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ElderCare

Are Children Responsible to Support Their Parents?

Te all have reasons for putting off our own estate planning. Hectic schedules, fear of attorneys' fees and superstition over what might happen if we actually have our affairs in order before a crisis situation presents itself are just a few common excuses. While not persuasive, such alibis prevent us from planning for the needs of our-

selves and our families during lifetime and after death, which can, and often does, result in a myriad of legal problems down the road.

However, a relatively new law enacted in Pennsylvania in July 2005 might just motivate you to investigate your options sooner and assemble a family estate plan. Generally, an estate plan focuses on a person's issues regarding taxes, assets and the succession of wealth to future generations. However, PA Act 43 may not affect your estate plan directly because this law is geared toward the support of another. Slowly, the effects of Act 43 are beginning to creep across the Commonwealth, arriving to a family near you soon. Yes, I am talking about a law that has the authority to make children responsi-



BY JULIAN E. GRAY

ble to pay for the support of their parents.

The operative language in Section 4603 of the Act provides that "all of the following individuals have the responsibility to care for and maintain or financially assist an indigent person regardless of whether the indigent person is a public charge":

(i) The spouse of the indigent person.

(ii) The child of the indigent person. (iii) The parent of the indigent person.

On its face, this language may imply that we all have the obligation to support our spouses, children and parents. However, there are various interpretations of key words in the Act and case law in Pennsylvania which make the law and its possible enforcement confusing. For example, the term "indigent" is not specifically defined under the Act. In other words, it is difficult to utilize a black and white test to determine indigency. Another interesting aspect of the Act is that the indigent person does not have to be a "public charge", or in other words, on welfare to require a support obligation. While Pennsylvania has recognized spousal support obligations for years, Act 43 appears to extend this support obligation to other family members.

There are two limited defenses for this support obligation under the statute: (1) if the individual does not have sufficient financial ability to support the indigent person; and (2) a child shall not be liable for support of a parent who abandoned the child and persisted in the abandonment for a period of ten years during the child's minority. The first exception has no financial guidelines under the statute to be able to determine if the individual does in fact have sufficient financial ability to provide the support. The second exception is of limited use for most families and is the exception, not the normal

There are several unresolved issues with Act 43. First, bear in mind that this is a law enacted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Therefore, it would appear to be limited to obligating support against residents of the Commonwealth. So does that mean we should all move out of the state or look beyond our state borders for nice retirement homes for our parents? Second, it appears that since the statute gives no financial support guidelines, the determination of a support obligation of a family member will

have to be determined on a case by case

Act 43 appears to contradict the common notion that once a minor turns 18 years old and is emancipated, the financial ties for support between parent and child are severed. With this new Act, families need to rethink the possible ramifications of a child or parent who needs significant health care support or daily living expenses. This requires an intergenerational discussion among families to plan ahead for the costs of retirement, including nursing home care, which costs can devastate the best laid plans in a short time. While it is unnatural for us to discuss financial matters with our parents, being the "greatest generation" and wanting us to mind our own business, planning ahead now could avoid significant financial burden in the future for all those concerned. Act 43 might just be the motivation we all need to stop putting off our estate plan and be proactive about these issues.

Julian E. Gray is a Certified Elder Law Attorney and shareholder with Springer Bush & Perry P.C. concentrating in Elder Law. He can be reached at (412) 269-4200 or via email at jgray@springerlaw.com. Copyright 2007 Julian E. Gray

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The Journey to Improve Hospice Care in America

In the past, most hospices grew slowly through word of mouth and community outreach. Today, many hospices have begun to realize that the use of traditional marketing tools and their results are not antagonistic to the goals and values of a nonprofit organization.

Hospices, like all organizations and businesses, market to consumers with the desire to increase patient volume, grow their market share, and assure their survival in a competitive market. Many of the

key reasons hospices continue to engage in marketing harkens back to the objectives of the original hospice movement:

EDUCATION - For most hospices, educating professional referral sources and lay people about the benefits of hospice care and end-of-life issues, is, in itself, a goal. The better people understand hospice as an option on the health care continuum, the more willing they are to choose it as an option in their health care. Family Hospice and Palliative Care's new Center for Compassionate Care will support this goal by making education a major component of its services.

PATIENT ACCESS - Hospice professionals want hospice and palliative care to be available and accessible to all who need it. One way of achieving this is by making sure that patients and families know that their options include hospice and palliative care.

VOLUNTEERS - Volunteers are vital to the success of a hospice. Many hospices will need to "market" in the community to recruit volunteers. This is especially vital as hospices move into new geographic locations.

FUNDING - Many non-profits, including hospices, focus their marketing efforts towards funding sources. They are looking to "market" themselves as the best



BY RAFAEL J. SCIULLO, MA, LCSW, MS

steward of the funds. In addition, since most non-profits depend on donations, hospices are also "marketing" to potential and existing individual donors.

Most importantly, hospices should not shy away from the use of major marketing tools. These tools, although traditionally part of the for-profit world, are very useful in helping to execute the hospice's stated mission. Market analysis may help a hospice to increase referrals and volume,

while also providing information about how well it is meeting the needs of a community. In turn, the hospice can use this information to better serve its patients, families, and referral sources.

Branding and logo development are other examples of useful marketing tools. Branding can help a hospice identify more specifically its goals and image and put its entire staff on the same page. Developing a logo that reflects the mission of an organization is important to its relationship to the community and those it serves.

Finally, the information gathered through market research can help hospices to identify underserved geographic areas and underserved populations. Family Hospice and Palliative Care's expansion into the counties surrounding Allegheny County was prompted by the lack of hospice services being offered in many of those areas.

Over time, hospices must learn to use modern marketing tools to achieve their own unique and specialized outcomes. Marketing and hospice care may seem incongruous but to the contrary, marketing can help a hospice reach its desired goal of providing compassionate and comfort care to those who need it.

Rafael J. Sciullo, MA, LCSW, MS, is President and CEO of Family Hospice and Palliative Care. He may be reached at rsciullo@familyhospice.com or at (412) 572-8800.

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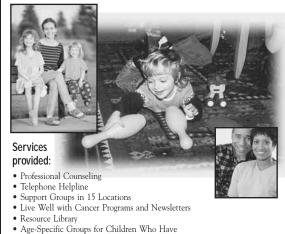
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Hospital Security Awards Judging Panel Announced

Panelists include representation from both security and healthcare management fields.

The judging panel for the 2007 Hospital Security Awards has been announced. The program, being conducted by Vector Security in cooperation with Hospital News of Western Pennsylvania, will honor the performance of regional healthcare security staffs with awards presented in February of 2008.

The awards program will feature four individual awards, as follows:

- 1. Healthcare Security Executive, Director or Manager of the Year
- 2. Healthcare Security Department of the Year
- 3. Healthcare Security Officer or Staff Member of the Year
- 4. Healthcare Security Best Practice of the Year

The judging panel is comprised of representatives from both security and healthcare management fields, and we're pleased to introduce them to you...

STEVE WILDER: President, COO and founding partner of Sorenson, Wilder & Associates, a nationally recognized leader in healthcare security management consulting services.

Mr. Wilder has spent the past 27 years in healthcare safety, security and risk management in both hospitals and long-term care facilities. During his career, he has held positions as Director of Risk Management, Corporate Director of Safety and Facility Management, and Corporate Director of Safety and Security. Additionally, Mr. Wilder has served as a hospital administrator of an ambulatory and surgical treatment facility.

Mr. Wilder has also developed compliance programs in Safety, Fire Prevention, Hazardous Materials, Security, Utility Management, Equipment Management and the Emergency Preparedness sections of the JCAHO Environment of Caremanual.





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FREDERICK V. PETERSON: Vice President, Professional Services and Disaster Preparedness, for the Hospital Council of Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. Peterson is Vice President of Professional Services and Disaster Preparedness for the Hospital Council of Western Pennsylvania, where he directs the Stewardship Academy for hospital trustees and senior management, as well as produces professional programs for Hospital Council's education services division. Peterson holds a master's degree in public health from the Yale University School of Medicine and a bachelor's degree in sociology and education from Tufts University. Peterson has published several articles on emergency topics and speaks frequently to a variety of audiences on emergency

preparedness, disaster planning and other subjects related to bioterrorism.

