



Vol. 12 Issue 6, November/December 2021

# Dedication of Our Staff to Patient Care

*By Gene Schadler, L.C.S.W., Superintendent*



As the pandemic has continued through 2021, the effect on our world is felt by all of us. As the initial spike of COVID-19 shifted to the Delta variant, we notice the shift in supplies, labor shortage in all sectors including healthcare, vaccination rates, and the effects on mental health. These challenges can leave us overwhelmed and isolated. As mental health advocates there has been no better time than to practice what we share with others and take the opportunity for self-care. It can be helpful to make sure that we get enough exercise, sleep, and deep-breathing or relaxation methods to calm our mind/body. The importance of being

frivolous with time in play to rejuvenate our energy and connect with others is helpful at any age.

*“As mental health advocates, there has been no better time than to practice what we share with others and take the opportunity for self-care.”*

If we need to reach out for mental health support, please keep in mind that anyone can call Be Well by dialing 211 or text HOME to 741741 or state employees can use their Employee

Assistance Program benefits by calling 800-223-7723.

Each person has their own motivation or reason to work at ESH, but we have one collective purpose in providing Hope and Recovery to the people who come to ESH. To those dedicated staff members who have stayed with ESH during this period in our history, there are not enough words to convey my appreciation for your time and effort. Take care and thank you for all that you do for the common good.

# Veterans’ Memorial Gets Needed Update

The Veterans’ Memorial has been a restricted area over the past few years because of needed repairs, particularly the dilapidated fishing pier. FA Wilhelm Construction Company was contracted to tuckpoint and replace the pier with a new standing dock. This work has now been completed and was part of the campus improvement project, which included cutting down trees and placement of rip rack around the lake. A rededication of the Veterans’ Memorial is planned for Wednesday, November 10.

*Contractor Christopher Schmitt is seen working on the Veterans’ Memorial near the campus lakes.*



*Evansville State Hospital is a public behavioral health facility operated by the state of Indiana and one of six state psychiatric hospitals within the Family and Social Services Administration Division of Mental Health and Addiction.*

## Willy Wonka Sensory Fair

*Activities and games revolved around the the five senses of sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch*



Who was the first kid eliminated from the Chocolate Factory and how? That was one of the trivia teasers for the October patient event. Programming throughout the month took on the movie theme with several opportunities to watch “Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory”. Patients helped with making decorations and game props. Unique were the Wonka Vision TV’s for participants to reach in and feel small objects, trying to identify what they were. Hidden in the TV boxes were feathers, skinned grapes, wool/sheepskin fabric, a fake spider, a plastic frog, and an artificial autumn spray. A decoration contest had the units decked out with creative wall art. The Wonka gate, a flowing chocolate river, and movie characters such as Willy Wonka and the Oompa-Loompas were seen on the walls of one unit.

Morning activities began with an exercise march to the music of the

Oompa-Loompas. Patients went fishing for gold coins, and were sent on a scavenger hunt. Taste buds were tickled with the Jelly Belly bean boozled game. One participant hoped for strawberry-banana smoothie but received a jellybean with a dead fish flavor. A simple “Ew” was heard and the jellybean came out of the mouth and into the trash can. Refreshing root beer and orange floats were enjoyed in the Fizzy Lifting room where many played card and dice games, chess, and colored movie-themed pages.

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Everlasting gobstoppers adorned the tables in the dining room where patients were treated to a meal inspired by the three-course dinner chewing gum from the film: tomato soup, roast beef with gravy, mashed



*Eykamp String Quartet members (Graham Cullen, Michael Chu, Jia-Rong Gan, and Mark Hatlestad) pleased the auditory senses of those in attendance.*

potatoes, blueberry cheesecake, and lemon-lime Shasta drinks.

A special performance during the week was offered by the Eykamp String Quartet, members of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra. The classical music played included Halloween tunes such as the theme from “Dracula”, and an overture to Mozart’s “The Marriage of Figaro”. A good time was had by all!

