media tells us, plenty of companies are hiring, and I could find a job, but I'm laying the groundwork to find the right position that will be rewarding on a deeper level."

"But you left XYZ Company in August. How long is this going to take?"

"This type of thing is a process. I have made time for personal assessment and exploration of some new and different directions. I have a number of potential leads in the works, and I'm confident the right thing will come along. I really appreciate your interest. Could I call you next week to discuss my situation? I would like your input."

Have business cards printed and ready to distribute so you won't be embarrassed

when someone says, "I'll give you a call. May I have your card?" Your card should include your name, address, phone number and e-mail address and perhaps a professional summary. Doing simple things like this will save you unnecessary discomfort and make you more businesslike.

Assume now that you're at a party where you don't know anyone, so you likely won't have to deal with questions about your status. Your goal is to meet and chat with lots of people without seeming panicked, disgruntled or depressed. You want to appear friendly, calm and self-assured – in short, as someone who would "fit" the culture and values of respected organizations.

It goes without saying that you are your best advertisement. Pay attention to your grooming and attire at holiday parties. Don't smoke or drink alcohol excessively. You'll never be referred or recommended to anyone for anything if you're out of control.

People with good social skills will have an advantage. The best way to be interesting to others is to be interested in them. Ask plenty of questions, but do not under any circumstance ask what they do. Several years ago, in a meeting with the late Gardner Heidrick, one of the founders of the search firm Heidrick & Struggles Inc., I was told, "The moment you ask someone what they do, they're going to turn around and ask what you do. And you may not want them to do that." Responses to this question revolve around societal status, and why go there if your objective is to begin a personal relationship?

Most people go to parties to relax, laugh and interact on a social level. They want to talk about things outside their jobs. So ask about their families, hobbies, spouses and anything else that relates to their lives before and after work. Here are some questions to use: "Tell me about your spouse." "How did you meet?" "Where is your home town?" "How did you happen to move here?" and "What do you do when you aren't working?" Everyone wants to talk about themselves and if you can get them to do that, you have a shot at creating a conversation and a relationship with them.

Lastly, don't corner someone you've just met at a party for advice. People don't want to be put on the spot, and it's likely they want to mingle, not engage in a strategy session with you. Further, you want them to know that you value and respect their time. If you want to talk to them in more detail say, "I'd like to get your thoughts on my situation. Would it be okay if I call you next week?" If someone said this to me at a party, I'd make time for them.

Russ Jones is a Partner at First Transitions, Inc., a corporate-sponsored career transition and executive coaching firm specializing in the healthcare field. He can be reached at (630) 571-3311, (312) 541-0294 or at rjones@firsttransitions.com. You can also visit the website at www.firsttransitions.com.



HEALTH CARE & SENIOR LIVING

Experience the difference in rehabilitation and health care, senior living and long-term care



REHABILITATION AND HEALTH CARE CENTERS

CHICAGO

Alden Lakeland	Alden Princeton
Alden Lincoln Park	Alden Wentworth
Alden Northmoor	

SUBURBAN CHICAGO AREA

Alden Des Plaines	Alden Orland Park
Alden Estates of Barrington	Alden Poplar Creek
Alden Estates of Evanston	Alden Terrace of McHenry
Alden Estates of Naperville	Alden Town Manor
Alden Estates of Shorewood— <i>Coming Soon!</i>	Alden Valley Ridge
Alden Estates of Skokie	Alden of Waterford
Alden Long Grove	Heather Health Care
Alden North Shore	

BEYOND CHICAGO

Alden Alma Nelson Manor	Alden Meadow Park
Alden Estates of Countryside	Alden Park Strathmoor

ASSISTED LIVING

Alden Courts of Des Plaines *A Memory Care Residence*
Alden Courts of Waterford *A Memory Care Residence*
Alden Estates of Evanston *Assisted Living Residential Community*
Alden Gardens of Bloomingdale *Supportive Living Facility*
Alden Gardens of Des Plaines *Assisted Living Residential Community*
Alden Gardens of Waterford *Assisted Living Residential Community*

Tour our Facilities on the Web

www.thealdennetwork.com

or call 1-800-351-3130



Leveraging Technology to Improve Patient Satisfaction: The Role of the Informatics Nurse Specialist

Soon Medicare will begin to decrease financial reimbursement for hospitals with low patient satisfaction scores, giving healthcare providers another incentive to perform better. The extra funds will be distributed to hospitals with above-average scores⁽¹⁾. In addition to streamlining work processes, improving efficiencies, and holding down costs, ongoing developments in health information technology provide unique ways for hospitals to increase patient satisfaction.

Smart technology, for example, has an additive effect on realized benefits through improved patient-tracking mechanisms, smart medication pumps, and smart patient rooms. Patient tracking is a particularly important tool for increasing patient satisfaction scores. Many patients report dissatisfaction in the amount of time it takes to get from a hospital emergency department to an inpatient room or from an inpatient room to a diagnostic testing room and back again. Similarly, many patients complain about the amount of time it takes to receive medication for pain relief after their request. Tracking helps alleviate these issues by allowing healthcare providers to examine the amount of time that passes between a patient pressing a call light and their request being met.

Smart medication pumps communicate directly with hospital, pharmacy, and medication-administration systems to pull in data related to allergies, drug interactions,



BY TONI HEBDA, PHD, RN, MSIS, DEE MCGONIGLE, PHD, RN, FAAN,
AND KATHLEEN HUNTER, PHD, RN-BC

dosages and appropriate administration rates. This medication-delivery innovation also incorporates alarms, improving system and patient safety.

Smart rooms have a direct impact on patient satisfaction. They provide patients with information on who has entered their room, the title of their care giver, and the care to be rendered. Voice recognition features in smart rooms also allow patients to verbally place phone calls, request information, and activate the nurse-call system with ease. Smart room technology helps reduce redundancy, both in how a patient's requests are handled and in information sharing related to a patient's health status, and allows nurses and doctors to document a patient's status while in the room. This decreases the probability of error through

repetition of health history information and patient preferences as well as time consumption, allowing care providers to spend more time with their patients.

To realize the maximum potential of these and other health information technologies on improving patient satisfaction scores, each healthcare setting should have at least one informatics nurse specialist (INS). There are many levels of informatics nurses, but the INS is distinguished from the others by having formal graduate preparation in nursing informatics. This preparation enables an INS to leverage clinical and informatics expertise to contribute to the design, integration, and effective implementation of information technologies, increasing patient satisfaction and safety.

Once smart technologies are acquired by an organization, an INS ensures that the application works as designed and supports patient care to the greatest extent possible. An INS designs, develops, and implements teaching-learning activities that support all clinical staff in learning to use and optimize these technologies. Beyond maximizing payments from new reimbursement models, an INS also works with clinicians to optimize new health information technologies to generate real-time data that can be mined to develop strategies for improving patient satisfaction. This role is integral in creating an organization focused on patient advocacy, re-design of workflow, and use of aggregate data for data mining and knowledge generation.

These tools allow healthcare professionals to create reports for improving patient outcomes and healthcare delivery, which should positively impact post-discharge patient-satisfaction scores.

Dr. Toni Hebda, Dr. Dee McGonigle, and Dr. Kathleen Hunter are Chamberlain College of Nursing Professors in the Master of Science in Nursing degree program. For more information, visit www.chamberlain.edu or call 888-556-8CCN.

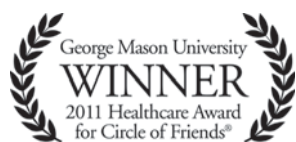
⁽¹⁾ Rau, J. (2011). Kaiser Health News: Medicare to begin basing hospital payments on patient-satisfaction scores. Retrieved from <http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2011/April/28/medicare-hospital-patient-satisfaction.aspx>

"I choose real nurses."

"I take more than 10 medications a day. I wanted a place where the staff was trained, where they'd really pay attention to me. Belmont Village is the only assisted living residence I know of with a licensed nurse on-site 24 hours a day. But, more important to me, they have a chef, restaurant dining, and a driver too."

"I Choose Belmont Village."

- Chef-prepared, restaurant-style dining
- Free scheduled transportation daily
- Fitness and social activities
- Licensed nurse on-site around the clock
- Medication management
- Housekeeping and laundry
- Award-winning Circle of Friends® memory program
- Assistance with daily living
- Specialized Alzheimer's care



Buffalo Grove Glenview
(847) 537-5000 (847) 657-7100

Carol Stream Oak Park
(630) 510-1515 (708) 848-7200

SC Lic. 47845, 47829, 47837, AL Lic. 5102238 ©2011 Belmont Village, L.P.

The Community Built for Life®
www.belmontvillage.co

Preventing Early Deliveries Initiative

The non-profit Midwest Business Group on Health (MBGH), under a grant from the United Health Foundation and the National Business Coalition on Health, is facilitating a series of "summits" to bring together physicians, hospitals, health plans, employers, public health agencies and community groups in efforts to eliminate non-medically related early deliveries. MBGH is the Illinois Regional Roll-Out leader for the Leapfrog Group, a national employer-led non-profit organization focusing on improving patient safety in hospitals. Annually, MBGH asks Chicago and Illinois hospitals to report on their progress in meeting a variety of patient safety measures, several of which relates to maternity care.