The HCWP is a regional trade association representing a continuum of healthcare providers including hospitals, long-term care facilities, long-term acute care providers, and specialty hospitals within a 30 county area. The Hospital Council provides its

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members with expertise in hospital operations, management, finance, government relations, communications, disaster and emergency preparedness, grant funding, clinical operations, health information management, business development, reimbursement and governance.

JOSEPH BELLINO: Director of Safety, Security and Emergency Management, Hanover Hospital, Hanover, PA; and Vice President-Treasurer of the International Association for Healthcare Security & Safety (IAHSS)

Mr. Bellino, CHPA, HEM is currently Director of Safety, Security and Emergency Management at Hanover Hospital. Prior to joining Hanover Hospital, he served in various health-care organizations in management capacities, 15 years' experience to date. Mr. Bellino is credentialed by IAHSS as Certified Healthcare Protection Administrator; Center for Healthcare Environmental Management as a Healthcare Environmental Manager; and by the Crisis Prevention Institute as an instructor in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention. He possesses a Bachelor of Science in Human Services from Thomas A. Edison State College, and is currently attending graduate courses at



McDaniel College.

The IAHSS is the only organization dedicated solely to serving the needs of professionals who manage and direct security and safety programs in healthcare institutions. Formed in 1968, its current membership roster of over 1,600 have joined together to develop educational and credentialing programs. IAHSS has also published a series of training manuals and studies that help prepare security officers and others to meet the security needs of healthcare institutions, including Certified Healthcare Professional Administrator (CHPA) accreditation. To date, over 20,000 individuals have successfully achieved certification since the inception of the program.



KAREN HARTMAN: President, Corazon, Inc, a recognized leader in strategic heart and vascular program development, and President of the American College of Healthcare Executives Western Pennsylvania Chapter:

Ms. Hartman is President of Corazon Inc., a recognized leader in strategic cardiovascular program development, assisting clients through the full spectrum of consulting and recruitment services from feasibility study and business planning through clinical readiness and all facets of a successful implementation, including executive search for key cardiovascular service line leaders. She has firsthand knowledge of fiscal operations and reporting, hospital and physician billing, and statistical analysis. Ms. Hartman has been in cardiovascular consulting for the past seven years.

Prior to joining Corazon, she was an HR Administrator at Allegheny General Hospital and worked in both hospital and physician finance for The Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh. Ms. Hartman is an active member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) and

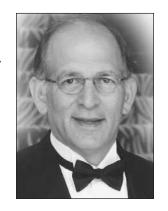


American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). She earned her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Administration and Management cum laude from La Roche College in Pittsburgh.

HARVEY KART: Publisher,

Western Pennsylvania Hospital News

Mr. Kart is a graduate of Youngstown State University and a former Pittsburgh Public School teacher. He is the publisher of Western Pennsylvania Hospital News and founder of three additional healthcare publications, Chicago Hospital News, Atlanta Hospital News and South Florida Hospital News. Western Pennsylvania Hospital News is Western PA's only monthly healthcare newsletter which reaches more than 30,000 healthcare professionals each month. The publication's number one goal is to produce top quality healthcare-centric journalism, written and edited specifically for Western PA healthcare professionals.



HUSpital News

Any healthcare security department wishing to submit an application for any of the four individual awards can do so in the following manner:

A) All security directors or managers in charge of safety and security functions at the Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio or Northern West Virginia healthcare facilities which make up the subscription base of Hospital News of Western Pennsylvania should have received a pre-submission application during the week of June 11th. If you did NOT receive an application and would like to be included in the awards program, please contact Larry Shoop at (724) 779-8800, ext. 1223, or by email at SecurityAwards@vectorsecurity.com.

B) The pre-submission application advises us that your facility intends to submit a final application for one or more of the four available awards. The pre-submission application should be submitted no later than July 1, 2007.

C) Final application(s) for the awards program must be received by December 3, 2007. This date allows submitters to assemble the best possible application from any event or action witnessed during 2007.

If you have any further questions pertaining to this awards program, please feel free to contact Mr. Shoop.



EDUCATION

Congratulations to MHA Graduates of Class 2005-07

BY SARA BARADA

n April 28th, graduating students, faculty, and alumni of the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, attended the GSPH Convocation at the IBEW

Hall, South Side and the Alumni Dinner at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association to celebrate the graduation of the students of class 2007. University commencement took place the following day, April 29, at the Petersen Center. Prior to the school wide ceremonies, the Department of Health Policy and Management (HPM) at GSPH prepared a lunch to honor the 12 Master of Health Administration students who were anticipating graduation. The graduating students, faculty, and other students attended the event to celebrate with the graduates the beginning of their prominent career in the field of health policy and management.

Among the graduates is Erik Frazier, 23, from Allentown, PA. Erik did his undergraduate major in Biomedical Engineering and has been working as a student researcher in the field of Biomechanics/ Orthopedics. With his father as a role model, he joined the MHA program in Fall 2005 and has been the president of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Student Chapter for the last academic year. Upon graduation, Erik is going to pursue a one year fellowship at Inova Health System, Virginia. His mentor Jim Terwilliger, VP Operations at UPMC Presby/Shadyside, and his preceptor Mark LaRosa, Director of Planning at Allegheny

General Hospital helped him prepare for his fellowship interview. Erik believes that the Health Economics and Finance courses are likely the two most helpful courses for his new position. Erik is mostly interested in hospital operations and aspires to become the CEO of a hospital in the long run. With respect to his academic experience, Erik felt that the biggest challenge was balancing work and study. Yet, he loved his experience at Pitt and would recommend the program to anybody interested in this field.

Another graduating student is Rachna Mungur Maranchi, 30, from Quatre-Bornes, Mauritius. She has a degree in Biology and works as a research biologist. Rachna is going to join the one year administrative fellowship program at Holy Cross Hospital (Member of Trinity Health) in Silver Spring, MD. She decided to seek a fellowship as she became more aware of the value of such an opportunity through the various activities of the Professional Development program at HPM. Rachna's biggest challenge through out the program was keeping up with the high volume of assigned readings and projects. Rachna learned most from the Human Resources, Quality Assessment, Managing the Health of Populations, Patient Safety, and Health Law courses at HPM. She considers her mentor Janet Cipullo at Jefferson Regional Medical Center and her preceptor Telford Thomas at The Washington Hospital to be her role models in her career development. In the next few years, Rachna sees herself in a hospital management position, leading a process improvement/quality management team. She eventually aspires to be a VP of Professional Services in a hospital setting. Finally, Rachna believes that pursuing the MHA Degree at HPM, GSPH has been a worthwhile experience and she ascertains that the knowledge that she gained pursuing it have enhanced her career options. She feels confident and well prepared for the future.

Carisa Gayle Webb, 23, Bedford PA also graduated in April 2007. Carisa was also a full time student who joined the MHA program in Fall 2005 upon completing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She accepted the one year administrative fellow position at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Wilmington, DE. Carissa's advisors and instructors made her aware of opportunities to pursue and assisted her throughout the placement process. Carisa considers the Patient Safety and Quality Assessment courses to be the most helpful for her new position. In the future, she aims at becoming a manger in a hospital specializing in regulatory compliance or quality improvement. While there were definitely challenges during the program, such as at times being incredibly busy, she always felt that she had the needed resources around her to manage it. Carisa is grateful for her parents' love and support and is proud to be part of the HPM family. For Carisa, joining the program was a great way to start her career.

Another graduate is Nicole Marie Hannisick, 24, from Pittsburgh PA. Nicole is also a full time student who joined the program after completing her BA in Political Science and Sociology. She has also been a Graduate Student Assistant to HPM Department for the last year. Upon her graduation, she plans to pursue her administrative fellowship at Saint Francis Health System for a period of one year. The development of this position was facilitated by Executive-In-Residence for the academic year 2006-07, David Hunter. Nicole believes she is going to benefit the most on her new job from the knowledge she acquired from Patient Safety, Accounting, Quality Assessment, and Managing Health Populations courses. Coming from a purely liberal arts background, Nicole faced the challenge of having to put extra effort to make up for the lack of science and business knowledge. Nicole's career objective is to become a manager in a Pittsburgh healthcare system. She considers Susan Mammarella, CFO of UPMC Braddock, as her career role model because she is a young strong female leader in healthcare today. Nicole had a positive learning experience at GSPH which helped her adopt a multidisciplinary approach to public health and healthcare.

