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Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation



MRA

CUTTING-EDGE **STROKE CARE**



POWER OF RED — PAINT NIGHT

February 1, 2018 | 6:00 – 8:00 pm Sheraton Fairplex Hotel \$60 Dinner | \$100 Power of Red Members

24TH ANNUAL HEARTBEAT GALA

March 3, 2018 Ontario DoubleTree Hotel \$225 per person



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> Featured on the cover: Maria Gamboa Stroke Patient

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chairperson's Message	2
Remembering Beverly Lewis	3
The Most Advanced Stroke Care in the Region	4
Never Give Up	6
A Life Saved	8
Cardiac Intensive Care Unit Receives National Recognition	11
Dancing to the Power of Red	12
Increasing Stroke Awareness	14
PVHMC Recognized for Exceptional Care	16
PVHMC Appreciates Our Emergency Medical Service Partners	17
What You Should Know About Lymphoma	18
Roadies Give Back	21
Cancer Survivors Rejoice and Reconnect	22
PVHMC Leads Southern California in Women's Care Excellence	24
PVHMC Receives Patient Excellence Award for Second Consecutive Year	25
New Hospital-Wide Electronic Record System	26
PVHMC Auxiliary Celebrates 80 Years of Service	27
PVHMC Physicians Honored on Doctors' Day	28
Celebrating 20 Years	32
Ongoing Classes and Programs 2017	34
The Importance of Having a Will	36
Community Donates a Record \$120,000 at PVHMC Wine Tasting Event	38
The Gift of Time	40
Nursing Scholarship Recipient Feels Blessed	42
Do You Have a Guardian Angel?	44
Our Generous Donors	46
PVHMC Helipad is Now Open	50

CHAIRPERSON'S message

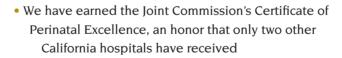
s a perinatologist and Director of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC), I could not be more proud of the care provided at our Womens Center, which is rated by Healthgrades as one of the best facilities in the country for prenatal and maternal care.

In the 25 years since it opened, the Women's Center has become the second largest birthing center in California, with 600-700 deliveries every month. With the dedication and passion of our caregivers and the steadfast support of our community, we've made it an extraordinary place for women to deliver their babies.

In July, we became the only hospital women's center in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties to be recognized with three Healthgrades Excellence Awards and four 5-Star honors (see article on the adjacent page).

We're also:

- The first Hospital in Los Angeles County to offer the Cuddle Cot, which allows women more time to grieve their stillborn babies (see article on page 41)
- Providing the innovative NicView camera system to let parents of babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit see their baby from anywhere, any time
- Offering maternal-fetal transport services, including air transports, for women who need high risk care for pregnancy-related complications
- The only Hospital in California and one of the first in the nation to implement a training program for obstetric emergencies that has been proven to save lives and enhance clinical skills
- The only Hospital in the region that supplies influenza vaccines free of charge to obstetricians in the community so that pregnant women have free, easy access to flu vaccines



These achievements, and so many others, are possible only when we work in partnership with our community. Together, we're making a difference.

I could not be more thankful to our community, whose generous donations have made it possible for us to provide truly exceptional services locally. Women do not have to travel outside their community to receive state of the art care for themselves and their babies.

For more information on PVHMC Foundation, please visit pvhmc.org.



Dr. M. Hellen Rodriguez



MEDICAL CENTER

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REMEMBERING

BEVERLY LEWIS







he legacy of Beverly Lewis is evident every day at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC).

Patients, Associates, Physicians, Volunteers and Board Members all bear witness to the endless miracles of healing that occur at the Hospital thanks to the generosity of Beverly and her late husband Robert.

Beverly passed away on October 20, 2017 in Newport Beach at the age of 90. But the passion and dedication she and Robert had for PVHMC will forever be remembered.

Their belief in PVHMC's mission moved them to give back to the Hospital and the community for more than 30 years. It was Beverly who suggested the family donate to the Hospital's vision for what is now The Robert & Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center. Beverly was also a major contributor to the annual Celebrating With Style fashion show for cancer patients. And her initial gift to purchase the latest 3D Mammography Tomosynthesis technology inspired others to do the same, so that now every woman receives this state-of-the-art screening without having to ask for it. In 2013, Beverly made another major gift to the Hospital, enabling the Robert and Beverly Lewis Outpatient Pavilion to become a reality.

Through the years, Beverly also dedicated her time and energy to serving on the Foundation Board, as did her husband. Her spirit and commitment to the Hospital were always an inspiration to others.

"Beverly said many times that she and Bob felt a close sense of allegiance to the Hospital and hoped to help people in all segments of society," said Jim Dale, Vice President of Development at PVHMC. "Giving to the Hospital and its patients gave her great joy, and we are blessed by her unparalleled generosity." ●

To make a gift in remembrance of Beverly Lewis, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659.