## Welcome

Brandon Bertinotti, Rehab Therapy  
Patricia Bryan, Nursing Service  
Lyndia Hayes, Nursing Service  
Nancy Hill, Continuum of Care  
Christina James, Continuum of Care  
Janet King, Nursing Secretary  
Agnes Mattingly, Nursing Service  
Stephanie Sears, Nursing Service  
Clara Shawver, Nursing Service  
Jeremy Thorpe, Housekeeping

## Goodbye

Kim Blankenship, Nursing Serv  
Carolyn Covert, NS Secretary  
Kelsie Cutchin, Nursing Serv  
Jordan Edlin, Nursing Service  
Katrina Evans, Nursing Service  
Elizabeth Hamonko, Nursing Service



Daisjia Linton, Continuum of Care  
Christopher Litherland, Nursing  
Helen McWhirter, Nursing Service  
Dawn Mize, Nursing Service  
Amanda Oost, Nursing Service  
Mykelle Regacho, Nursing Service  
Arielle Sanderfur, Nursing Service  
Menchie Sarabia-Kamp, Nursing Service



## Generosity & Love Seen This Christmas

With the holiday planning now in full swing, many of our dedicated volunteers are responding with generosity and love. The drop off zone in the hospital foyer consists of several wheeled bucket carts for donations that will be accepted through the first week of December. Wish lists were sent out to community

sponsors to fill specific gift items. These gifts are due by Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> to give plenty of time for processing and wrapping. If you would like a wish list, please contact Theresa at 812-469-6800, ext. 4972. The gift opening parties are being planned and will occur December 13-

16 with a special holiday Sunday celebration on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to assist with the Christmas Gift Lift Program or need more information, contact Community Services.

## Requested Popular Gift Items

*Drop off gift items in the "no-contact" delivery zone by December 3 (main lobby entrance foyer)*



- T-shirts, short and long sleeved (adult S-XL, plus sizes)
- Fun novelty shirts (themes of sports, music, movies, positive affirmations, logos, etc.)
- Flannel shirts
- Dress or casual shirts
- Novelty sweatshirts (adult S-XL, plus sizes)
- Hoodie sweatshirts
- Zip up sweatshirt jackets
- Casual slacks
- Blue jeans
- Sweatpants (adult S-XL, plus sizes)
- Athletic pants, elastic waist
- Pajamas (adult S-XL, plus sizes)
- Underwear (adult S-XL, plus sizes)
- Socks (crew, ankle cut)
- Baseball caps, must be Velcro or snap back plastic – no metal fasteners
- Fleece throws
- Watches (easy read preferred)
- 2022 Calendars
- Regular playing cards
- Uno & Skip-Bo card games
- Word Search puzzle books
- Stationery sets/postage stamps
- Adult coloring books
- Body lotions
- Body wash
- Body spray/perfume (plastic bottles or aerosol cans)
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Mousse and styling gels for men and women
- Ethnic hair products
- Lip balm
- Laundry detergent
- Walmart gift cards
- Vanilla Visa pre-paid gift cards
- Amazon gift cards
- New and gently used holiday gift bags (small & medium sizes)

## SECC Campaign Supports Local Charities

*94 employees pledge over \$9,000 to non-profit organizations*



The FSSA video game theme was embraced by Medical Support staff who portrayed Pac-man with colored balloon ghosts. Pictured from left to right are employees Carol Irick, Jodi Yarbrough, Brenda Plump, and Donna West.



Guess Who? Why it's Kathy Barnett, Nursing Service!



Kyle Scheller of Tri State Food Bank loads the 100+ food items collected by employees.

The annual campaign to support charities in our community and all over the world kicked off in September and ran through November 5. Over \$361 was gathered through special events including candy, bread, and brownie sales. SECC activities also included a trivia contest and baby picture matching game. Staff wore charity tees on Fridays to show support. Collections of food, youth clothing and hygiene

products, and pet treats and supplies were collected during the campaign and distributed to local agencies – Tri State Food Bank, Borrowed Hearts, and It Takes a Village.

FSSA's Nintendo theme was embraced with a Mario Kart Race of new contributors. By the end of the campaign, 94 employees had pledged over \$9,000 to their favorite charities.

This year's SECC campaign committee consisted of Kristen Blikken, Tiffany Spidell, Sarah Rush, Heather Wickstrom, Michelle Martin, Lori Ellerbrook, Buff Wallace-Fallen, Theresa Woerz, Angie Paul, and Janetta Skelton.