From this year's graduating class, five students successfully competed for administrative fellowship programs in healthcare organizations across the United States. On behalf of the Department of Health Policy and Management, GSPH, we congratulate all the students on their graduation and wish them success in their future endeavors.

For more information on the Department of Health Policy & Management or the MHA, MPH, or JD/MPH academic programs, contact Donna Schultz at dschultz@pitt.edu or (412) 624-3123 or visit www.hpm.pitt.edu.

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Hūspital News

Accolades accolades

The Washington Hospital Recognized as One of "America's Healthiest Companies"

The Wellness Councils of America (WELCOA) recognized Washington Hospital as "America's of one Healthiest Companies."

The Washington Hospital was among 127 companies nationwide to receive WELCOA's coveted Well Workplace Award for 2006.

The Bronze Well Workplace Award recognizes The Washington Hospital for its commitment to the health and well-being of its employees.

The Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh Receives 2007 HAP **Achievement** Award for Operational Excellence

Hospital

Healthsystem Association of

Pittsburgh Mercy Health System.

The



of quality and patient safety, Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, displays the award he

Pennsylvania (HAP) recently recognized The Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh with a HAP Achievement Award for operational excellence for "Improving Efficiency of Patient Care While Increasing Quality." The award-winning entry was submitted by Dr. A.J. Pinevich, vice president of quality and patient safety at the

and

The HAP Achievement Awards annually showcase and share member hospitals' and health systems' innovation, creativity, and best practices in a variety of patient care areas, including "the development of innovative, adaptable projects that enhance patient satisfaction and improve health care quality, and that produce cost savings and efficiencies."

Gateway Rehab Center Recognizes Volunteers

Gateway Rehab Center recently held its annual volunteer recognition banquet honoring volunteers for over 7,200 hours of service during 2006.

The 2006 volunteer award for commendable service was presented to Jerry A. Schulhof,

Dr. Schulhof has been a volunteer at Gateway Squirrel Hill outpatient center since 2005 and has provided over 1,200 hours of volunteer service.



received on Mercy's behalf.

VA Medical Center Announces Excellence in Nursing Award Winners The James E. Van Zandt VA Medical

James E. Van Zandt

Center, Altoona, PA, acknowledges the recipients of the Secretary's Awards for Excellence in Nursing. Elizabeth Berndt, R.N., received the

Excellence in Nursing award because of her extensive nursing knowledge in role as Interagency Communications Liaison/Patient Transfer Nurse. She greatly enhanced patient outcome as she facilitated communication and follow-up, such as lab work for chemotherapeutic patients, and other diagnostic tests.

Jennifer Fouse, R.N., received the Excellence in Nursing award because she is highly motivated, knowledgeable and committed to excellence in her role as Infection Control Nurse. She demonstrated effective and high quality nursing practice with her care of patients with associated infectious disease diagnoses, including: HIV, pneumonia, MRSA, and C-Difficile.

Marcy Wertz, L.P.N., received the Excellence in Nursing award because she consistently exceeds all of her routine duties in the outpatient area. In addition to her daily interactions with patients, she reviewed no-show records and followed up with patients to coor-



Elizabeth Berndt



Jennifer Fouse



Marcy Wertz

dinate return visits, when needed. Marcy is very knowledgeable in nursing, medications, treatments, and disease processes. She is an effective instructor and a critical team player in the outpatient area.

PA Hospital **Association VP** Completes **National Nursing Fellowship**

Cheri L. Rinehart, R.N., B.S.N., vice president for The Hospital & Healthsystem Association Pennsylvania (HAP), has completed a



Cheri L. Rinehart

three-year Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Executive Nurse Fellowship. Rinehart was one of only 20 nurses nationwide selected annually for this fellowship.

PA Hospital Association CEO Named One of Modern Healthcare's "Top 25 Women in Healthcare"



Carolyn F. Scanlan

Carolyn F. Scanlan, president and chief executive officer of The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP), has been named among the "Top 25 Women in Healthcare" in the April 16, 2007, issue of Modern Healthcare. The recognition highlights female executives whose work has led to significant improvements in the health care industry and its ability to care for patients. Scanlan has been the president and chief executive officer of HAP for nearly 12 years.

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Jerry A. Schulhof

UPMC Braddock Steps to a Healthy Community Initiative Receives HAP Achievement Award

In recognition of its outstanding progress in developing and implementing programs to eliminate health disparities, the UPMC Braddock Steps to a Healthy Community initiative has been honored with the 2007 Achievement Award by the Hospital and Healthcare Systems Association of Pennsylvania (HAP).

HAP selected Steps to a Healthy Community for its annual achievement award in the category of Community Outreach and Engagement.

Steps to a Healthy Community was developed in concert with the goals of the Healthy People 2010 national challenge to eliminate health disparities throughout the country. Healthy People 2010 presented the reality and challenge that all Americans do not enjoy the same full access to quality health care and wellness resources. Those disparities include racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups throughout the country, and defined "differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions."

Accolades accolades

Windber Medical Center Receives Aster Award

Windber Medical Center CEO Nick Jacobs, is proud to announce that Windber Medical Center's trans-fat free marketing campaign received a bronze from The Aster Awards.

With the help of its dining services partner, Cura Hospitality of Allentown, PA, Windber was able to create a successful marketing campaign that continues to promote the fresh and delicious trans-fat free dining options to better meet the needs of hospital patients, guests and staff. According to Jacobs, Windber's trans-fat free marketing campaign featuring the hospital's new trans-fat free patient menu, was launched in the fall of 2006.

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As one of the nation's largest healthcare providers, we know that our nursing professionals are critical to our success. Our excellent outcomes would not be possible without the dedication of those providing the high quality care within our facilities nationwide. It is during Nurses Week that we have the opportunity to recognize those that work as a part of our nursing teams to care for our community.

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Stakeholder Group Led by Pitt Researchers Calls for Reorganization of Critical Care in the United States

The demand for critical care services in the United States will soon outpace the supply of specialists trained in intensive care – a situation that, if not remedied, may prove fatal for critically ill patients. The solution to this problem lies not in recruiting and training more personnel, but in reorganizing the critical care system nationwide, according to a report from a group of critical care stakeholders, led by University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine researchers and published in the April issue of the journal Critical Care Medicine.

"The number of Americans over the age of 65 is expected to double by 2030. In addition to non-elective medical admissions for critical illness among chronically ill elders, the growth rate in elective surgical procedures requiring intensive care unit admission, such as bypass surgery, is growing fastest among this age group," said Amber E. Barnato, M.D., M.P.H., M.Sc., assistant professor, department of medicine, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. "All of this means more and more people will demand already strained intensive care services. This anticipated mismatch between supply and demand is perhaps no different for critical care services than for other medical care disproportionately serving elders – ranging from emergency services to long-term care services – but the opportunities for improving the efficiency of the existing system to meet demand are probably greater."

The report, developed following a meeting of critical care stakeholders called the Prioritizing the Organization and Management of Intensive care Services (PrOMIS) Conference held in September 2005, calls for creation of a tiered, regionalized system for critical care services in an effort to centralize expertise, equipment and facilities. This would make the necessary critical care services readily available to the patients who are most in need.

"Prior conferences aimed at addressing this problem sought input only from critical care professionals, who are a fraction of all the stakeholders," said Dr. Barnato, lead author of the report. "These groups often stated the need for more trained providers. Surveying a wider group of interested parties, we found that this isn't necessarily the best or only solution."

The Care Coordination/Home Telehealth Program at the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center

Another Way of Caring for America's Heroes

The James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center has been utilizing a program called "Care Coordination/Home Telehealth". The goals of this program are to decrease hospitalizations, visits to the emergency room, and primary care visits while managing veterans' symptoms at home. These veterans suffer from diseases including Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), hypertension (HTN), diabetes (DM), and chronic heart failure (CHF).



Vickie Lathero

From the comfort of their own homes, veterans, through a telehealth monitoring device attached to their phone, enter information such as blood pressure, weight, and blood sugar to help their primary care provider manage their disease. These monitors ask specific questions regarding symptoms. It also teaches the veteran about their conditions. The veteran must have a touch tone telephone and a land line to participate in the program.