HEART & VASCULAR CARE

The Most Advanced Stroke Care in the Region

To make a gift in support of the Stead Heart and Vascular Center at PVHMC, please use the enclosed envelope or contact Glenda Ferguson at 909.865.9659, glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org or James Dale at 909.469.9408, james.dale@pvhmc.org.



omona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) is poised to become one of the very few hospitals in California – and the only one in its service area – to provide the most advanced care to those suffering the sudden, life-changing effects of stroke.

Only 17 hospitals in the state, and just nine in Southern California, are certified as Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Centers by The Joint Commission.

"It's the highest level of care available," said Deborah Keasler, RN, Director of the Stead Heart & Vascular Center. "It means you provide cutting-edge neurosurgery, neurointerventional acute care, neurology, rehabilitation, community and staff education, and research to improve stroke outcomes. PVHMC provides all of these."

PVHMC expects to earn certification as an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center by early 2018. But it's already surpassing some statewide averages for stroke care excellence.

"The gold standard of care for most stroke patients, whose stroke is caused by a blood clot, is to administer clot-busting medication within 60 minutes of the patient's arrival at the Hospital," Deborah explained. "In 2016, PVHMC gave more than 90 percent of patients this medication within the 60 minutes, and only 81.9 percent of patients at all California hospitals received the medication within this timeframe."

PVHMC also closely follows patients for a year after their stroke as our timely and aggressive treatment has primed the brain for recovery. The Modified Rankin Scale (mRS) is the most widely used measure of functional capacity following a stroke. A mRS score of 0 means the patient has no disability. A 5 on the scale means the patient is bedridden, with severe disability that requires constant nursing care. In 2015, the most recent year with complete data, 75 percent of PVHMC stroke patients scored between 0 - 2 on the scale – meaning that one year after treatment they had only slight to moderate disabilities and could live independently.

"It's been our goal all along to provide this level of service to our region," Deborah said. "We've been preparing to become an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center from the first day we became a Primary Stroke Center in 2010."

"We've continued to build and meet the rigorous clinical and organizational requirements to become an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center," said Bhupat Desai, MD, Medical Director of PVHMC's stroke program. "We're among an elite group of hospitals that are capable of treating the most complex stroke conditions."



NEVER GIVE UP

he moment Virginia Elnahass heard her father's frightened voice on the phone, she knew it was an emergency.

"He told me there was something wrong with my mom," Virginia said. "For my dad to be afraid, I knew it was serious. I didn't even let him finish his sentence before I hung up and called 911."

By the time Virginia got to her parents' home in La Puente, paramedics had already rushed her mother, Maria Gamboa, to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC).

"At the Hospital, they told us she had suffered a stroke," Virginia said. With stroke, receiving fast medical attention is crucial to survival and a good recovery. But no one knew exactly when Maria's stroke had occurred.

"It was a 'wake-up' stroke," explained PVHMC interventional neurologist Nazli Janjua, MD. "The last time anyone had seen Maria in a normal state was the night before. The stroke could have been going on for hours."

Maria had slept in the guest room, feeling sick and not wanting to disturb her husband, Armando. He found her on the floor the next morning, partially paralyzed and barely able to talk.

When Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedic Michael Noriega arrived, he knew immediately it was a stroke and that time was of the essence. Yet when dispatch gave him a choice of two hospitals, he chose PVHMC over the one that was slightly closer.

"I'm familiar with Pomona from taking other patients there," he said. "I knew the stroke team would be waiting, and that she would get rapid intervention."



After an emergency MRI, Maria was sped to the Hospital's state-of-the-art Neuro-Interventional Lab, where Dr. Janjua used thrombectomy, an advanced, minimally invasive neurosurgical technique, to remove the clot. Guided by digital subtraction angiography that mapped Maria's cerebral vasculature (brain), Dr. Janjua threaded a catheter from an artery in Maria's leg up through her neck and into the blood vessels of her brain to the precise location of the blockage. Then she eased a device up through the catheter to suction out the clot, restoring blood flow.

"Her improvement was immediate, while she was still on the table," Dr. Janjua said. But that night, while being monitored by nurses in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Maria suffered another life-threatening stroke – in exactly the same spot as the first.

"For this to happen is very rare," said Dr. Janjua, who rushed back to the Hospital to perform a second thrombectomy.