This year, MBGH reported that Leapfrog data revealed that 5-40% of all Illinois hospital deliveries were prior to 39 weeks of gestation. Many of these early deliveries were for non-medical reasons. Deliveries prior to 39 weeks can result in infants with underdeveloped lungs and other problems. MBGH conducted a summit of health care stakeholders in June of this year. The consensus was that there were several existing initiatives and national efforts to address early deliveries, but they were operating in silos.

MBGH reached out to two of the leading groups active in this area, the March of Dimes and Quality Quest for Health, in Peoria, Illinois, and has created a statewide collaborative that includes the three organizations, as well as the Perinatal Quality

Collaborative of Illinois (PQCI), composed of the ten statewide Perinatal Medical Directors that oversee all Illinois maternity hospitals.

This new partnership is hosting a series of new invitational summits in November, December and January related to clinical, data, reimbursement, policy and educational issues that will develop consensus approaches for incorporation into a Community Action Plan. The Plan will seek funding for implementation throughout Chicago and the rest of the state. The implementation plan will include actions to:

- Identify the data that needs to be collected to determine performance and progress in eliminating early deliveries;
- Educate patients on the value of full-term births;
- Educate physicians on the clinical criteria for early deliveries;
- Provide educational programs for worksite activities;
- Align payment incentives for full-term births and
- Require every maternity hospital to adopt clinical policies to prevent non-medically related C-sections and inductions.

Persons interested in attending the summits should contact Larry Boress at lboress@mbgh.org.

BIM: The Standard for Healthcare Design

Building Information Modeling (BIM) software is a tool used to generate the design of a space, while enabling a high level of coordination of the building elements between users - architects, engineers, and owners. The benefits of utilization are enormous, and Hospital Owners are catching on.

In 2006, the United States Government Services Administration (GSA) initiated a BIM mandate which requires the utilization of BIM technology for all new government building projects. Now, Wisconsin,

Texas and Ohio require the use of BIM for all new construction, addition and renovation projects with total project funding value of around \$2.5-\$5 M or greater; as well as "encouraging" but not "requiring"

BIM on all other projects. Using BIM, we are experiencing the many advantages that government projects and a few states enjoyed for the past five years. Will the growing trend become the standard for healthcare building design?

A Clear Benefit to the Owner

Building Information Modeling helps bridge the communication gap between designers and the owners, or users of a space. During collaborative design sessions, we find that some healthcare team members simply cannot understand context and design intent by viewing 2D drawings. We can describe positive and negative implications of a design, but "flat" information does not resonate as clearly as visually demonstrating the impact. With the use of BIM's innate and interactive 3D capabilities, healthcare professionals, who are users of the spaces, can better visualize the planned area.

Ideas can be instantly explored and evaluated when the healthcare team can see the impact of their preferences in design or changes they are requesting in their own space. The outcome is meaningful and productive discussions are occurring with the team; this



BY RANDALL BACIDORE, AIA AND ROSANNE SIEGAL, LEED AP

is leading to a better planned utilization of space.

By simply being able to better visualize the space, we can identify and eliminate bad working habits and work flow errors by literally walking the users through the designed layout using BIM.

We feel that this technology is breaking down traditional personnel workplace barriers that may otherwise inhibit design choices. By encouraging open debate with users, they eventually agree as a team on what will best suit their needs. There is a more unified sense of satisfaction among healthcare teams as they experience the design of a space in 3D.

To Hospital Owners, the "Final Frontier of BIM" has become one of the most logical advantages of adopting this technology. As architects and engineers generate a data rich representation of the facility, they are creating a reliable and accurate facility management tool. When a model is developed with "facility management" in mind, Hospital Owners and users, can have instantaneous access to the facility's spatial information; furniture and equipment manufacturer data; area calculations; cost center analyses; occupancy and fire evacuation plans; and so on.

Building Information Modeling technology will be the standard for healthcare design because Hospital Owners will come to expect the best when it comes to designing and managing their facility. BIM elevates the design process and improves the relationship of a space with its design and users. The benefits of BIM technology are on-site, interactive and immediate; allowing for effective facility planning, design and information management.

Randall Bacidore, AIA, partner at Matthei & Colin Associates, can be reached at (312) 939-4002 or at randallb@mca-architecture.com. Roseanne Siegal, LEED AP, is a BIM Coordinator at Matthei & Colin Associates, can be reached at (312) 939-4002 or at rosannes@mca-architecture.com.

Weiss Memorial Hospital Unveils New Center for Radiation Oncology

Weiss Memorial Hospital opened the new Center for Radiation Oncology in October, featuring the most cutting-edge radiation technology available. Called a linear accelerator, or linac for short, this technology makes cancer treatment possible down to the millimeter. A \$1 million grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity helped make this advancement possible.

To target tumors previously considered too risky to treat, the linac uses a form of therapy called intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT).

Throughout each treatment, the machine interfaces with a CAT scan to pinpoint the tumor location and deliver a high energy X-ray beam to the cancerous site, sparing the surrounding healthy tissue.

Ribbon-cutting at Weiss

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on Oct. 18th officially opened the Center for Radiation Oncology at Weiss Memorial Hospital in Chicago. The new center features the most cutting-edge radiation technology - the linear accelerator.



(l-r) Dr. Stuart Krauss, director of Medical Oncology at Weiss; William Foley, president of the Vanguard Health Systems Chicago Market; Sara Feigenholtz, state representative, D-Chicago, Dr. Jeffrey Steinberg, chief executive officer at Weiss; David Zweifler, service line director for oncology at Weiss; Dr. Marina Kuznetsova, radiation oncologist at Weiss; Dr. Keith Shulman, oncologist at Weiss; and Dana Regnier, director of oncology for Vanguard Health Systems Chicago Market. Photo credit: Allen Bourgeois.



During a grand opening celebration, Jim Flosi, executive director of Edge Alliance, and Dr. Marina Kuznetsova, a radiation oncologist at Weiss Memorial Hospital, look at the most cutting-edge radiation technology - the linear accelerator (linac). Photo credit: Allen Bourgeois.

PHOTO CREDIT: ALLEN BOURGEOIS



Illinois CyberKnife treatment room at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital

Lutheran General Launches New CyberKnife Program

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital and Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital announce the opening of Illinois CyberKnife, a new cancer treatment facility. A \$6 million investment, the CyberKnife center was developed through a partnership between Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital, Radiation Oncology Consultants and US Radiosurgery.

CyberKnife treats patients through a procedure called stereotactic radiosurgery, a noninvasive method of treating tumors and other medical conditions with very precise, high-dose radiation. During treatment, patients lie on a table while the CyberKnife's robotic arm moves around them, aiming radiation beams directly at a tumor site and minimizing damage to surrounding healthy tissue. CyberKnife involves no cutting and no anesthesia, and it requires no recovery time or overnight hospital stay.

Illinois Hospital Association Elects New Board

The Illinois Hospital Association (IHA) is pleased to announce the newly-elected officers of its 2012 Board of Trustees.

Alan Channing, President and CEO of Sinai Health System, Chicago, succeeds Gary Kaatz, president and CEO of Rockford Memorial Hospital, as chair of the 29-member Board. Channing has served as a member of the IHA Board of Trustees since 2007 and currently serves as chair-elect. He has been a member of the Policy Council, the Medicaid Reform Task Force, the Quality Care Institute Task Force, the All Kids Task Force, and several other committees and panels.

James Leonard, M.D., President and CEO of Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, was chosen chair-elect. Dean Harrison, President and CEO of Northwestern Memorial HealthCare, Chicago, was elected secretary. Kevin Poorten, President and CEO of KishHealth System, DeKalb, was elected treasurer.



Alan Channing

Vista Announces Pamela German Hill as New CFO

Vista Health System recently announced the appointment of Pamela German Hill as its new Chief Financial Officer. Hill joined Vista earlier this year as Interim CFO on assignment from Community Health Systems (CHS), the parent company of Vista. She had been a Project CFO for CHS for two years before accepting this full-time position with Vista.

Hill began her career with CHS in 2003 serving in their Dyersburg and Lexington, Tennessee facilities in key financial roles. She holds a BS/BA Degree in Accounting from Union University in Jackson, TN, and earned a Master's in Health Administration from the University of Memphis.



Pamela German Hill

Friedberg Appointed Chief Operating Officer of Delnor Hospital

Robert Friedberg has been appointed Chief Operating Officer of Delnor Hospital in Geneva. He holds the additional role of Executive Vice President of System Operations and Integrated Services for the CDH-Delnor Health System. Friedberg previously held the title of vice president of operations for Central DuPage Hospital (CDH) since May 2004.

Before joining CDH, Friedberg served as senior administrator at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. Prior to his tenure at Rush, Friedberg served as the Chief Operating Officer for MacNeal Health Network in Berwyn, IL.



Robert Friedberg

Loyola Nurse Appointed to Board of Directors for Society of Otorhinolaryngology Head-Neck Nurses

Ramute Kemeza, R.N., was elected to a two-year term of the board of directors for the Society of Otorhinolaryngology Head-Neck Nurses. Kemeza also is the national chapter coordinator and has served on the society's nominating committee and as committee chairwoman. She works in Occupational Health Services at Loyola University Medical Center.



Ramute Kemeza

Alden's Chief Operating Officer Appointed to State Board

During The Center for Developmental Disabilities Advocacy and Community Supports (The Center) annual meeting, Robert J. Molitor was sworn in as a member of the Board of Directors. Molitor is the Chief Operating Officer at Alden Management Services in Chicago.