The Care Coordinator at the Van Zandt VA Medical Center is Vickie Lathero, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner. Her job entails monitoring each individual patient's data, which is entered daily, and collaborating with the appropriate primary care provider to report any data that is pertinent to the care of that patient. According to Lathero, early detection of changes in the symptoms

or data can prevent hospitalization or emergency room visits.

"Patients have the security of monitoring their health within the comfort of their homes. This reduces their stress levels", says Lathero.

Education is an essential part of disease management; therefore, it is used extensively in the Care Coordination Program. Through discussion with the veterans and review of their data, the Care Coordinator/Home Telehealth assesses their needs and provides handouts or discusses specific needs, such as medications.

State Grant Awarded To Study Broadband Access Among Pennsylvania Physicians and Hospitals

A proposal by the Pennsylvania Medical Society to use broadband network technologies to improve health care in the Keystone State has received a \$300,000 grant from the Broadband Outreach & Aggregation Fund through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to fund a study that will measure broadband access in doctor offices and other health care settings.

In addition, the study will establish a benchmark for broadband network utilization by Pennsylvania physicians. And, as part of the project, the Society plans to reach out to Pennsylvania physicians and hospitals over the next few months about the value of high-speed broadband access to the delivery of health care.

"It is generally accepted that many physicians lack broadband access, which is necessary to use integrated medical records systems, access real-time medical information, enable telehealth and telemedicine applications, or access certain Internet-based training and educational materials," said Mark A. Piasio, MD, MBA, president of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. "If more of our state's doctors used technologies like electronic medical records and electronic prescribing systems, the Pennsylvania Medical Society believes health care would improve in our state. However, as a first step, physicians need to get high-speed Internet access in their practices."

Dr. Piasio adds that a 2006 Society survey indicated that approximately 7,500 Pennsylvania physicians either have no Internet access or only dial-up access.

Assisting the Pennsylvania Medical Society with the study will be The Affinity Group of Harrisburg, which has completed similar studies related to broadband access in educational settings. As a primary stakeholder in the development of health information technology in Pennsylvania, the state Department of Health is also participating in this project.

HealthSouth Harmarville to Provide Education on Recognizing Symptoms of Concussion in Children

HealthSouth Harmarville was recently awarded a grant from the PA Dept. of Health and Family Services that is being utilized to partner with the Boys and Girls Club of W. PA on the Prevention of Concussion in Youth Sports. The grant will focus on staff leadership education at the Boys and Girls Club on the signs and symptoms of concussion, how and when to seek appropriate medical care, and the importance of bike safety with an event for parents and children. Three Pittsburgh Boys and Girls Clubs have been identified for the 2007 project where each child will receive a free bike helmet for the upcoming summer season. Ela Lewis, Trauma Program Director for HealthSouth Pittsburgh says "As healthcare providers and experts in acute rehabilitation we see individuals whose worlds have been shattered by the devastation of brain injury on a physical, social and financial level. It is difficult for the treatment team to see this trauma on an ongoing basis. However, by providing staff the opportunity to directly intervene and prevent brain injury through community education we are able to sleep a little better at night knowing that we may have prevented a life altering trauma from occurring."

Balloon Kyphoplasty Offered at ACMH Hospital

The ACMH Hospital Pain Management Center is offering Balloon Kyphoplasty to correct spinal deformity due to osteoporotic fractures. Dr. Randall Barrett, Medical Director of the Pain Management Center, performs this minimally invasive procedure with excellent results of reduced back pain and improvement in the patient's ability to return to daily activities.

Balloon Kyphoplasty is designed to repair vertebral compression fractures and restore the vertebra(e) to the correct position, reducing back pain, decreasing the number of days in bed, significantly improving mobility and increasing the overall quality of life. The procedure generally takes less than one hour per fracture and may be performed under

Randall Barrett

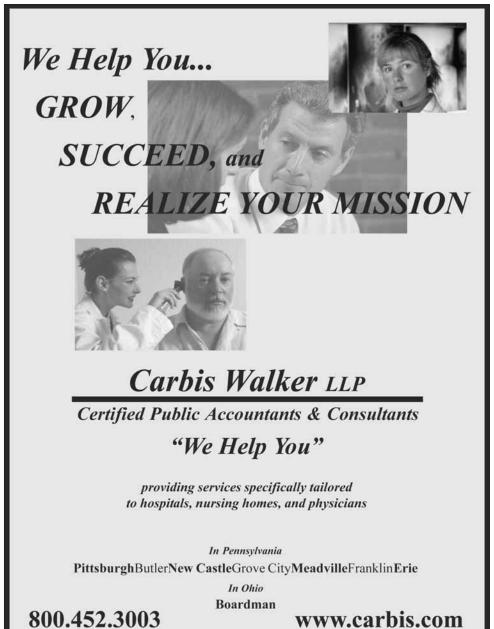
either local or general anesthesia. In most cases, Medicare provides coverage for Balloon Kyphoplasty. Some other insurance companies also provide coverage.

Dr. Barrett is a local born resident and pain management specialist who has been working at ACMH Hospital since 1997. Dr. Barrett underwent special training to perform Balloon Kyphoplasty and has performed the procedure with remarkable results.

CONTACT Pittsburgh Launches 24-Hour Veterans Hotline for Returning Soldiers

CONTACT Pittsburgh announces the launch of its new 24-hour Veterans Hotline for returning soldiers in the greater Pittsburgh area. The hotline - 412-820-HELP (4357) will provide a source of immediate, round-the-clock emotional support for returning soldiers and their families. Staffed by professionally trained volunteers, the Veterans Hotline was created in response to alarming increases in the rates of suicide among returning soldiers. According to the Veterans Administration, nearly one out of four people who complete suicide in the United States are veterans.

Estimates show that there are more than 3,200 National Guard and Reservists in the Greater Pittsburgh Area who have completed one or more tours of duty in the Middle East. Research predicts that up to 20% of returning soldiers will develop some form of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), however many of them are reluctant to disclose symptoms because of the stigma attached to a mental illness could affect their jobs, service records, and redeployment status.



VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System Celebrates Vital Research Work

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs recently celebrated National VA Research Week in May. The week paid tribute to the medical advances made to improve the lives of veterans. VA research is a national asset that benefits veteran patients and the entire nation by moving medical science forward into the future.

VA investigators played key roles in developing devices and techniques that revolutionized health care, such as, the cardiac pacemaker, the CAT scan, and liver and kidney transplants. The VA conducts biomedical, rehabilitation, clinical, and health services research - as well as large, multi-center clinical trails, at more than 100 medical centers across the country.

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System (VAPHS) has conducted research in many different health field departments: endocrinology, liver transplantation, post-traumatic stress disorder, cardiology, oncology, neurology, Alzheimer's schizophrenia, and orthopedics. At VAPHS, the total research funding

Research Week Ceremony.

for last fiscal year was over \$22 million, and we hope that funding will keep increasing. 166 investigators worked on 266 projects last year in services such as Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion (CHERP), Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC), Mental Illness Research Education Clinical Center (MIRECC), and Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL).

In order to kick-start VAPHS Research Week, Congressmen Mike Doyle and Dr. Joel Kupersmith were featured speakers at a VA Pittsburgh research and awards ceremony. Both of these distinguished speakers support the progress and development in the med ical field that the VA research has contributed. Congressman Doyle represents the 14th District of Pennsylvania and is an avid advocate for veterans. Dr. Kupersmith is a distinguished doctor, writer and is the Chief Research and Development Officer of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr. Gerald Goldstein, Ph.D., was given a plaque to honor his outstanding commitment to excellence in research to improve veterans' lives, in recognition of the significant contributions he has made to the field of research over the past 50 years. His dedication to education and recruitment has helped VAPHS recruit outstanding research clinicians who have helped to develop VAPHS as one of the premier neuropsychology centers in the country.



