

Scrub Run is one for the record books!

The Mercy Hospital Foundation's 4th Annual Scrub Run was a record-breaker, raising over \$59,000 (net \$49,000) for the Catholic Health Heart Center at Mercy Hospital.

New this year, the Scrub Run recognized three "Running with Heart" honorees: Adrienne Linger, a 31-year-old brain aneurysm survivor cared for at Mercy's Stroke Center; Ronda Syverson, a heart surgery survivor who traveled more than 2,000 miles from Portland,

Oregon for the Scrub Run in her quest to run a 5K in every state in the U.S.A.; and Edna Hyer, a long-time runner and heart surgery survivor who, at 82-years-young, was recently inducted into the WNY Running Hall of Fame.

Special thanks to this year's Chair **Nancy Sheehan**, Catholic Health's Senior VP and Chief Legal Officer, as well as the many sponsors, participants, volunteers, and Mercy Foundation Board of Directors for helping to make the Scrub Run a success.



Having fun at the run are Catholic Health Legal staff, l-r, Stacy Passino, Matthew Batt, Arthur Martorana, Scrub Run Chair Nancy Sheehan, and Penny Arnold.

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CONNECTION

News, announcements, and vital information for associates, their families, and friends of Mercy Hospital of Buffalo

Fall 2016



Nurses and hospital staff gathered to bless and dedicate a new Nursing Recognition Wall located in the third floor corridor near the Patient Care Services offices. The wall features photos of the nursing leadership team and recipients of the annual Nurse of Distinction and Outstanding Staff Nurse Awards, as well as a listing of past honorees and Mercy nurses who hold special certifications. Pictured above, Nancy Peterson, RN, C-EFM, speaks at the ceremony.

Autumn Ball

Your support helped to make this year's 8th Annual Autumn Ball the most successful in Mercy Hospital Foundation's history. 330 guests attended the celebration to support Mercy Hospital on Friday, November, 4 at the Atrium at Rich's. Together, we raised \$174,000 gross (net \$127,000)!

That's a \$40,000 increase in gross revenue and \$15,000 net increase over 2015 making this year's Autumn Ball the most successful to date. Special recognition is owed to our outstanding event Chair couples **Mr. James W. Cornell** and **Dr. Darci Cramer** and **Mr. Richard A. Serra** and **Mrs. Diane Serra** for leading this year's incredibly successful celebration of support.

It was a pleasure to recognize and celebrate with this year's honorees **Laura Seiner**, Mercy Hospital Nurse of the Year, **Carol Latona**, 2016 Nurse of Distinction and **Sister Sheila Marie Walsh**, our 2016 Friend of Distinction.

A portion of the proceeds from the Autumn Ball will support Empowering Buffalo, a child and family focused wellness program that identifies the barriers to health for the least, last and lost in our community. Empowering Buffalo is based at the Mercy's Comprehensive Care Center (MCCC). Located in a high-risk area of the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority's (BMHA) Perry Project, in the fourth poorest large city in the nation, the MCCC serves over 12,000 patients and provides over 39,000 visits annually to a culturally diverse population in an economically depressed community.

Please mark your calendar for next year's celebration to be held on Friday, November 3, 2017.



Pictured from left to right are Richard A. Serra, Diane Serra, Sophie Cramer-Benjamin, Dr. Darci Cramer, James W. Cornell, and Kathy Swenson.



Autumn Ball honorees from left to right are Laura Seiner, RN, Sister Sheila Marie Walsh, and Carol Latona, RN, MBA, NEA-BC.

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Submit news items to:
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Dedication of Nursing Recognition Wall highlights annual celebration to honor our nurses

As part of the National Nurses Week celebration this year, Mercy Hospital's Patient Care Services (PCS) blessed and dedicated a new Nursing Recognition Wall located in the third floor corridor near the PCS offices.

The Annual Nursing Awards Ceremony capped off the Nurses Week festivities with awards presented to: Nurse Aide- **Eunice Bates** (ICU); Unit Clerk- **Sue Liedy** (5McW); Surgical Tech- **Beth Genier**; Nurse of Distinction- **Carol Latona, RN, MBA**; and Outstanding Staff Nurse- **Laura Siener, RN**.