Molitor started at Alden Princeton Rehabilitation and Health Care Center on Chicago's south side as the administrator. He soon rose up through the ranks to become a Regional Director, Vice President of Operations and COO in 2005.



Robert J. Molitor

Sherman RN Elected to Oncology Nursing Society Board

Sherman Health is pleased to congratulate Imee Unto, RN, MSN, Center for Cancer Care manager, who was recently elected by the Chicago Western Suburbs Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society (CWSONS) to join its board as Treasurer Elect. Unto will begin this new role in January 2012.



Imee Unto

Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center Names New Leadership

Amy Stevens has been named the Chief Operating Officer at Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center. Formerly Regional Vice President, Strategy and Business Development for PSJMC and Provena Saint Mary's in Kankakee, Stevens most recently had been tapped for special assignment involving the merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health systems.

Janice Nemri, formerly the Vice President of Clinical Services and Facilities at Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center (PSJMC), has been named the Chief Administrative Officer.

Nemri joined PSJMC as Director of Imaging Services in December 2005. She was promoted to Assistant Vice President of Clinical Services and later as Vice President of Clinical Services.



Amy Stevens



Janice Nemri

Karilyn Van Oosten Joins Chamberlain College of Nursing as Director of Strategic Alliances

Chamberlain College of Nursing announces the appointment of Karilyn Lesassier Van Oosten, MA, as director of strategic alliances.

Van Oosten has more than 10 years of experience developing business alliances for nursing education institutions, most recently leading efforts at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix as senior director of enrollment and director of strategic business alliances in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Prior to joining Grand Canyon University, she spent three years at University of Phoenix in business development and several years at ING Financial Services as an emerging markets manager.



Karilyn Van Oosten

Loyola Faculty Member Named Fellow of Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society

Ida Androwich, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN, was recently appointed a fellow to the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) for her service, experience, publications and presentations in this area. Dr. Androwich is a professor of nursing and business and the director of Health Systems Management at Loyola University Chicago. She also teaches graduate courses in health-care informatics, systems, outcomes performance management and population-based infection control.



Dr. Ida Androwich

Management and marketing services that deliver business results!



Deborah J. Hodges, MA • 312 310-7353 • djhgoldensquare@aol.com

Dr. McCarthy of Saints Mary and Elizabeth Receives 2011 Pfizer Teacher Development Award

Marie T. McCarthy, M.D., a family physician at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center (SMEEMC), was among 16 doctors nationwide recognized for their commitment to education in the field of medicine. The physicians received 2011 Pfizer Teacher Development Awards from the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation.

Dr. McCarthy was recognized for her scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and dedication to family medicine.

On staff at SMEEMC since 2007, Dr. McCarthy is an attending physician and medical director with PrimeCare Community Health Center, which is affiliated with SMEEMC. She also serves as a part-time instructor with SMEEMC's family residency program. She provides instruction in obstetrics, pediatrics and adult medicine.



Dr. Marie T. McCarthy

Dr. Giannotti Honored with 2011 Physician CARES Award

Giovanni D. Giannotti, M.D., a distinguished surgeon at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center (SMEEMC) received the 2011 Physician CARES Awards.

In practice for 16 years, Dr. Giannotti is board certified in surgery and surgical critical care. Using minimally invasive approaches, he specializes in general surgery with a focus in cancer involving the breast, head and neck, colorectal and liver diseases. He joined SMEEMC in 2005.

The surgeon was recognized for promoting the medical center's CARES values - Compassion, Accountability, Respect, Excellence and Service.



Dr. Giovanni D. Giannotti

Sreekanth Named Director of Pathology at Advocate South Suburban Hospital

Advocate South Suburban Hospital has named Olympia Fields' Shantha Sreekanth, M.D., Director of Pathology. Dr. Sreekanth, who has been on the hospital's medical staff since 1994, now is accountable for all professional, clinical and administrative related activities of pathology department members.

Dr. Sreekanth received her medical degree from Bangalore Medical College in Bangalore, India. She completed a pathology internship and a chief residency at Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago, and she served a fellowship in surgical pathology at the University of Minnesota.



Dr. Shantha Sreekanth

Riverside Medical Center Welcomes New Endocrinologist

Riverside Medical Center is pleased to welcome Endocrinologist Rachel Lardi, M.D.

Dr. Lardi is Board-Certified in Internal Medicine and a Board Candidate in Endocrinology. She received her medical degree at the Medical College of Wisconsin in May 2006. Dr. Lardi completed her residency at Carolina's Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. She completed an endocrinology fellowship at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

Dr. Lardi is a member of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, American Thyroid Association, Endocrine Society, and the American College of Physicians.



Dr. Rachel Lardi

Silver Cross Announces Medical Staff Appointments

Silver Cross is pleased to welcome the following new physicians to its Medical Staff. Cheryl Thompson-Cragwell, M.D., board certified obstetrics & gynecology physician; Anthony C. Delach, M.D., board certified pediatrics physician; David L. Ellens, M.D., board certified internal medicine physician; Anton J. Fakhouri, M. D., board certified orthopedic and hand surgeon; and Claudine Go, M.D., board certified internal medicine physician.

Advocate Medical Group Welcomes Neurologists

Advocate Medical Group has announced the addition of two neurologists to its growing number of physicians.

Terrence M. Li, M.D., studied medicine at the State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical University, in Syracuse, NY. He completed a preliminary medicine internship at United Health Services, in Johnson City, NY, followed by a neurology residency at SUNY Upstate Medical University, and a neurophysiology fellowship at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Andrew C. MacDougall, D.O., studied medicine at Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, in IL. He completed an internal medicine internship through the University of Illinois program at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, IL, and a residency in neurology at the University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago, followed by a fellowship in clinical neurophysiology at the University of Chicago Hospital.



Dr. Terrence M. Li

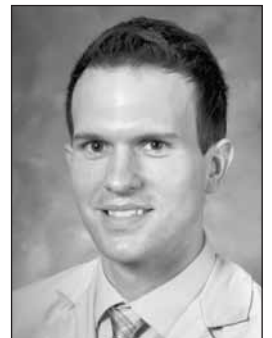


Dr. Andrew C. MacDougall

New Physician at Loyola University Health System

Brock Andreatta, M.D., recently joined Loyola University Health System's team of anesthesiologists. He also is an instructor in the Department of Anesthesiology at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine.

Dr. Andreatta earned his medical degree, along with a master's degree in Master of Health Administration, from Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. He completed an internship in transitional medicine at Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, OH, and his residency in anesthesiology at Loyola University Medical Center.



Dr. Brock Andreatta

Ameriprise 
Financial

Jobs may change. Retirement dreams don't have to.

If you've left a job and have a 401(k) or other retirement accounts, don't forget about them. Rolling over assets you have with former employers or other institutions to an Ameriprise IRA can be important in making your retirement dreams a reality.

Learn how you can put your confident retirement more within reach. Call me at (630) 396-1826.



Nancy Buerger, CFP® , MBA
Financial Advisor
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ practitioner
One Oakbrook Terrace Suite 700
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
(630) 396-1801
nancy.s.buerger@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/nancy.s.buerger

Our Advisors. Your Dreams.
MORE WITHIN REACH®

Brokerage, investment and financial advisory services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. Some products and services may not be available in all jurisdictions or to all clients.
© 2010-2011 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.



Hospice is About Life

Those of us who have dedicated our careers to caring for people with life-limiting illness know that hospice is about life—some of the most important moments in life. New research now confirms the benefits - financial, physical and emotional - of choosing hospice and palliative care for people facing terminal illnesses. In fact, one recent study has shown that people can actually live longer with palliative, also known as comfort, care.

The study, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, showed that terminally ill patients who received palliative care services lived nearly three months longer and enjoyed an improved quality of life compared to those who didn't receive the attention of a palliative care team.

Another recent study found that cancer patients who die at home with hospice services had a better quality of life in their final days compared to similar patients who died in a hospital. Moreover, the family members of the patients fared worse psychologically if their loved ones died in a hospital instead of at home.

"When patients and their families are dealing with a terminal illness, the physical and emotional challenges can be a burden," says Christopher Daugherty, M.D., medical director for VITAS Innovative Hospice Care® of Chicagoland Central. "But hospice, with its focus on pain and symptom management and on psychological and spiritual support for patients and their families, can help to ease those burdens.

"Because hospice care typically is provided in a patient's home, whether the home is a private residence, a nursing home or an assisted living community, the patient is able to stay in a familiar setting surrounded by family and friends," he adds. "By treating physical symptoms and providing pain management, as well as addressing emotional and spiritual concerns, hospice can make the dying process more meaningful for patients and their loved ones."

When There's a Crisis, There's Continuous or Inpatient Care

What happens when the patient has a medical crisis and experiences, for example, uncontrolled pain, intractable nausea, uncontrolled bleeding or severe confusion?

"Patients often experience acute symptoms when dealing with a terminal illness," says



BY JEANNE KALVAITIS

Rakesh Chugh, M.D., VITAS medical director in Chicagoland South. "This can make it difficult for patients to continue to receive care in their residence. But when things get difficult, hospice can be there around the clock."

VITAS offers Intensive Comfort Care (also known as continuous care), which puts a hospice professional at the patient's bedside 24 hours a day until the crisis is resolved. But even with that option, sometimes the illness, or the family situation, makes remaining at home difficult. Even then, hospice can help—by moving the patient to an inpatient hospice unit (IPU).