U.S. Congressman Mike Doyle served as keynote speaker for VA Pittsburgh Healthcare's System's Kick-off





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HEALTHCARE REAL ESTATE, CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & FACILITY PLANNING





Cover Story: Going Green

Continued from page 1

Systems: Effective, Measurable, Clean

The project team has taken advantage of overlaps between LEED priorities and health care requirements to design a high quality, efficient and controllable set of MEP systems for the facility. Creation of a campus-wide Central Plant will help to reduce overall energy consumption at the source level and avoid the need for CFC and HCFC refrigerants. In order to ensure the performance of the systems, a construction air quality plan will be followed, an additional building air flush and filter change will be performed, and a commissioning process has been specified to ensure that all systems perform appropriately from day

This commissioning process designates an Information Systems (IS) contractor who will be responsible for the installation of all low voltage, network driven systems (including building automation, telecommunication, structured cabling, network, fire alarm, security, etc.). The IS contractor

will be responsible for the test start and balance of all MEP systems and will provide and manage the test engineer responsibilities for functional performance testing (commissioning).

This approach shifts performance responsibility to the purveyors of the technology, which gives them a stake in the success of the project and thereby helps to ensure overall project success while potentially reducing project costs. A measurement and verification plan is also in place to allow the hospital to track performance over time, and maintain the efficiency of the building into the future.



All building materials have been considered for both their broad environmental impacts and specific

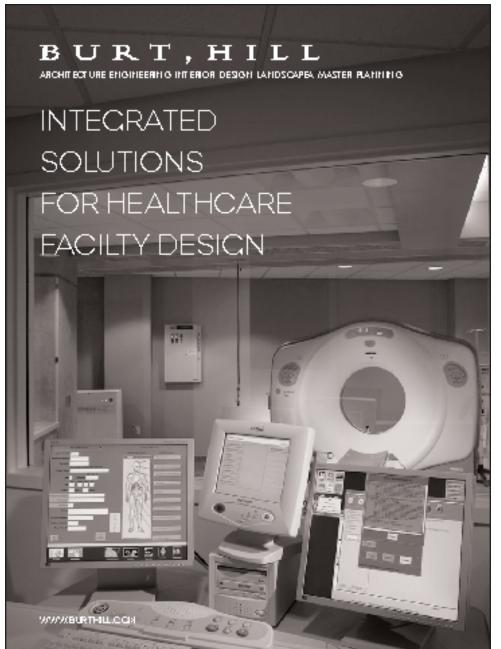
impact on the project. Over 25% of the building area, including certain clinical areas, will be located within reused structure from the previous hospital. A significant amount of recycled materials will be used, beginning with the structural steel, which is nearly 100% recycled content. Brick and other exterior and interior finishes selections were made based on local extraction and availability.

Durability, cleanability and the overall quality of the interior environment are also major considerations. The hospital was particularly interested in selecting finishes, adhesives and sealants to reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions into the space, including green label carpets and low-VOC paints and adhesives. Finally, mercury in the building will be reduced

through the specification of HVAC system switches, the careful selection of lamp technologies for reduced mercury content and the review of new medical equipment.

Astorino's design for the new Replacement Facility embodies the Hospital's desire to provide a quality facility that will reinforce the strong reputation of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. The end product will provide an environment designed to promote healing and provide dedicated staff with the tools necessary to deliver state-of-the-art medical care to patients and their families for generations to

> Timothy L. Powers, AIA, Senior Vice President – Healthcare, Astorino, can be reached at (412) 209-2832 or tpowers@astorino.com.





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HEALTHCARE REAL ESTATE, CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & FACILITY PLANNING

New WholeHealth Outpatient Facility Puts the Focus on Keeping You Well

magine going to see your doctor for an appointment. He orders a blood test and you go downstairs to have it done. He also orders an MRI scan, which you schedule there as well, for next Saturday – a time that's convenient for you. Afterward, you head upstairs for a chemical peel and a massage before you stop to see your health coach and discuss your health goals. Then you go down the hall to exercise. Oh you, stop and buy some skin care products before you leave.

Does this sound like a hospital visit? It's not. It is an example of a health care center of the future – except that it isn't the future. It's now. And it's called BHS WholeHealth.

"The way health care is delivered and how it all fits together is changing dramatically," says Jana Panther, Director of Outpatient Services for Butler Health System.

Many people tend to think about hospitals as places where the sick get healthy, but Butler Health System (BHS) is adding a new approach – keeping the healthy from getting sick. With BHS WholeHealth, we're focusing on wellness and prevention.

"We want people to know that we'll

be there when they're sick, but we encourage and support them to remain well all the time," Panther says

Now officially open at the Rose E. Schneider Family YMCA at Route 19 and Ehrman Road in northern Cranberry Township, BHS WholeHealth is a full-service outpatient facility providing a range of health and wellness services, from walk-in medical care and diagnostics to nutritional guidance and health coaching.

BHS WholeHealth's collaboration with the YMCA is the first of its kind in western Pennsylvania.

As a full-service facility, BHS WholeHealth provides many of the same services found at Butler Memorial Hospital. Patients can walk-in for blood work and routine x-rays; as well as schedule mammograms, MRIs (magnetic resonance imaging), CT (computed tomography) scans, ultrasounds, and osteoporosis and cardiovascular screenings. In addition, on site appointments are available for diabetes and gynecological care, and even treatment of minor illnesses.

Having the hospital's services in the



The BHS WholeHealth site offers a fixed open MRI machine for patients who need diagnostics testing.

YMCA takes health and wellness to "the next level," said YMCA Executive Director Dave Hillard.

"People can work on becoming healthier through YMCA programs and medically better though WholeHealth services, and people are excited about that," said Hilliard.

Aqua massage is available at BHS WholeHealth to relieve tension and serve as a method of relaxation even after a work out. Traditional massage therapy is also offered.



Quickly scheduled CT scans allow physicians to diagnose their patients in a timely manner.





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HEALTHCARE REAL ESTATE, CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & FACILITY PLANNING

Grove City College Co-eds Remodel Waiting Room

n the evening of Saturday, April 14th, while many of their counterparts' immediate plans were focused on various social and entertainment options, ten Grove City College co-eds were deciding how best to apply three coats of paint to all of the walls in Grove City Medical Center's emergency department waiting area. The task was a major component of a community service effort undertaken by the Crown and Scepter honorary. Culminating six months of planning, the and result is a significant

ning, the end result is a significantly improved waiting area that serves nearly 15,000 people annually.

"We're delighted with what they've done with the waiting room," said Sherry Latshaw, Clinical Coordinator of the Emergency Department at Grove City Medical Center. "It's everything we'd hoped for, and more."

The project was born out of two telephone conversations that occurred within a few days of each other, both involving JoAnne Clobus, Executive Director of Marketing and





(I-r) Dr. David Silvis, Emergency Room physician; Sherry Latshaw, Clinical Coordinator of the Emergency Department; Robert Jackson, Chief Executive Officer and Kimmy Ross of Crown and Scepter.

Public Relations for the hospital. When Latshaw approached her with a request last summer to "help me figure out a way to spruce up the waiting area," Clobus took a look at the area for herself. "It was fairly dismal," she recalled. The waiting room was shabby, at best, and with good reason. "It takes more wear and tear than practically any other area in the hospital," said Mark Arblaster, Director of Plant Operations.

Fate took a hand in presenting a potential solution to update the room when Clobus received a call from Tuscon, AZ. Kimmy Ross, who would be returning to Grove City soon as a sophomore at Grove City College, was the president of the Crown and Scepter honorary group, and the girls were searching for a significant community service project to take on. "The first thing I asked her was if she'd ever seen "Design on a Dime" on television," said Clobus. "She hesitated for just a second and then asked me what I had in mind!"

Ross shared the idea of renovating the emergency room waiting room with the Crown and Scepter membership and they visited the hospital to survey the area. The girls decided the project would be manageable. During the planning phase that followed, the group developed three different ideas for how they might redecorate the room. Ross proposed the three plans to the hospital's administrative staff and key employees who would support the project from various departments, as well as Rob Jackson, Chief Executive Officer and Dr. Matthew Glenn, Medical Director for the Emergency Department. A major consideration was the need for everything used in the hospital, including textiles and surface finishes, to meet the regulations established by a number of governing bodies, including the PA Department of Health.