In addition, the following patient care units were recognized for high patient satisfaction ratings – **7 McAuley West Unit, 5 McAuley East Unit,**

Mercy Ambulatory Care Center (MACC); and the Medical Rehab Unit (MRU).

Thank you to our entire nursing staff for their commitment to high quality, compassionate care to our patients.



Laura Siener, RN, center, was presented the Outstanding Staff Nurse Award by Mercy President & CEO C. J. Urlaub and CNO Shari McDonald.

Sweet Mercy!

People In The News



Mercy Hospital on AM Buffalo... Mercy Interventional Cardiologist **Henry Meltzer, MD**, center, was interviewed by AM Buffalo Host Jon Summers for a story about CTO (chronic total occlusion) angioplasty, a minimally invasive procedure to treat blocked coronary arteries without surgery. He was the first cardiologist in the Buffalo area to perform this advanced procedure in 2013.

New Physicians Welcomed

Mercy Hospital is pleased to welcome **Bonnie Gleason, MD, FACP**, who has been named Medical Director of Critical Care Services, and **Harsh Jain, MD, FACS**, who has joined Mercy Hospital Cardiothoracic Surgical Associates and the Heart Center.

With over 17 years of experience in critical care medicine, Dr. Gleason previously served as an intensivist (critical care specialist) in the Department of Anesthesiology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. She also held intensivist positions at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas; Cary Medical Center in Caribou, Maine; and Capital Health Region Hospital in Victoria, British Columbia.



Bonnie Gleason, MD



Harsh Jain, MD

Dr. Harsh Jain comes to Catholic Health from Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey, PA, where he served as a cardiac surgeon and assistant professor of Surgery in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Board certified in surgery and thoracic surgery, Dr. Jain received his medical degree from UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, NJ. He completed a residency in General Surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA and a Cardiothoracic Surgical Residency at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MA.

Orthopedic services rated Top 100 in America

Mercy Hospital is proud to be a recipient of **HealthGrades 2016 America's 100 Best Hospitals Award for Orthopedic Surgery** and to be ranked in the top 5% in nation for Orthopedic Services. The hospital also received 5-star highest quality ratings for total knee replacement, total hip replacement, treatment of hip fracture, and spinal fusion surgery.



Mercy physicians, nurses and ancillary staff gathered for a special luncheon to celebrate receiving the 2016 America's 100 Best Hospitals Award for Orthopedic Surgery.

Speaking at a special awards celebration were **Dr. David Bevilacqua**, Chairman of Catholic Health, Dept. of Orthopedics; **Christina Kane, Ed.D., MS, OTR**, VP of Catholic Health's Musculoskeletal Service Line; **Mercy Hospital President & CEO C.J. Urlaub**; and **Shari McDonald, RN**,

MSN, VP of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer. Linda Wojcio, Senior Director of Client Development at HealthGrades, was on hand for the award presentation.

HealthGrades, an independent healthcare research firm, is also the nation's leading online resource to help consumers make informed decisions about their healthcare.

Mercy Sleep Lab earns national accreditation

Mercy Hospital's Sleep Lab has been awarded a 5-year accreditation from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM). The Sleep Lab is a state-of-the-art facility that provides diagnostic and treatment services for all types of sleep disorders.

"Achieving this national accreditation by the AASM demonstrates our commitment to providing the highest quality of care for our patients with

sleep disorders," said Francis Augustine, MD, Medical Director of the Mercy Sleep Lab.

Located next door to the hospital in the Marian Building, the 4-bed unit features private, hotel-style suites and is staffed by board-certified physicians in Sleep Medicine and licensed respiratory therapists certified in polysomnography technology. For more info, call 716-828-2335.

Mercy Nursing Facility ranked high for quality care

Congratulations to the Mercy Nursing Facility (MNF) at OLV Senior Neighborhood. The facility was recognized for outstanding quality care, according to a new Nursing Home Top Performance List issued by The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

Out of the 671 Skilled Nursing Facilities in New York State, only 33 made the list. This places MNF in the top 5% of nursing homes in New York State!