"In those kinds of situations, we can move the patient to one of our IPUs for a few days, where our staff can watch him around the clock and ensure that his new medication is working," says Dr. Chugh. "Our field staff can provide the same level of care at a patient's home, but sometimes an IPU offers a more structured environment for pain and symptom management."

Bringing Hospice to All Those Who Choose It

"Meeting the end-of-life care needs of diverse communities and cultures can be a challenge for hospice providers," says Rebecca Bart, VITAS community liaison in Chicagoland Northwest. "It is vitally important for all healthcare providers to receive specialized training on the unique needs of people of all faiths and cultures."

Experience also has shown us that our nation's military veterans have unique needs as they approach the end of life, adds Rebecca. Along with specialized training, hospice and other healthcare providers can form relationships with the local Veterans Administration, veterans groups, churches and community centers to provide hospice education and to help people better understand their options in hospice care.

By treating physical symptoms and providing pain management, as well as addressing emotional and spiritual concerns, hospice can make the dying process more meaningful for patients and their loved ones.

Jeanne Kalvaitis is Vice President of Hospice Operations for VITAS Innovative Hospice Care®'s Illinois programs. For more information on end-of-life care, visit the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization at www.nhpco.org, or contact VITAS at 1-800-93-VITAS.



Our Mission:
Honoring Life
~ Offering Hope

Our Vision is to:

- ♥ recognize that individuals and families are the true experts in their own care;
- ♥ support our staff so they can put our patients and families first;
- ♥ find creative solutions which add quality to life;
- ♥ strive for excellence beyond accepted standards, and;
- ♥ increase the community's awareness of hospice as part of the continuum of care.

Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care

is proud to announce our newest

INPATIENT HOSPICE UNIT

at

WESTLAKE Hospital

Our Inpatient Units offer our innovative **Open Access** hospice program. Open Access is a hospice program that allows patients currently receiving medical treatments to access hospice services earlier. Patients served on our Inpatient Units may receive IV Antibiotics, TPN, Cardiac drips or ventilator support.

Our other network Hospice Inpatient Unit Locations
Holy Cross Hospital Weiss Memorial Hospital

800-570-8809

www.seasons.org



End-of-Life Care Options Expanding in Western Suburbs

Westlake Hospital is set to open an 18-bed hospice inpatient unit this December, servicing Cook and DuPage Counties. The unit will be staffed by Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care and will feature private patient rooms with family sleeping accommodations, a patient spa, café-style dining area, full kitchen and family lounge.

"This new unit will provide a different type and level of care that previously was not available in such very close proximity to Chicago's most established areas," explains Tony Vacco, Executive Director of Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care. "The completely redesigned wing of the hospital is the homelike, idyllic setting where patients will spend quality time in comfort with loved ones at a critical time in their care."

"We are enthusiastic about this partnership and pleased to be able to provide our patients and the communities we are privileged to serve with the support they need during one of the most challenging times in their lives," remarks William A. Brown, FACHE, Chief Executive Officer, Westlake Hospital.

Cover Story: Hospice and Palliative Care: Creating a Niche in Uncertain Times

Continued from page 1

pice than any provider in the Chicagoland area.

- We have the ability to manage patients with a high level of complexity - for example, patients with multisystem failures or who have been on complex drug protocols.

- We provide care in any setting - homes, hospital, nursing homes or our inpatient hospice care facility - for patients who need intensive, round-the-clock care.

- We help train future physicians as well as advanced practice nurses and RNs with the palliative care and hospice skills they will need to care for their patients. Our collaborative fellowship program for physicians is one of only three in the state of Illinois.

- Our hospice services have earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval; only 16% of the nation's 3,700 hospices have this accreditation.

- We have established partnerships with Chicago area hospitals to provide direct patient care that can transition to other settings along with the patient.

- We were recognized for innovation in end-of-life care with the American Hospital Association's Circle of Life Award.

- We provide a comprehensive safety net for grieving adults, teens and children, regardless of whether the loved one died in our hospice program and at no charge.

- Midwest CareCenter is collaborating with the Chicago Botanic Garden to create a healing garden that will benefit our patients, community and others seeking to enjoy and learn about horticultural therapy.

- Because of the generosity of donors, we are able to provide more than \$2.3 million in unreimbursed and undercompensated care to meet patient and family needs.

Care Defined by Needs

Palliative care and hospice are defined by the patient needs - addressing physical, spiritual and emotional needs. Along with

the tremendous benefit of quality end-of-life care, studies also show that hospice care saves Medicare spending. For example, a study done in 2007 by Duke University showed that hospice reduced Medicare spending by an average of \$2,309 per person compared to normal care, which typically includes expensive hospitalizations near death.

Focus on outcomes

We know that in the future there will be less money for all healthcare providers, and pressures to contain costs will continue to be persistent. Palliative care and hospice organizations need to deliver the compassionate care that our field is known for while demonstrating cost-effectiveness and positive outcomes. Research outcomes have shown that an overwhelming number of families are very pleased with the care provided by hospices. As we are helping patients manage a complex illness or enhance their quality of life at the end of life, we also ask "Are we helping to reduce unnecessary admissions to hospitals?" and "Are we managing the patient's symptoms most effectively and efficiently?"

Midwest CareCenter is utilizing data so we can demonstrate the quality of our care and our focus on improving care. We need to ensure that our "sense of caring" is transferred to the patient and family in the form of exceptional care and translates into overall better quality and value to the healthcare system.

As we partner with other providers ... embrace the compatibility of compassionate care and demonstrated outcomes ... stay focused on meeting patient and family needs - we can be confident that regardless of the changes to healthcare, Midwest CareCenter will continue to walk beside our patients and their families for years to come and when they need us most.

Jamie M. O'Malley is President and CEO, Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter. For more information, call (847) 467-7423 or visit www.carecenter.org.

VITAS celebrates National Hospice & Palliative Care Month 2011

Give Hospice the Time Your Patient Deserves

Hospice focuses on the person, not the disease.

Hospice is for months, not days.

Hospice is about comfort, not crisis.

Given the time, VITAS can do so much. With the nation's leading hospice provider, there are no limits on quality of life. Our clinical staff is available 24/7/365 and has cared for patients and families for more than 30 years.

Innovative
Hospice Care®
VITAS®

1.800.723.3233 • VITAS.com/Illinois



Northwestern College Hosted ATI Educator Enrichment Conference for 100 Nurse Educators

Northwestern College's Violet Schumacher School of Nursing in Bridgeview was the host for ATI Nursing Education's Educator Enrichment Conference (EEC) for nurse educators. Nearly 100 nurse educators attended this free EEC at Northwestern College's Bridgeview Campus Auditorium which featured nursing professionals who provided practical and education-based information for immediate use by educators in their classrooms. ATI is primarily known for providing educational testing and simulations which assist those preparing to be nurses to successfully complete the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for registered nurses. However, these newly instituted Educator Enrichment Conferences were launched by ATI in order to provide support and assistance for nursing educators, with all those who attended last week's conference receiving Continuing Education (CE) credits for their participation.



Nearly 100 nurse educators gathered at Northwestern College's Bridgeview Campus for an all-day ATI Nursing Education Educator Enrichment Conference (EEC).

In addition to classroom-like presentations by the presenters, nursing educators - including numerous instructors of the Violet Schumacher School of Nursing at Northwestern College - were able to join in on discussions and share knowledge on critical issues facing the nursing industry and healthcare today. Additionally, relationships between educators were enhanced throughout the 8 hour EEC, helping to promote nursing education.

University of St. Francis Launches New MSN in Administration Program

The University of St. Francis (USF) recently expanded its Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs to include "administration" as a practice area.

With the program's inaugural class beginning this fall, the MSN in Administration prepares registered nurses (RNs) to ethically manage nursing personnel and services in hospitals and other health care delivery agencies.

The program is an interdisciplinary collaboration between the university's College of Nursing and College of Business and Health Administration. The coursework blends elements of the existing MSN program and the Master of Science in Health Administration program.

"In addition to the required core nursing courses in biostatistics/research, evidence-based practice, advanced practice nursing roles and population based health, this degree includes instruction in principles of health care administration, resource and financial management, health care law, personnel management and managed care operations and global health," said Carol Wilson, dean of the College of Nursing.

Ideal candidates for the program are nurses who are active in administration and need to have a master's degree in nursing, not health administration or business, to satisfy magnet requirements. Program goals include synthesizing theoretical concepts, assuming an advanced nursing practice role, exemplifying leadership roles and utilizing scientific inquiry.

The online program requires a total of 36 semester hours; complete program information and admission requirements can be found at www.stfrancis.edu/college-of-nursing. For information, call (800) 735-7500 or visit www.stfrancis.edu.

Cover Story: Become a Leader in Healthcare with Graduate Studies at Lewis University

Continued from page 1

The flexible and convenient options are another reason professional nurses choose Lewis University. Classes are offered online and in person at campuses in Romeoville, Oak Brook, Tinley Park, Shorewood and Hickory Hills. Delnor Hospital in Geneva, Rush-Copley Medical Center in Aurora, Provena St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, MacNeal in Berwyn and Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn have cohorts of nurses, who take courses on site.

"I chose Lewis for many of the typical reasons - location, convenience, accelerated programs, evening classes - but more than that I chose Lewis to pursue my master's degree in Nursing because of the environment ... Lewis provided me that rich environment that allowed me to grow, along with my peers, as a nursing professional," said alumna Christy Rampton, R.N., M.S.N.