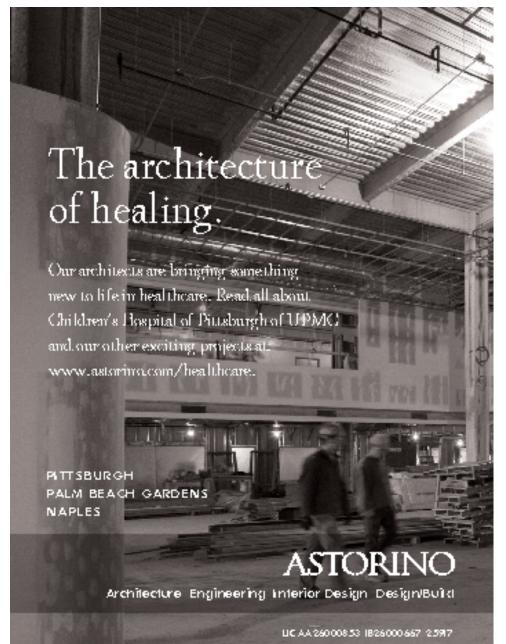
While the hospital representatives found each of the designs appealing, they decided a combination of elements from all three most fitting for the room. A soft green color on the walls, they felt, would add a calming effect, an important factor, since those who would be spending time there would be experiencing discomfort and anxiety. At the end of the discussion, everyone agreed that the style of the area would be "eclectic with a strong Zen influence."

Over the next several months, Clobus worked as a liaison between hospital staff and Ross to coordinate the reupholstering of the waiting room furniture, as well as the purchase of several occasional tables and lamps, and materials for the most labor intense part of the project—the painting. "The walls were covered with vinyl wallpaper, and Mark and I decided that removing it could turn into a nightmare," said Clobus. "So we researched different options through the local paint supply store and found a primer that can be used over wallpaper to make new paint adhere to it."

However, the most strategic component of the project was yet to come. "Scheduling downtime and keeping it minimal for an area that never closes is challenging," said Clobus. After several failed attempts to coordinate the girls' schedules and the temporary closing of the waiting room to complete the painting, Jackson suggested they work through a Saturday evening, when the Emergency Department sees the least amount of activity.

Volunteers were on hand to relocate patients' friends and family members to another waiting area nearby and after kicking off the evening with pizza and sodas, the group immersed themselves in the task at hand. "There was a lot of energy in the room," said Latshaw. "The girls were amazing with paint rollers!" Within four hours, the walls were painted and a few days later, Arblaster's staff put the finishing touches on the room.

Highlighting the décor are an inscribed clock donated by Wendell August Forge to commemorate the project along with 14 framed black and white photographs of the local landscape taken by Crown and Scepter member Colleen Castle. "They are absolutely stunning," said Clobus. "The entire room is beautiful, but everyone who visits is taken by the photographs." The final detail to be added was a child's oak table and chairs, crafted by a local Amish carpenter to complete the room.



UPMC Opens New Cancer Center in Dublin, Ireland

reland's minister for health and children, Mary Harney, officially opened the Beacon Hospital Cancer Centre recently in Dublin, Ireland. The new center provides cancer patients in Dublin with state-of-the-art radiation therapy and is the second international cancer center for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

"By linking the Beacon Hospital Cancer Centre with our network of UPMC Cancer Centers, we are able to provide cost-effective and technologically advanced radiation therapy locally to the residents of Ireland's capital and largest city," said Jeffrey Shogan, M.D., director of business services and chief business officer at UPMC Cancer Centers.

The Beacon Hospital Cancer Centre provides patients with intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) and imageguided radiation therapy (IGRT). The center also houses Europe's first Trilogy TX image-guided radiosurgery system

In addition to radiotherapy, the cancer center offers comprehensive care, including cancer imaging and medical and surgical oncology services under one roof. A joint program of Triad Hospitals Inc. and UPMC Cancer Centers, the new center is housed within the Beacon Hospital, a private facility that opened in January 2007.

The center is based on UPMC Cancer Centers' hub-andsatellite model, which links community-based satellite locations to a hub facility, the Hillman Cancer Center, in Pittsburgh through a telecommunications network. The network allows highly trained medical physicists based at the Hillman to share information and expertise with radiation specialists at satellite centers when developing highly complex radiation treatment plans for individual patients.





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EXTENDED CARE & ASSISTED LIVING

ASBURY HEIGHTS

For almost a century, Asbury Heights, operated by United Methodist Services for the Aging, has been providing high-quality compassionate care to older adults in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Asbury Heights is a faith-based, non-profit charitable organization, located in Mt. Lebanon. Through various accommodations, services and amenities, the needs of independent living residents can be met. For residents requiring more care, the continuing care community also offers assisted living, nursing and rehabilitative care, Alzheimer's specialty care and adult day services. The Health and Wellness Center is headed by a board certified, fellowship trained geriatrician. Residents may be treated by on-site specialists or retain their own physicians. Rehabilitative therapies are also available on-site. A variety of payment options are available to fit individual financial situations. The application process is very quick and easy and does not obligate the applicant in any way. For more information, please contact Joan Mitchell, for Independent Living; Suzanne Grogan for Nursing Admissions; or Kelley Ames for Assisted Living at 412-341-1030. Visit our website at www.asbury-

BAPTIST HOMES OF WESTERN PA

Baptist Homes has been serving older adults of all faiths on its campus in Mt. Lebanon since 1910. Our mission is to offer a full continuum of enriched living, compassionate care, and benevolence to a broad spectrum of individuals. We are accredited by the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC), and serve almost 300 adults with skilled and intermediate nursing care. Alzheimer's care, assisted living/personal care and HUD independent living. In addition, our residents have access to a full range of rehabilitative therapies and hospice care. Baptist Homes is a licensed Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) and is Medicare and Medicaid certified. For more information, visit our website at www.baptisthomes.org or arrange for a personal tour by calling Pam Tomczak. Admissions Coordinator, at 412-572-8247. Baptist Homes is conveniently located at 489 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15234-1482.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Living Independently For Elders Community LIFE is a non-profit program that offers all-inclusive care

that goes beyond the traditional boundaries of elder care. It allows seniors to remain in the community, maintain their independence, and allows them to enjoy their golden years at home. Community LIFE provides older adults with fully integrated and coordinated health and social service, usually at no cost to qualified individuals. Participant in the program are transported to our day health center on an as-needed basis, to receive healthcare and social services, meals, and participate in various activities.

The LIFE Center is staffed by a geriatric physician, RN's, physical and occupational therapists, dietician, social worker, and aides, and includes a medical suite for routine exams and minor treatments, some emergency care, therapy areas, dining/activity space, personal care area and adult day services. Community LIFE offers complete, coordinated healthcare for the participant, including all medical care, full prescription drug coverage, rehab therapies, transportation and in home care. If you or someone you care about is having difficulty living in the community, then call Community LIFE at 412-464-2143.

KANE REGIONAL CENTERS

The Kane Regional Centers, located in Glen Hazel, McKeesport, Ross and Scott, provide 24-hour skilled nursing care, rehabilitation services, specialty medical clinics and dedicated units for dementia care to the residents of Allegheny County. Admission to the Kane Regional Centers is based on medical needs and can occur within 24 hours. including weekends and holidays. Kane accepts a number of insurance plans well as private pay. To apply for admission to the Kane Regional Centers call (412) 422-6800.

OAKLEAF PERSONAL CARE HOME

"It's great to be home!"

Nestled in a country setting in a residential area of Baldwin Borough, Oakleaf Personal Care Home provides quality, compassionate care to adults who need assistance with activities of daily living. As we strive to enhance the quality of life of our residents, our staff constantly assesses their strengths and needs as we help them strike that fine bal-ance between dependence and independence. Oakleaf offers private and shared rooms, all located on one floor. Our home includes a spacious, sky-lighted dining room, library, television lounges, sitting areas and an activity room. Our fenced-in courtyard, which features a gazebo, provides our residents with a quiet place to enjoy the outdoors. socialize with family and friends, and participate in planned activities Upon admission, the warmth of our surroundings and the caring attitude of our staff combine to make Oakleaf a place residents quickly call "home". Please call for additional information, stop by for a tour or visit us on our website. www.oakleafpersonalcarehome.com 3800 Oakleaf Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Phone (412) 881-8194, Fax (412) 884-8298 Equal Housing Opportunity

PRESBYTERIAN SENIORCARE

A regional network of living and care options for older adults throughout southwestern Pennsylvania. Services and facilities include skilled and intermediate nursing care, rehabilitation, personal care, specialty Alzheimer's care, adult day care, home healthcare, senior condominiums, low-income and supportive rental housing. For more informa-