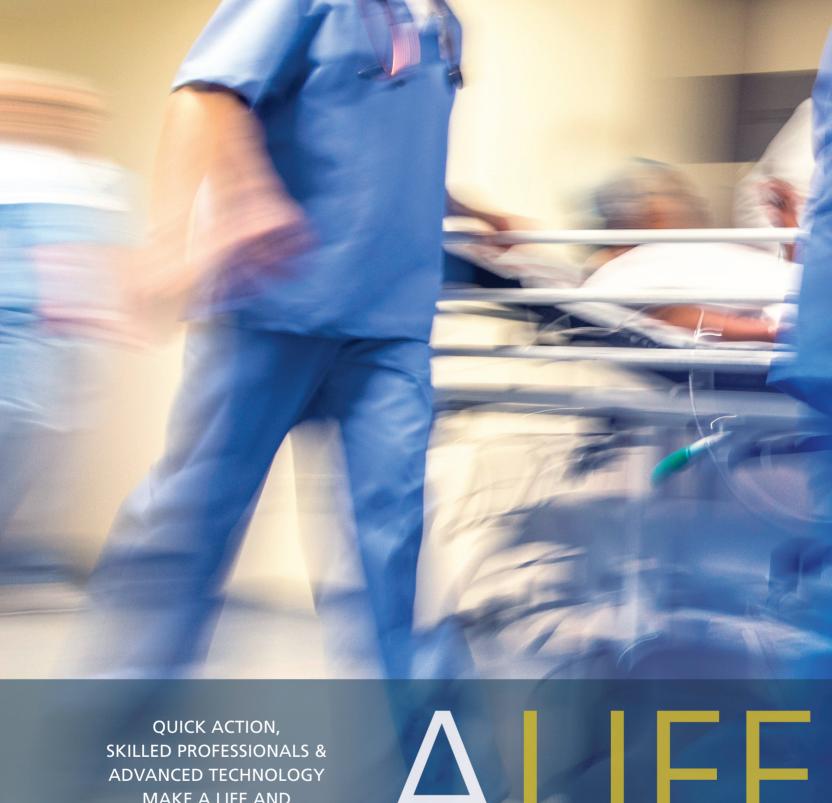
"With stroke, a clot forms in the body and travels to a blood vessel in the brain. For a clot to travel randomly to the same blood vessel twice within such a short period of time is pretty unusual."

Despite additional damage from the second stroke, today Maria is doing well. After rehabilitation and eight months of therapy, she is back to knitting, reading, doing puzzles and one of her favorite activities, taking walks in the park with her daughter and grandson.

"She still needs a cane and sometimes a walker," Virginia said. "But she's come a long way. My family is very impressed with the care my mom received at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Everyone was very attentive and the nurses were very understanding and comforting to our family. They let us visit her in the ICU whenever we wanted and stay as long as we wanted. And Dr. Janjua was our miracle doctor. We had nothing but a great experience there."

"What Maria's story exemplifies is that you never give up," Dr. Janjua said. "It would have been easy to say 'well, the stroke happened last night and with so much time elapsed, there's not much we can do.' In fact, the risk sometimes does outweigh the benefit with thrombectomy. But in Maria's case, everyone, from the paramedics responding to the 911 call, to the nurses who were on top of everything and the support teams, worked hard to give her a good outcome. To me, she is a reminder that you never give up and you give everybody 110 percent."

To make a gift in support of the Stead Heart and Vascular Center at PVHMC, please use the enclosed envelope or contact Glenda Ferguson at 909.865.9659, glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org or James Dale at 909.469.9408, james.dale@pvhmc.org.



MAKE A LIFE AND **DEATH DIFFERENCE** FE



hen Fred Faught of LaVerne read that U.S. News & World Report ranked Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) as one of the best Hospitals in Los Angeles, he told his wife Joanne to make sure he went there if anything ever happened to him.

On May 24, 2017, something did.

Just after going to bed, Fred, 61, suffered a sudden cardiac arrest. Unlike a heart attack, in which blood flow to a portion of the heart is blocked, cardiac arrest is a malfunction of the heart's electrical system, which causes the heart to suddenly and silently stop beating. Death can occur within minutes. Thankfully, Joanne noticed Fred's condition almost immediately and paramedics arrived fast.

"The paramedics told me later that when they got to my house I was dead," Fred said. "I had no pulse, and was completely unresponsive." But after more than 200 chest compressions and seven defibrillator shocks, Fred's heart began to beat again and he was rushed to PVHMC.

In the Emergency Department, a "Polar Alert" was called. A specially trained cardiac team responded and began following a detailed protocol to cool Fred's body from the inside out, using a specialized therapy called Targeted Temperature Management (TTM). TTM has been shown to save lives while minimizing the potential long-term complications of cardiac arrest.

"A cardiac arrest stops all blood flow to the brain and cells begin to die," explained Narid Ali Eltahir, MD. "When the patient is resuscitated and blood flow is reestablished, toxic materials that have built up in the blood can cause brain damage. There is also an inflammatory response that can cause further neurologic injury. TTM counteracts many of these destructive brain mechanisms."