Beyond the qualitative data, there is quantitative data that shows student success, such as a 100 percent pass rate for Adult Nurse Practitioner graduates on American Nurses Credentialing Center as well as Academy of Adult Practitioner certification exams.

"The Lewis MSN program was truly created for the nurse who has a life and family ... The instructors were inspiring and helpful - true nurses at heart," commented alumna Ruthangeli Dantis-Naval, R.N., M.S.N.

Professional nurses have several options available for studies at Lewis University. The Master of Science in Nursing offers specializations in Healthcare Systems Leadership, Nursing Education, Adult Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist. A dual MSN/MBA program is also available. A Doctorate in Nursing Practice is pending approval with classes expected to begin in 2012.

Graduates of Healthcare Systems Leadership specialization are prepared to

lead in administration of nursing services and to improve the delivery of healthcare and the practice of nursing.

Nursing Education specialization graduates are prepared to assume faculty roles in nursing education programs, educator roles in staff development and community education in municipal, managed care and private sector.

The Adult Nurse Practitioner specialization prepares nurses to provide primary healthcare for adolescents and adults in a wide variety of settings.

Graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner specialization are prepared to provide primary healthcare for adolescents, adults, women, infants and children in a variety of settings.

Graduates of the Clinical Nurse Specialist program are prepared to implement evidence-based nursing practice, to be consultants, and teachers in a variety of healthcare settings.

A dual MSN/MBA degree provides professional nurses with the opportunity to be executives in healthcare systems.

The practice-focused Doctorate in Nursing Practice is expected to be distinctive from other terminal degrees in this area. The Lewis University doctorate will build upon advanced clinical skills with coursework focused on quality improvement, evidence-based practice and systems approaches to meeting the healthcare needs of the public.

Admission requirements for the programs vary. In most cases, a bachelor's degree in nursing, current licensure in nursing from the state of residence, a minimum grade point average on transcripts, a resume or curriculum vitae, an essay and recommendations are required.

More information about the graduate nursing programs at Lewis University is available by contacting the Office of Graduate and Adult Admission at grad@lewisu.edu or (815) 836-5610.

"I chose Lewis for the typical reasons - location, convenience, accelerated program, evening classes, but more than that I chose Lewis because of the environment. I feel that when discussing nursing issues it is beneficial to be able to do that in an environment that allows you to talk about the spiritual dimension of ourselves and our patients. Lewis provided that rich environment that allowed me to grow, along with my peers, as a nursing professional."

Christy Rampton, RN, MSN '05
Clinical Educator, Edward Hospital



Healthcare

requires competency plus commitment

Our values-based curriculum provides a strong foundation for ethical decision making and encourages a holistic approach to healthcare. Our programs are designed for working nurses.

MSN

- Adult Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Nursing Administration (available online)
- Nursing Education (available online)

MSN/MBA

- RN/BSN (accelerated)
- DNP (anticipated 2012 pending approval)



(815) 836-5610

grad@lewisu.edu

MCHC Committed to Developing Physician Leaders with ACPE Programs

The Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC) hosted the first two of a series of physician leadership programs in conjunction with the American College of Physician Executives (ACPE) in October. More than 130 physician and nursing leaders from the metropolitan Chicago area attended the two-day event that helped attendees enhance their leadership and management skills to succeed in this time of health care reform.



BY TRISH ANEN

"The focus is on topics that physicians didn't learn about in medical school or residency. There is a significant transition from a doctor role to an administrator role and these courses help bridge that chasm," said Dr. Eugene McMahon, president and CEO, Provena St. Joseph Hospital. "These courses bring local physicians top-notch materials and information about the skill sets physician leaders need."

The kick-off session offered two courses, "From Autonomy to Teamwork: Influencing for Improved Patient Care" and "You're Not Just a Doctor Anymore: Physician as Leader, Influencer, and Communicator" as well as a pre-conference seminar.

"[This] was one of the best conferences I have ever attended. Not only were the topics interesting, but the interactive format made it more stimulating and effective. It has changed me 360 degrees as to how I view myself as a leader and a physician," said Dr. Vibha Thaker, NICU Medical Director and Chairman of Pediatrics, Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital. "Everything I learned will enhance my leadership and communications skills to make a difference to the

institute, the medical unit, patients and all the people I encounter every day."

MCHC is committed to providing area physicians with these invaluable educational programs as the role of the physician leader becomes increasingly essential in today's market. The next session, "Managing Physician Performance", will be held on January 20, 2012. MCHC will offer ACPE educational sessions quarterly for the next two years covering such topics as health care finance, negotiation skills and leading effectively.

"The ACPE program was a valuable exercise and a good expenditure to develop our medical leadership. It recharges your enthusiasm for managing," said Dr. Jack Garon, Chief Medical Officer, Sinai Health

System. "There were also a lot of opportunities to connect with other leaders who have the same problems but fresh ideas on how to approach them".

These programs provide hospital and physician leaders with an opportunity to take part in ACPE's award-winning programs locally and at reduced prices for MCHC members. Through the partnership with ACPE, MCHC is helping to make these valuable educational programs more accessible to members by eliminating travel expenses, allowing more hospital staff members to attend.

"There is a growing demand for physi-

cian leadership because we are heading into an era of uncertainty and ambiguity," said Dr. Alan Kaplan, immediate past president, ACPE, vice president and CMO, Iowa Health System, president and CEO, Iowa Health Physicians. "Associations like MCHC can serve as aggregators to make physician leadership education more cost effective and more rewarding."

For more information about upcoming ACPE events, contact Trish Anen, Vice President, MCHC, at (312) 906-6113 or tanen@mchc.com.

Health Care UNIVERSITY of ST. FRANCIS

University of St. Francis is a national leader in health care education for working professionals.

Online, evening and weekend classes. On-site classes at convenient locations throughout Illinois.

PROGRAMS:

- B.S.N.
- Degree completion*
- R.N.-B.S.N. Fast Track
- Health Care Leadership (B.S.)
- Organizational Leadership (B.S.)

M.S.N. with concentrations in

- Adult Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing Administration
- Teaching Certificate Program
- R.N. B.S. to M.S.N.

Health Administration (M.S.)

Graduate degrees with healthcare concentrations:

- Business Administration (M.B.A.)
- Management (M.S.)
- Training and Development (M.S.)

Doctor of Nursing Practice

CHICAGO HEALTH EXECUTIVES FORUM 36th Annual Meeting



LEADING AND MOTIVATING A MULTIGENERATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

5:00pm – 9:00pm

Crystal Garden Room, Navy Pier, Chicago

Join us for our 36th Annual Meeting featuring esteemed healthcare leaders who will address looming physician and nursing shortages and the challenge and opportunities associated with a multigenerational work force.

5:00 – 6:00	Reception
6:00 – 6:45	Welcome & Awards
6:45 – 7:30	Dinner
7:30 – 8:30	Panel
8:45 – 9:00	Closing Remarks & Passing of the Gavel

Members (ACHE, AMA, AHA, AAN):	\$90
Students:	\$60
Non Members:	\$115
<i>Prices increase \$15 after 1/15/12.</i>	

Register at www.chefchicago.org.

Sponsor packages are available.

Contact info@chefchicago.org for more information.

This program has been approved for 1.0 Category II ACHE credits.

Fawn Lopez,
Publisher
Modern
Healthcare



John R. Combes,
MD, Senior Vice
President,
American
Hospital
Association/
President, Center
for Healthcare
Governance



Thomas C.
Dolan, PhD,
FACHE, CAE,
President and
Chief Executive
Officer,
American
College of
Healthcare
Executives



Joanne Disch,
PHD, RN,
FAAN,
President,
American
Academy of
Nursing

James Madara,
MD, Executive
Vice President
and Chief
Executive Officer,
American
Medical
Association



UNIVERSITY OF ST. FRANCIS

500 Wilcox Street, Joliet, IL 60435
(800) 735-7500 • www.stfrancis.edu

**The Region's Monthly
Healthcare Newspaper**

PO Box 812708
Boca Raton, FL 33481

Phone: (404) 448-1080
Fax: (404) 393-5645
jfelix@chicagohospitalnews.com
www.chicagohospitalnews.com

JOSH FELIX
Publisher

JUDY GRAMM
Editorial Manager

CAROL FELIX
Business Manager

JMC GRAPHICS
Art/Production
adsjmcgraphics@aol.com

Contributing Writers
Lisa Bianco
Ron Cichowicz
Barbara R. Fallon
Pamela Keene
Nancy Kennedy
Vanessa Orr
Ron Paglia
Kathleen Ganster-Sauers
Lois Thomson

SISTER PUBLICATIONS
Atlanta Hospital News
Josh Felix, Publisher
jfelix@atlantahospitalnews.com

South Florida Hospital News
Charles & Carol Felix, Publishers
sflahospitalnews@aol.com

**Western Pennsylvania
Hospital News**
Harvey D. Kart, Publisher
hdkart@aol.com

**LOOK FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE
IN DECEMBER 2011**

**TO REACH US FOR
ADVERTISING OR EDITORIAL**
Call (404) 448-1080 or
e-mail jfelix@chicagohospitalnews.com

REPRINTS
Call (412) 835-5796 or e-mail
adsjmcgraphics@aol.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS
One Year \$30
Two Years \$45
Three Years \$60
To subscribe, call (404) 448-1080.