Presbyterian SeniorCare - Oakmont 1215 Hulton Road, Oakmont, PA 15139 412-828-5600 Presbyterian SeniorCare - Washington 825 South Main Street, Washington, PA 15301

ST. BARNABAS HEALTH SYSTEM

St. Barnabas Health System offers a continuum of care at its two campuses in the North Hills. Skilled nursing care is offered at the 172-bed St. Barnabas Nursing Home in Richland Township, Allegheny County, and the 47-bed Valencia Woods at St. Barnabas in Valencia, Butler County. The Arbors at St. Barnabas offers assisted living for up to 182 persons. All three facilities offer staff-run, on-site rehabilitative services, extensive recreational opportunities, and beautiful, warm decor. Home care is available at the St. Barnabas Communities, a group of three independent-living facilities: The Village at St. Barnabas, The Woodlands at St. Barnabas and The Washington Place at St. Barnabas. The Washington Place, a 23-unit apartment building, has hospitality hostesses on duty to offer residents support as needed. St. Barnabas Health System, a non-denominational, faith-based organization, has a 106-year tradition of providing quality care regardless of one's ability to pay. For admissions information, call:

St. Barnabas Nursing Home

5827 Meridian Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044, (724) 444-5587 Valencia Woods at St. Barnabas/The Arbors at St. Barnabas

85 Charity Place, Valencia, PA 16059, (724) 625-4000 Ext. 258 St. Barnabas Communities

5850 Meridian Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044, (724) 443-0700, Ext. 247

WESTMORELAND MANOR

Westmoreland Manor with its 150 year tradition of compassionate care, provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation services under the jurisdiction of the Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners. A dynamic program of short term rehabilitation services strives to return the person to their home while an emphasis on restorative nursing assures that each person attains their highest level of functioning while receiving long term nursing care. Westmoreland Manor is Medicare arid Medicaid certified and participates in most other private insurance plans and HMO's. We also accept private pay.

Eagle Tree Apartments are also offered on the Westmoreland Manor campus. These efficiency apartments offer independent living in a protective environment.

Shelley Thompson, Director of Admissions 2480 S. Grande Blvd., Greensburg, PA 15601 • 724-830-4022

HOME CARE / HOSPICE

ASERACARE HOSPICE

(formerly Hospice Preferred Choice) HPC provides services in Allegheny county and 5 surrounding counties. Care may be received at home or in extended care settings. The patient and family are the primary decision makers with assistance from the attending physician and the hospice team. The clinical expertise of our hospice team includes RN's, LPN's, home health aides, social workers, spiritual coordinators, bereavement specialists and trained volunteers which are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. For more information, call (412) 271-2273 or (800) 570-5975.

CONCORDIA VISITING NURSES

Concordia Visiting Nurses provide skilled and psychiatric nursing, physical a, occupational and speech therapies, wound and ostomy care. respiratory therapy, nutritional counseling, infusion therapy, maternal/child care, in your own home. The TeleHealth Monitoring System s a free service that keeps you constantly connected to your doctor and HealthWatch personal response system is an electronic device designed to summon help in an emergency. Concordia Visiting Nurses pledged same day service, weekend referrals and evaluation visits for post-emergency room patients. It ias a non=profit, Medicare certified home care agency that accepts most major insurances. Contact Concordia Visiting Nurses at 1-877-352-6200.

GATEWAY HEALTH HOSPICE

Gateway's hospice services remains unique as a locally owned and operated service emphasizing dignity and quality clinical care to meet the needs of those with life limiting illness.

Quality nursing and home health aide visits exceed most other agen-

cies. Our commitment to increased communication and responsiveness to those we serve is our priority.

Medicare certified and benevolent care available. Gateway serves patients in Allegheny and ALL surrounding counties. Care is provided by partnering with facilities and hospitals in addition to wherever the

patient "calls home". For more information call 1-877-878-2244

INTERIM HEALTHCARE

Interim HealthCare is a national comprehensive provider of health care personnel and service. Interim HealthCare has provided home nursing care to patients since 1966 and has grown to over 300 locations throughout North America. Interim HealthCare of Pittsburgh began operations in 1972 to serve patient home health needs throughout southwestern Pennsylvania and northern West Virginia. IHC of Pittsburgh has been a certified Medicare and Medicaid home health agency since 1982. IHC provides a broad range of home health services to meet the individual patient's needs – from simple companion-ship to specialty IV care – from a single home visit to 24 hour a day care. IHC has extensive experience in working with facility discharge planners and health insurance case manager to effect the safe and successful discharge and maintenance of patients in their home. For more information or patient referral, call 800-447-2030.

1789 S. Braddock, Pittsburgh, PA 15218 3041 University Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26505

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Established in 1974, is the city's oldest and most reputable provider of medical and non-medical care in private homes, hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. Services include assistance with personal care and activities of daily living, medication management, escorts to appointments, ambulation and exercise, meal preparation, and light housekeeping. Hourly or live-in services are available at the Companion, Nurse Aide, LPN and RN levels. Potential employees must meet stringent requirements; screening and testing process, credentials, references and backgrounds are checked to ensure qualifications, licensing, certification and experience. Criminal and child abuse background checks are done before hire. Liken employees are fully insured for general and professional liability and workers' compensation. Serving Allegheny and surrounding counties. Free Assessment of needs available. For more information write to Private Duty Services, 400 Penn Center Blvd., Suite 100, Pittsburgh, PA 15235, visit our website www.likenservices.com, e-mail info@likenservices.com or call (412) 816-0113 – 7 days a week, 24 hours per day.

TRINITY HOSPICE

Trinity Hospice offers comprehensive care focused on easing the physical, emotional and spiritual pain that often accompanies terminal illness. Trinity Hospice provides an alternative to routine home care and repeated hospitalizations. Offering outstanding care, the hospice team members are dedicated professionals and trained volunteers who specialize in meeting the individualized needs of terminally ill patients and families. For more information or to schedule an ass please call 1-888-937-8088.

2020 Ardmore Boulevard, Suite 210 Pittsburgh, PA 15221 www.trinityhospice.com

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PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Allegheny County Health Department serves the 1.3 million residents of Allegheny County and is dedicated to promoting individual and community wellness; preventing injury, illness, disability and premature death; and protecting the public from the harmful effects of biological, chemical and physical hazards within the environment biological, chemical and physical hazards within the environment. Services are available through the following programs: Air Quality; Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention; Chronic Disease Prevention; Environmental Toxins/Pollution Prevention; Food Safety; Housing/Community Environment; Infectious Disease Control; Injury Prevention; Maternal and Child Health; Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition; Plumbing; Public Drinking Water; Recycling; Sexually Transmitted Diseases/AIDS/HIV; Three Rivers Wet Weather Demonstration Project; Tobacco Free Allegheny; Traffic Safety; Tuberculosis; and Waste Management. Bruce W. Dixon, MD, Director 333 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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A fully licensed 28-bed Pediatric Specialty Hospital with Transitional Infant Care (T.I.C.®) and Transitional Pediatric Care units, Sub-acute care for medically fragile or technology dependent children who need continued hospitalization in a sub-acute setting. Teaches parents to provide complicated treatment regimens. Hospice care also provided. Staff includes neonatologists, pediatricians, a variety of physician consultants/specialists, and R.N./C.R.N.P. staff with NICU and/or PICU experience. A state-of-the-art facility with the comforts of home. Family living areas include private bedrooms, kitchens, living and dining rooms, and Austin's Playroom for siblings. Admits chil dren from Western PA, the tri-state area and beyond.

For more information, or to schedule a tour, contact:

Deborah Flowers, Chief Clinical Officer

The Children's Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center 5324 Penn Avenue

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SPECIALTY HOSPITAL

TIC®, TRANSITIONAL INFANT CARE (T.I.C.®) HOSPITAL

Operates as a fully licensed acute care pediatric specialty hospital. Independent and not-for-profit, T.I.C.® was conceived as a bridge between Neonatal Intensive Care Units and the home. Provides excel-lent medical care to infants who are medically stable but not yet ready to go home, and develops the family's hands-on ability to deal with complicated treatment regimens. Staff includes 16 neonatologists, 19 pediatricians, a variety of physician consultants/specialists and exclusive R.N. staff with NICU and/or pediatric experience. The only facility of its kind in the country, T.I.C. is increasingly recognized as a model for delivery of a new level and type of care. Located near Fifth Avenue in Pittsburgh's Shadyside neighborhood, T.I.C. admits infants from across W.PA, but also from the tri-state area and beyond. For more information, or to schedule a tour, contact: Deborah Flowers Chief Clinical Officer

5618 Kentucky Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15232 x 412-441-4884 ext. 219 T.I.C. is a program of The Children's Home of Pittsburgh.