This list contains the nursing homes that achieved the top quintile in the last three years of the Nursing Home



Celebrating MNF's quality rating with a pizza party are l.-r.: Veronica Johnson, CNA; Cheryl Kropczynski, LPN; Ivory Thomas-King, CNA; Jennifer Bardini, CNA; and Youyou Madjitebaye, CNA.

Quality Initiative (NHQI). Performance is based on the 2013, 2014, and 2015 NHQIs. This list, which will be updated annually, is now available on the DOH website under the Nursing Home Quality Initiative.

Mercy Hospital recognized for heart attack care

Mercy Hospital, home to the Catholic Health Heart Center, has received the American College of Cardiology's **NCDR ACTION Registry-GWTG Platinum Performance Achievement Award** for 2016. Mercy is one of only 223 hospitals nationwide to receive this honor.



Staff gathered to celebrate the ACC quality award and to recognize this achievement by the Heart Center team.

The award recognizes Mercy's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of care for heart attack patients and signifies that the Heart Center team has reached

an aggressive goal of treating these patients to standard levels of care as outlined by the ACC and the American Heart Association.

New Referral Support & Transfer Center opens

Designed to improve patient access to advanced care across the region, the Catholic Health Referral Support and Transfer Center opened at Mercy Hospital in May. Located on the 3rd floor, this new Center coordinates care and streamlines patient transfers to all Catholic Health System acute care sites. Transfers to Mercy Hospital are facilitated for patients needing a higher level of heart and stroke care or access to other specialized services not available at their community hospitals.



Pictured above at the Center's dedication ceremony are, l.-r., CH Referral Support & Transfer Center Director Gloria Pirowski; John Sperazza, VP of Diagnostic & Treatment Services; Joyce Markiewicz, EVP, Catholic Health and President & CEO of Home & Community Based Care; Shari McDonald, VP of Mercy Patient Care Services; C. J. Urlaub, Mercy President & CEO; and Mark Sullivan, Catholic Health COO.

The Center partners with area hospitals throughout the WNY region to help them obtain tertiary care for their patients at the Catholic Health Heart Center or Comprehensive Stroke Center at Mercy Hospital.

Hospital expands critical care services

Over recent years, Mercy Hospital has evolved into a tertiary referral hospital, providing highly specialized medical care and the highest level of cardiac and stroke care for patients throughout Western New York. With these changes, comes the need to care for more patients requiring critical care services.



The Mercy Hospital ICU team gathers in one of the new ICU state-of-the-art patient rooms.

To accommodate the double digit growth we have seen in neurosurgery, heart surgery and other complex procedures, the hospital recently completed a \$5 million

renovation and expansion project of its Intensive Care Unit (ICU) on the 8th floor. The project created ten additional private ICU patient rooms, increasing the total to 28, and modernized the clinical support areas.

Sweet Mercy!

People In The News



Internal Medicine Residents Honored... Catholic Health/Mercy Hospital Internal Medicine residents, Dr. Adam Ferin and Dr. Adam Kawinski, were presented 2016 Erie County Medical Society (ECMS) Resident of the Year Awards. Pictured above, from left, are: ECMS President & VP of Mercy Hospital Medical Affairs Dr. Timothy Gabryel, Dr. Kawinski, Dr. Ferin, and Dr. Henri Woodman, IM Training Program Director.



Mission Corner

Plans are underway for Mercy Hospital's *Season of Giving*. Coming up next is our **Annual Holiday Basket Raffle** that will take place on Thurs., November 17 from 8 am to 7:30 pm and Fri., Nov. 18 from 8 am to 1 pm at the hospital cafeteria entrance. This year, the raffle will benefit the Grace Guest House, the soon to be opened hospitality house for Mercy Hospital.

The Mitten Tree will be set up from Thanksgiving through early January with donations going to Friends of the Night People and the OLV and MCCC primary care centers. If your department will be participating in the **Adopt-A-Family** program to help associates at Christmas, please contact Melissa Zielinski in Spiritual Care at x12088.

Congratulations to our recent LOVE Award winners: **Ann Moran, RN**, of Maternal Child; **Steve Flinn, RN**, of 5 McAuley East Unit; and **Lee Anne Moretti, PA**.



LOVE Award winner Steve Flinn, RN, with SE Nurse Manager Judy Humes.