All rights reserved. Reproduction
in whole or part without written
permission prohibited.
Copyright © 2010 Oak Publications, L.L.C.

Is the Time Right for You to Refinance?

"Rates can't go lower." Or so advertisements from mortgage companies have been claiming for years. But it's possible that now, it's more true than ever. According to research done by Freddie Mac, the average rate on a 30-year mortgage in the U.S. dropped below 4% for the first time ever in 2011. Rates on shorter-term, 15-year mortgages are even lower.

For some, this may create a great opportunity to refinance your mortgage, but doing so often isn't the best decision financially for families in certain circumstances. Here are four things to consider before you make any decisions:

1. How much equity do you have?

Refinancing may be a priority for homeowners with disadvantageous loan terms or who owe more on their home than it is worth. But these situations can make it difficult to qualify for refinancing. Your first step should be to consult with your mortgage company about whether arrangements can be made to structure a different financing package for your home.

If you do have equity in your home, you have more flexibility. In cases where the amount you owe on the mortgage is significantly less than the value of the home, it's possible to structure a payment that may be dramatically lower than your current monthly mortgage expense. If the amount of equity is not much different than the current value, the payment will be closer to what you already have, but would likely be an improvement due to the recent decline in interest rates.

2. Why do you want to refinance?

Locking in a historically low rate can be appealing, but is it a fit for you? If you are within a few years of paying off your mortgage, it may not make sense for you to re-start with another 15- or 30-year mortgage. If you're focused on reducing your total debt, financing your home for an extended period of time may not be a favorable move.

Many who do have significant equity in their home refinance to "cash out" some of that equity for other purposes. But it can be risky; this strategy backfired on many homeowners when housing prices crashed in recent years. Those who took out too much cash were suddenly "underwater," owing more on their house than it was worth when its value declined. If the rationale for refinancing is to access cash, be sure it is for a worthwhile purpose like paying down



BY NANCY S.
BUERGER

more expensive debts such as credit card balances or financing an improvement on your home that could boost its value.

3. Are you in a position to refinance?

If you have run into credit problems due to the sluggish economy, refinancing may not be as easy as it used to be. Households need to have a sufficient credit score — usually 700 or higher — to be able to qualify for a conventional mortgage.

Employment status could be another factor. A number of Americans, some involuntarily, have recently left the workforce and started their own business. If you don't have an established record of income yet as a business owner, it might be a difficult time to obtain a new mortgage. Ask about this upfront when you contact your mortgage company to make sure it's worthwhile for you to pursue the mortgage application process.

4. Determine the terms that suit your needs

If everything else works out and refinancing seems to be a good choice, the final question is whether to opt for a 15-year or 30-year mortgage. An adjustable-rate mortgage is also an option, but since the terms of those loans are subject to change, it may not make sense given the historically low rates that exist today.

If your primary goal is the lowest possible payment, a 30-year loan makes sense. If you are trying to focus on reducing debt and accumulating wealth, a shorter-term loan may make more sense; the total interest paid on a 15-year loan will be significantly lower than with a 30-year mortgage. While monthly payments will be higher, a 15-year loan offers more long-term advantages for these homeowners since the financial obligation of a mortgage will no longer exist after 15 years, allowing you to concentrate on retirement or education savings.

If you ultimately decide to refinance, be sure to compare costs of different lenders. The breakeven point on the cost of the loan (the number of years you need to keep the mortgage before the costs of obtaining a new loan are overcome) is a critical measure of whether refinancing is a worthwhile move for you.

Nancy S. Buerger is a Certified Financial Planner with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. She can be reached at (630) 396-1826 or nancy.s.buerger@ampf.com.



Cover Story: Nurse Practitioner Reduces Unnecessary Emergency Department Visits

Continued from page 1

their discharge plan. Telephone conversations with patients increased by 64 percent during this time. Visiting nurse, physical therapy or occupational therapy services also increased from 25 percent before Larson joined the department to 39 percent after. These services resulted in significantly fewer unnecessary ED visits (25 vs. 13 percent) after she was involved.

"The major decrease in ED visits was due in large part to the communication I had with patients after they left the hospital," Larson said. "I routinely checked on their progress and responded to their concerns by ordering lab tests, calling in prescriptions and arranging to care for them in the outpatient setting to maintain continuity in treatment."

In 2003, resident work hours were restricted to 80 hours per week by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Hospitals have had to make adjustments to ensure patients continue to receive the best possible care. LUHS found that adding a NP to this department helped to accommodate this change without jeopardizing patient care.

GENTEL

Beep
Beep

PAGERS

Still the least expensive way to keep in touch!

- Paging Services for Hospitals, Doctors and Hospital Personnel
- Let Us Take Care of Your Paging Needs.
- One Source Provides Network Access, Paging Equipment and Customer Service
- All Done Locally
- Largest Master Dealer in the Midwest
- Representing All Major Networks
- Same Day Equipment Replacement

Providing Paging Service For Over 30 years.

877-323-4553

4803 N. Milwaukee Avenue • Chicago

gentelinc@aol.com

WHAT'S NEW... WHAT'S NEW...WHAT'S NEW..

Loyola Gottlieb Inpatient Pharmacists Increase Communication With Patients

Making sure patients and their primary caregivers are ready for the return home is critical in the recovery process. So Gottlieb Memorial Hospital, part of Loyola University Health System, is adding an extra measure of patient safety and care by offering increased communication with inpatient pharmacists.

Patients and family members can speak directly with an inpatient pharmacist at any time during the hospital stay and also even after the patient returns home. "The hospital experience, and especially the discharge process, can be overwhelming for patients and their caregivers with a lot of information to process in a short time," said Mary Clausen, R.Ph, assistant Director, Pharmacy at Gottlieb. "We discovered that there were many questions about medications in particular that needed to be discussed."

Every day, Gottlieb inpatient pharmacists are actively reviewing patient's medication profiles, closely following lab values and reviewing patient medical histories to make recommendations on drug therapy.

The pharmacy has begun implementing the programs in a two-phase program. The first phase involved clinical pharmacists "rounding" to educate hospitalized patients on new medications. More than 330 patients have been educated since the program started mid-August.

"Our initial focus has been on the high-risk medications, such as cardiac and diabetic meds, as well as Coumadin. We also educate new moms on how to measure medication for their infants," said Clausen. "Our patients have been very positive and appreciative of the time the pharmacists spend with them."

The second part of the program involves the implementation of an "Ask the Pharmacist" consultation phone line. The purpose of the phone line is to give patients and caregivers the opportunity to speak with a hospital pharmacist during their hospital stay or after discharge. The patient or caregiver will leave a message on the line, and after reviewing the patient's records, a pharmacist will either visit the patient's room or call the patient/caregiver at home. A translator can be provided if needed.

Renowned Physicians of Northwestern Orthopaedic Institute Join NorthShore University HealthSystem

NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) announced it is pleased to welcome the extraordinary physicians of Northwestern Orthopaedic Institute, LLC (NOI) into its system of care. NOI physicians will become part of NorthShore's multi-specialty physician group practice - NorthShore Medical Group - effective January 1, 2012.

The NorthShore-NOI integration will combine the excellence and experience of nearly two dozen board certified orthopaedic surgeons providing a complete range of orthopaedic care, including sports medicine, joint replacement, hip arthroscopy, spine surgery, foot and ankle surgery, hand and upper extremity surgery and physical medicine and rehabilitation. Physicians will utilize the latest medical, surgical, pre/post-operative care and rehabilitative treatments for bone and joint disorders; and offer innovative surgical techniques, including less invasive and computer-assisted surgeries.

Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare Announces Plans for Berteau Campus

With the move to the new Elmhurst Memorial Hospital Main Campus now complete, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare (EMHC) has turned its attention to plans for the reuse of its Berteau Campus.

The EMHC Board of Trustees has approved a plan that allows for the development of a full continuum of senior health and housing services as the primary use of the Berteau property. EMHC's programs and services that are currently located on the campus will either move or close in order to facilitate the redevelopment of the site over the next 24 months.

EMHC plans to seek state approval to close its inpatient Behavioral Health unit. A robust outpatient program will be moved to a new location, providing consultative services to inpatient medical/surgical

patients and support to the Emergency Department, in addition to the services it currently offers.

EMHC also plans to seek state approval to temporarily close its current Transitional Care Center (TCC) while it actively pursues a joint venture partnership to offer a full continuum of senior health and housing services, including an expanded TCC, assisted living and independent living.

To provide enhanced integration of care for its patients, EMHC plans to relocate the Cancer Center and CyberKnife Center of the Chicago to a newly constructed one-story cancer center adjacent to the east side of Elmhurst Memorial Hospital.

Plans are also being developed to identify a new location for an Immediate Care Center on the north side of Elmhurst as well as a location to continue to provide Occupational Health Services.

New Immediate Care Center Opens

Advocate Medical Group is now providing Immediate Care and Occupational Health Services at the Advocate Medical Group Patient Center in Niles.

This will provide community members with convenient, quality medical care including treatment for non-life-threatening illnesses.

The center provides easy access to X-ray and laboratory services to assist in diagnosis and treatment of these and other ailments.

In addition, the clinic provides international travel medical services including for those planning a trip out of the country.