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DATEBOOK:

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July 16 Jameson to Hold 15th Annual Golf Classic

Jameson Golf Classic to benefit The Children's Advocacy Center is planned for Monday, July 16, 2007, at the New Castle Country Club.

The event, sponsored by the Jameson Health Care Foundation has set a goal of raising \$100,000 to benefit The Children's Advocacy Center

For more information, call (724) 656-4096.

August 13 **Cancer Awareness Golf** Scramble

Registration is under way for the **UPMC** Northwest Cancer Awareness Golf Scramble. UPMC Northwest Foundation will sponsor this benefit event at 10 a.m. on Monday, August 13, at Wanango Country Club. The event will feature a scramble format with four-player teams in men's, women's, and mixed (two women, two men) divisions. Proceeds will go to the UPMC Northwest Foundation Oncology Fund, which supports projects that benefit UPMC Northwest's cancer care services.

For more information, call Nancy Beichner in the UPMC Northwest Foundation office at (814) 676-7141.

October 2-4 **Healthcare Facilities** Symposium & Expo

The Healthcare Facilities Symposium & Expo is returning to the Windy City, Chicago, IL, for its 20th anniversary event! Don't miss the longest-running conference and exhibition focused on master planning, design & construction, evidence based design, sustainability, technology, guest services and operations in healthcare facilities. For more information, visit www.hcarefacilities.com or call (203) 371-6322.

October 26 2007 Annual Educational Symposium

Pennsylvania's Association for Long-Term Care Medicine presents the 2007 Annual Educational Symposium on Friday, October 26, at the Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA. This is for long-term care health professionals including Geriatricians, Psychiatrists, Internists, Family Physicians, Nursing Home Administrators, Advanced Practitioners, Registered Nurses, Consultant Pharmacists, Therapists, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Professionals, and Social Workers.

For more information, visit www.pamda.org.

Send your submissions to hdkart@aol.com

No Butts About It, UPMC Smoke-Free Policy Is Leading The Way To A Healthier Community

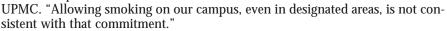
On Sunday, July 1, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) will institute a campus-wide clean air and smoke-free policy to protect patients, visitors and staff from the harmful health effects of secondhand smoke. The policy will prohibit smoking on any UPMC-owned or leased property, including its grounds, garages and parking lots.

"It is vitally important that people in our community are able to access UPMC facilities that are smoke-free and healthy," said Elizabeth Concordia, senior vice president, academic and community hospitals, UPMC, and president, UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside. "In the interest of the public's health, especially the well-

being of those most vulnerable, our patients and children, we are taking action to set the standard for an environment that promotes good health.'

Secondhand smoke is a proven health hazard, leading to heart disease, lung and other cancers, chronic lung disease and even premature death. Given these dangers, UPMC convened a task force in 2006 to put a smoke-free plan into place and developed tools to help ease the transition by assisting patients, visitors and staff members who want to quit smoking. In partnership with the UPMC Health Plan, UPMC is offering staff members and the community smoking cessation classes, counseling services and other resources. UPMC Health Plan also provides many members with coverage for medication to relieve the discomfort often experienced in the early stages of quitting.

'As the region's top health care organization, we believe that we need to set a healthy example," said Greg Peaslee, senior vice president, human resources,



The clean air and smoke-free policy pertains to all of UPMC's hospitals, offices and other facilities – more than 80 sites. Signs communicating the new policy are being installed to ensure awareness of the change, and count-down clocks have been in place for the last several months.

For more information on UPMC's clean air and smoke-free policy, call 1-800-533-UPMC (8762) or visit the Web site at www.upmc.com

The Marketplace For advertising information, call (412) 856-1954 or e-mail hdkart@aol.com

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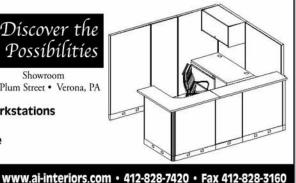
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Cardised Registered Nurse Problems (FT)
Performs physical assessments; developshinglements plane of care, evaluates complaints; provides appropriate treatment and femily teaching.

Transportation Coordinator (FT)
Responsible for assuring the sale/ellicient transportation of clients in a fixely, competent manner in
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Social Warter (FT)

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Administrative Assistani (FT) Supports administrative needs of center. Positive communication/intersoften/felephose operations. Responsibilities include recoglimisticustrainer sequice. Associate's degree or Business/ Secretarial education preferred and 1 ye related exp.

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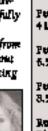




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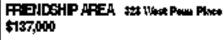
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The classically detailed, light-filled spaces of this 3 bedroom, 2 full & 2 salf bath townboose include island

kitchen with guarate countentops/stranless appliances, specious family room with freplace, walk-out lower level, 9 peilings, cerande the flooring, Tiffany chan-deliers and more. Convenient loo-

tion in Heritage Creek and approades beyond the norm add to this fabulous townhome's appeall

Glaria Carroll/Panty Pellegrial 412-367-8000 x242/232



The anismy of this 4 bedroom, 3.5 both design is traiger, the ज्ञानक को मार्थकार. Fearures include island

kitchen with breakfast mock, private study with arched boolcastes, finished lower level with full bath and new carpeting, ideal cul-de-sac loca-tion and much more. Must see interiori! Assthetically beautiful, Smatterfully penant, this femtuatic home is the best value in Four Lakes of Treesdale!

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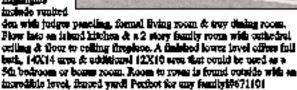


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Tompting colo-ᇑ bonntlifal lot in Combanyl Synctors borns COURT IN SECOND floor plen. Highlighte



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Space feels endless when extening two the 2 story floyer. Flow into a des officing watercoting, tray disting room, finistical lifeties & subeBornble 2 story femily room. A bright sourcom site off of the family room & overlooks the large patio & level, row yardi scorious master bedroom has double tray ceiling and levish a but with whichpool. Explore all the possibilities of this incredible rerlatence (#973359)

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MacLoodi Custom fasteres begin include I story Foyer, deu with wall of built-ins, hardwood dining room & bullet?s pentry.Legs Charry kitches boarts grunnet steintess steel applicates & granite commers. A 2 story gress coom is educated with window wells, a tesy ons become Completely finished lower level pressure additional lifeplace & wat ber green #778385

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It shows a unique call do say became with only can other executive home. A two story only is highlighted by a recogning current staircase leading to a levelah massor sails and siming from with a bridge opening to five other miles and bedrooms. In addition to a formal parter and disting room with a bridge opening to five other miles and bedrooms. In addition to a formal parter and disting room with a bridge opening to five other miles and broaders are first floor beasts a generative, high practical study with finelyses, accommons summons currently used as a humations weakers are generated that are room would be distinguished, when the custom would laditus. Describing throughout includes crystal characteristics, distincts and strictuse and containing a broaders and continuity, four finelyses, impresse perceived it is not greater. A formal governors with precide over the accommon the home creating a gracious welcome to all who wish. Pictors call for a private room.





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open four pien has en open stalesse to the left master bedrace with full bett, elling case, skylighte and bell towar. An orbitional feature is the nearer double oe with finished starillo Aussreise recen or dan. Cell for an appeliament.



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Rachelle Arnold, Speech Therapist Eddie Nassan and Ally Galdwell-Nassan Diane O'Reilly, Physical Therapist

treatments, Ally was only walking about 30 feet with assistance. By the end of her rehabilitation course, Ally was walking more than 200 feet on her own and able to do all of her own dressing, grooming and bathing. She was no longer using the feeding tube and was eating regular foods. She was finally ready to return home to her family, friends and her three beloved cats. Ally credits her recovery to the tireless support of her family and the exceptional care provided by ManorCare North Hills. Ally summed up her feelings when she said, "I don't think I could have made it if it wasn't for ManorCare!"

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