We want to hear from you... E-mail your stories to judy@hospitalnews.org

DATEBOOK

Upcoming Programs From the Society for Healthcare Strategy & Market Development (SHSMD) of the American Hospital Association

SHSMD educational programs are designed to meet the unique professional development needs of healthcare marketing, PR and communications, strategic planning, and physician strategies professionals. Visit www.shsmd.org for a look at the upcoming schedule of events:

December 8 - Webcast

Moving from "What Was" to "What Will Be": Preparing for the Future of Healthcare

April 19-20, 2012 - Face to Face Program, Executive Dialogue for Strategy Professionals
For more information on these and other SHSMD educational opportunities, call (312) 422-3888 or send an e-mail to shsmd@aha.org.

December 7

CHEF 3rd Annual Holiday Celebration

Join Chicago Health Executives Forum (CHEF), the Greater Chicago Chapter of the Health Information & Management Systems Society (HIMSS), Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC) and Illinois Chamber of Commerce colleagues for networking and fun while raising funds for the Mercy Home for Boys & Girls on December 7 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago. For more information, visit www.chefchicago.org.

E-mail your upcoming events to judy@hospitalnews.org

February 8

Chicago Health Executives Forum 36th Annual Meeting

Join C.H.E.F for their 36th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Crystal Garden Room, Navy Pier, Chicago. The theme of the event is Leading and Motivating a Multigenerational Organization and will feature esteemed healthcare leaders who will address looming physician and nursing shortages and the challenge and opportunities associated with a multigenerational work force. Register at www.chefchicago.org.

March 11

Fight for Air Climb

The American Lung Association's Fight For Air Climb takes place on Sunday, March 11, 2012 at the Presidential Towers in downtown Chicago. Participants, individuals or teams, can climb 1, 2, 3, or all 4 towers - that's a total of 2,340 steps to fight lung disease. For more information, contact Heidi Hoffman at Heidi.Hoffman@LungIL.org or (312) 781-1100.

April 23-24

World Congress Leadership Summit

World Congress is proud to present the 9th Annual World Congress Leadership Summit on Optimizing Observation Patient Management on April 23-24 at the Hyatt Regency, Chicago. The Executive Forum will showcase the best practice strategies of leading hospitals and healthcare systems with regard to how they operate and effectively utilize their observation units. For more information, visit www.worldcongress.com.

Snapshots



Riverside Medical Center Supports Non-Profit Therapeutic Riding Program

Barbie Weissbohn, Riverside Medical Center employee, accepts a donation from Riverside President and CEO Phil Kambic for Sunrise Center Therapeutic Riding. Riverside donated \$1,450, which is the cost of supporting a rider through

the program for one year. Weissbohn is a volunteer and fundraiser for the non-profit program which provides physical, recreational and educational benefits for children and adults with special needs. The program's participants range in age from 5 to 40 years old and benefit from an environment of challenge, enjoyment and achievement.



Therapy Graduates Reunite

'Graduates' of the Short-Term Optimal Rehabilitation program at Alden Des Plaines Rehabilitation and Health Care Center met for dinner and drinks at the Therapy Reunion to celebrate their recoveries. "I love being able to see our graduates so happy and find out how they are doing since we saw them last," says Annette Borcky, Administrator. "All have returned to the activities they love to do such as working out and gardening, which is wonderful to see." The Therapy Reunion celebrated the recovery of individuals who completed the Alden Des Plaines Optimal Rehabilitation Program in 2011, which consists of physical, occupational and speech therapies daily. Pictured: Therapy graduate Ted Sherwood celebrates at the Therapy Reunion with Administrator Annette Borcky.



Silver Cross Center for Women's Health Help Raise Awareness at Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk

Along with 2,000 men and women of all ages wearing a variety of pink apparel, the Silver Cross Center for Women's Health employees participated in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk at Centennial Park Soccer Field in Orland Park on October 16. Participants in this year's walk raised \$200,000 to help women learn the importance of early detection and treatment and eliminate breast cancer. The 12th annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk brings the entire community together to celebrate breast cancer survivors, educate women about the importance of reducing their cancer risk by getting their annual mammograms, and raise funds for life-saving research and support programs to further fight against breast cancer.



Advocate Medical Group's Adult Down Syndrome Center Hosts New Construction Ceremony

Advocate Medical Group recently hosted a beam-signing celebration to mark the construction of a one-story medical office building on the southwest corner of the Advocate Lutheran General Hospital campus. The building will be the new home of Advocate Medical Group's Adult Down Syndrome Center (ADSC). It will include more exam rooms, a community center area and a number of special features to better accommodate the needs of individuals with Down syndrome and their families. Building comple-

tion is planned for the end of first quarter 2012. Pictured are (l-r) Advocate Medical Group vice president of operations Cynthia Job, Advocate Medical Group president Dr. James Dan, and Advocate Medical Group's chief medical officer Dr. Kevin McCune.



Advocate Medical Group Partnership with Special Olympics of Illinois Provides Free Physicals

Advocate Medical Group recently hosted its annual MedFest at Chicago's United Center. MedFest is an event where physicians provided more than 1,000 free exams to individuals preparing for the Special Olympics of Illinois.

MedFest is a partnership between Advocate Medical Group and Special Olympics of Illinois. Since 1998, Advocate Medical Group has offered free sports physicals to individuals with intellectual disabilities. Pictured at MedFest 2011 is Advocate Medical Group president Dr. James Dan providing an examination to one of the young athletes preparing for the Special Olympics.

The Resource Guide

HOME CARE/HOSPICE

JOLIET AREA COMMUNITY HOSPICE

Providing compassionate end-of-life care to patients residing in greater Will, Grundy, and Kendall counties and portions of Cook and DuPage counties since 1982.

- Provides care to patients in their own home, nursing homes, and assisted living centers.
- Specialized pediatric hospice and palliative care programs.
- The first free-standing Hospice Home in the State of Illinois that provides inpatient, respite and residential hospice care.
- Community bereavement programs.
- Medicare and Medicaid certified; most commercial insurance accepted. No patient is turned away for inability to pay.
- Partner Agency of United Way of Will and Grundy Counties

For more information about the services provided by Joliet Area Community Hospice or to schedule a tour of the JACH Hospice Home, please contact: (815) 740-4104 or visit us on the web at www.joliethospice.org.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.

Careful planning, a well reasoned strategy, and high caliber advice are important in pursuing any of your life goals, and your financial goals are no exception. With over 20 years working as a practitioner in hospitals and the healthcare industry, I believe I am uniquely qualified to help you, the healthcare professional, along the road to financial independence.

I offer a comprehensive financial planning approach, including:

- Retirement planning
- Tax management strategies
- Investment advice

Please contact me, to arrange your complimentary initial consultation.*

Nancy S. Buerger, CFP®, MBA

Financial Advisor

One Oakbrook Terrace, Suite 700

Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Phone: (630) 396-1826 email: nancy.s.buerger@ampf.com

* The initial consultation provides an overview of financial planning concepts. You will not receive analysis and/or recommendations. Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results.

Loyola Nurse Earns National Award for Contributions in Patient Care

Judy McHugh, M.S.N., R.N., a nursing quality improvement coordinator at Loyola University Health System (LUHS), has received the Validator Award. McHugh earned this national award for the work she has done to advance the organization and the profession of nursing through quality and safety initiatives.

As a member of LUHS' Nursing Quality and Safety Council, McHugh has been integral in quality campaigns and committees to improve patient safety. She also has been involved with fall prevention, restraint reduction, and communication and documentation improvement initiatives in nursing. McHugh also mentors other nurses, equipping them with evidence-based practices.



Judy McHugh

Loyola Professor Named Illinois Outstanding Nurse Leader

Diana Hackbarth, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been named the Joan L. Shaver Illinois Outstanding Nurse Leader. Dr. Hackbarth is a professor at Loyola University Chicago Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing (MNSON). She was honored for her hard work, commitment and dedication to serve the health-care needs of the people of Illinois through her leadership and ability to break through barriers.

Dr. Hackbarth was recognized with this award for the various leadership positions she has taken on during her career. This includes policy work she has done on smoking prevention as a team member of the Illinois Coalition Against Tobacco and the Respiratory Health Association. Dr. Hackbarth also was honored for her work to establish Loyola's school-based health center at Proviso East High School. This center provides easy access to health-care services and education for students in an underserved area of Illinois.



Dr. Diana Hackbarth

Poison Center Chief Specialist Awarded Top Honor

Anthony "Tony" Burda, chief specialist of the Illinois Poison Center, was selected as the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy's 2011 Alumnus of the Year. One of the highest honors given to an alumnus by the College of Pharmacy, the Alumnus of the Year Award recognizes a graduate who stands as an innovator, exhibits leadership and has contributed significantly to the pharmacy profession. Burda receives this year's top honor in recognition of an exceptional career.

Tony Burda was also recognized for his thirty year service anniversary with the Illinois Poison Center. He remains committed to reducing the incidence and injury of poisoning in communities throughout Illinois. Tony has provided immediate expert telephone treatment recommendations, to over 150,000 families and healthcare professionals during his 30-year poison center career. He is revered by students and medical residents for his expert knowledge offered through the Illinois Poison Center's experiential learning program. He is well-regarded among his peers for his unwavering dedication to the field.

2011 Nurses of the Year Announced by Leukemia Research Foundation

Ima N. Garcia, RN, MSN, ACNP-BC, AOCNP, from University of Chicago Medical Center and Maureen Haugen, RN, MSN, APN, CPNP, CPON, from Children's Memorial Hospital have been selected as the 2011 Nurses of the Year by the Leukemia Research Foundation.

Ima Garcia has been a nursing professional for more than 16 years. She is a nurse practitioner who manages the most difficult patients with hematological malignancies: those for whom a stem cell transplant is the best chance for a cure or those for whom standard therapy has failed. These patients have already experienced the rigors of treatment and bring many fears and anxieties with them.

Maureen Haugen has been a nursing professional for more than 30 years. She is an advanced practice nurse/pediatric nurse practitioner who "epitomizes award-winning care," said the woman who nominated her.



Pictured (l-r) Maureen Haugen and Ima N. Garcia

Loyola Faculty Member Named American Academy of Nursing Fellow

Fran Vlasses, RN, PhD, NEA-BC, ANEF, FAAN, was inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Nursing. Dr. Vlasses is an associate professor and chair in the Department of Health Systems, Leadership and Policy at Loyola University Chicago Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing (MNSON).

Dr. Vlasses was among 142 fellows inducted into the academy. She was named a fellow for her contributions to the field of nursing, which include her leadership in promoting the profession nationally and internationally.

Dr. Vlasses received her bachelor of science in nursing from Villanova University, her Master of Science in nursing from The Ohio State University and her PhD from Loyola University Chicago. She also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in nursing intervention outcomes at University of Iowa.



Dr. Fran Vlasses

Michelle Gaskill to be Featured as a 2011 Business Leader of Color by Chicago United

Chicago United recently announced that Michelle Gaskill, BSN, MHA, vice president of nursing and clinical operations at Advocate Trinity Hospital, will join 44 other local business executives to be featured in its newest Business Leaders of Color (BLC) publication. The business advocacy group created this publication to highlight exceptional corporate and civic leaders who currently serve, or are ready to contribute, as board directors for Fortune 1,000 companies.

Gaskill came to Trinity Hospital in 2008 from Stockamp and Associates, Inc, a health care consulting firm based in Portland, Oregon. Michelle also has experience as a nursing director for Michael Reese Hospital, senior consultant for Healthcare Provider Planning Practice at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, and nurse manager for Northwestern Memorial Hospital.



Michelle Gaskill

Rehab Center Celebrates '2011 Housekeeping Professional of the Year'

Emma Lakes has been named 2011 Housekeeping Professional of the Year by the Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA). "Alden Lakeland would not be the same if Emma was not part of our facility. She is always smiling and does everything she can to make everyone happy. Emma gives 110% everyday, no matter what. She is always on time and would make any manager proud to have her on their team," says Debra Patty-Smith, administrator at Alden Lakeland. Emma has worked at Alden Lakeland Rehabilitation and Health Care Center for 26 years.



Emma Lakes



Edward Hospital's Emergency Department Receives the Lantern Award

The Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) recently awarded Edward with its inaugural Lantern Award, given to emergency departments that exemplify exceptional and innovative performance in the core areas of leadership, practice, education, advocacy and research. Edward was one of only two Illinois hospitals to receive the honor. Pictured (l-r) Ann Marie Papa, ENA President; Cindy Rentsch, Director, Emergency Services, Edward Hospital; Nancy Raschke, Clinical Educator, Edward Emergency Services; Kathy Wermes, Clinical Leader, Edward Emergency Services and Cathy Adamson, Clinical Leader, Edward Emergency Services.

Opportunity Creators



Leading Business Tax Lawyers

Michael Jon Shalbrack	Holmstrom & Kennedy PC	Rockford	815.962.7071
Robert E. McKenzie	Arnstein & Lehr LLP	Chicago	312.876.6927
Terrell J. Isselhard	Chuhak & Tecson PC	Chicago	312.444.9300
Charles D. Katz	Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP	Chicago	312.569.1248
Douglas J. Antonio	Duane Morris LLP	Chicago	312.499.6772
Stanley R. Kaminski	Duane Morris LLP	Chicago	312.499.0105
Edward J. Hannon	Freeborn & Peters LLP	Chicago	312.360.6754
Donna F. Hartl	Golan & Christie LLP	Chicago	312.696.2035
David M. Arnburg	Gould & Ratner LLP	Chicago	312.899.1600
Gail Potysman Bley	Gould & Ratner LLP	Chicago	312.899.1617
Steven C. Gustafson	Gould & Ratner LLP	Chicago	312.899.1647
Thomas A. Korman	Gould & Ratner LLP	Chicago	312.899.1608
Joseph M. Laub	Gould & Ratner LLP	Chicago	312.899.1665
Richard M. Brown	Harrison & Held LLP	Chicago	312.753.6140
Stuart Duhl	Harrison & Held LLP	Chicago	312.753.6192
John W. Dubbs, III	Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP	Chicago	312.704.3075
Avery Delott	Kamensky Rubinstein Hochman & Delott LLP	Lincolnwood	847.982.1776
David J. Hochman	Kamensky Rubinstein Hochman & Delott LLP	Lincolnwood	847.982.1776
Marvin Kamensky	Kamensky Rubinstein Hochman & Delott LLP	Lincolnwood	847.982.1776
Sherwin R. Rubinstein	Kamensky Rubinstein Hochman & Delott LLP	Lincolnwood	847.982.1776
Sheldon I. Banoff	Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP	Chicago	312.902.5256
Thomas C. Borders	McDermott Will & Emery LLP	Chicago	312.984.7552
William J. Grinde	Meltzer Purtill & Stelle LLC	Chicago/Schaumburg	847.330.6047
Scott A. Bremer	Quarles & Brady LLP	Chicago	312.715.5229
Terrence W. Stein	Quarles & Brady LLP	Chicago	312.715.5029
David R. Hodgman	Schiff Hardin LLP	Chicago	312.258.5714
Larry Jacobson	Schiff Hardin LLP	Chicago	312.258.5580
Robert E. Kolek	Schiff Hardin LLP	Chicago	312.258.5755
Robert R. Pluth, Jr.	Schiff Hardin LLP	Chicago	312.258.5535
Jonathan H. Bogaard	Vedder Price PC	Chicago	312.609.7651
Michael D. Whitty	Vedder Price PC	Chicago	312.609.7812
Stephen A. Frost	Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP	Lisle	630.505.0010
Harvey A. Levin	Califf & Harper PC	Moline	309.764.8300
James A. Nepple	Nepple Law PLC	Rock Island	309.732.1230
John S. Elias	Elias Meginnes Riffle & Seghetti PC	Peoria	309.637.6000
A. Clay Cox	Hayes Hammer Miles & Cox LLP	Bloomington	309.828.7331
William C. Wetzel	Livingston Barger Brandt & Schroeder	Bloomington	309.828.5281
William A. Peithmann	The Peithmann Law Office	Farmer City	309.928.3390
David R. Reid	Reid Law Office LLC	Springfield	217.546.1001
R. Lee Allen	Sorling Northrup Hanna Cullen & Cochran Ltd	Springfield	217.544.1144
Michael C. Connelly	Sorling Northrup Hanna Cullen & Cochran Ltd	Springfield	217.544.1144
Stephen A. Tagge	Sorling Northrup Hanna Cullen & Cochran Ltd	Springfield	217.544.1144
Edward J. Blake, Jr.	Blake & Allen PC	Belleville	618.398.1000
Patrick B. Mathis	Mathis Marifian & Richter Ltd	Belleville	618.234.9800
Edward T. McCarthy	Edward T McCarthy & Associates	Glen Carbon	618.692.1600

Leading Not-For-Profit Lawyers

Philip R. Frankfort	Holmstrom & Kennedy PC	Rockford	815.962.7071
Terry D. Anderson	WilliamsMcCarthy LLP	Rockford	815.987.8963
Katarinna McBride	Handler Thayer LLP	Chicago	312.641.2100
John W. Dubbs, III	Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP	Chicago	312.704.3075
Phillip B. Bowman	Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC	Chicago	312.456.3414
Kenneth A. von Kluck	Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC	Chicago	312.456.3402
Janice E. Rodgers	Quarles & Brady LLP	Chicago	312.715.5034
Elaine Waterhouse Wilson	Quarles & Brady LLP	Chicago	312.715.5141
Michael E. Reed	Vedder Price PC	Chicago	312.609.7640
David L. Higgs	Husch Blackwell LLP	Peoria	309.497.3223
Brian W. Ruddell	Husch Blackwell LLP	Peoria	309.497.3208
William A. Mueller, Jr.	Mueller and Reece LLC	Bloomington	309.827.4055
Robert A. Stuart, Jr.	Brown Hay & Stephens LLP	Springfield	217.544.8491
Herman G. Bodewes	Giffin Winning Cohen & Bodewes PC	Springfield	217.525.1571
Stephen J. Bochenek	Sorling Northrup Hanna Cullen & Cochran Ltd	Springfield	217.544.1144
William R. Enlow	Sorling Northrup Hanna Cullen & Cochran Ltd	Springfield	217.544.1144

A lawyer CANNOT buy the distinction of being a Leading Lawyer. This distinction was earned by being among those lawyers who were most often recommended by their peers in statewide surveys. Respondents COULD NOT recommend themselves or lawyers at their law firm. For a complete list of all Leading Lawyers and to view profiles of the lawyers listed on this page, go to www.LeadingLawyers.com.

Leading Lawyers NetworkSM
Find a better lawyer, faster.SM

312.644.7000

LeadingLawyers.com

A Division of Law Bulletin Publishing Company—est. 1854