SAVED (

CICU

In the Hospital's Cardiac Catheterization Lab, Interventional Cardiologist Guarav Parikh, MD inserted a cooling catheter into Fred's femoral vein while Dr. Eltahir inserted another catheter into his artery to monitor blood pressure. A probe was also inserted to measure his internal temperature. Fred was then moved to the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU), where chilled saline solution was circulated through the catheter in his vein, using a special machine. As Fred's blood flowed over the cold catheter, his core body temperature quickly dropped to 33 degrees Celsius (91 degrees Fahrenheit).

On a ventilator, heavily medicated and closely monitored by the Hospital's highly experienced CICU team, Fred was kept in a state of induced hypothermia for 24 hours. His family could only watch and wait.

"They told us not to talk because they didn't want any stimulation going to his brain," said Fred's wife Joanne. "They wanted him very quiet so his body could rest. So my three adult children and I quietly stood by and prayed. Of course I was terrified but I knew we'd gone to the right place and were in good hands."

"Not being able to talk to him or touch him was hard," said Fred's daughter, Amanda. "But the nurses were absolutely amazing and so compassionate. That made it easier for us."

Then, very slowly, Fred's body was rewarmed. Finally, he opened his eyes and recognized his family. "I was very surprised to wake up in the hospital," Fred said. "I didn't remember anything that had happened."

He also doesn't remember suffering another cardiac arrest while still in the CICU. This time, he was treated without TTM. To treat the abnormal heart rhythm that was causing his cardiac events, he had surgery to receive a pacemaker and an automatic implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (AICD). The two devices now work together to keep Fred's heart beating smoothly.

Today, Fred is finishing cardiac rehabilitation and has made a complete recovery, with no brain or long-term physical damage.

"I don't have any restrictions or limitations on what I can do," he said. "I walked about four miles a day before my cardiac arrest and I'm back up to that now. I'm very lucky. Only about two people out of a hundred survive what I went through. I'm so grateful to the paramedics and to the caregivers at PVHMC for what they've done and how well they treated my family."

"We are so blessed," said Joanne. "The staff at the Hospital is wonderful. This is what they're trained for and they just did a remarkable job. They gave me great relief."

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my family.

FRED FAUGHT, 61 CARDIAC INTENSIVE CARE UNIT PATIENT

To make a gift to support the ongoing excellent care PVHMC provides, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.

Fred Faught surrounded by the CICU team



CARDIAC INTENSIVE CARE UNIT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

omona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU) has received national recognition for providing exceptional patient care and nursing excellence.

In June 2017, the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) honored the CICU with a silver-level Beacon Award for Excellence.

"The Beacon Award for Excellence recognizes caregivers in stellar units whose consistent and systematic approach to evidence-based care optimizes patient outcomes," said AACN President Clareen Wiencek, RN, PhD, ACNP, ACHPN. "Units that receive this national recognition serve as role models to others on their journey to excellent patient and family care."

PVHMC's CICU earned the award by meeting rigorous criteria for:

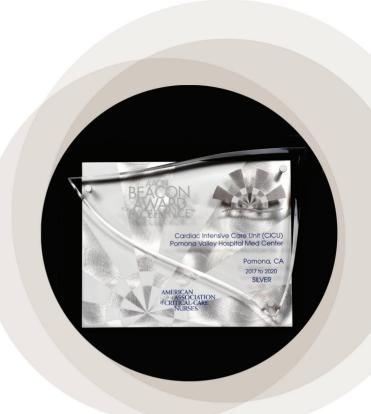
- Leadership Structures and Systems
- Appropriate Staffing and Staff Engagement
- Effective Communication, Knowledge Management, Learning and Development
- Evidence-Based Practice and Processes
- Outcome Measurement

"I'm so proud of our Nurses for earning this achievement," said Darlene Scafiddi, RN, Vice President of Patient Care Services. "They care for patients with compassion and an uncompromising dedication to quality."

"Achieving this award was a milestone for us," said Myrna (Mimi) Sarmiento, RN, Nurse Manager of the CICU. "It speaks to our quality care, excellent outcomes and good processes. Our Nurses were absolutely elated when we received this award. Patients let them know all the time what great care they provide and we have multiple other awards hanging on our wall. Receiving this award was so exciting because it was a validation of what our Nurses already know – that they're providing exceptional care."

To learn more about PVHMC's Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, visit pvhmc.org/#Rehabilitation. For more information on the Beacon Award for Excellence, visit www.aacn.org/beacon.

To make a gift in support of the CICU, contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.



Receiving this
award was so
exciting because it
was a validation of
what our Nurses
already know – that
they're providing
exceptional care.



MYRNA (MIMI) SARMIENTO, RN NURSE MANAGER OF THE CICU



Dancing is not only a fun way to exercise; it has significant heart-health benefits. In 2016, Australian researchers found that people over 40 who dance cut their risk of dying from cardiovascular disease nearly in half. So it's only fitting that the theme of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) 10th annual Power of Red Dinner was "Dancing for Your Heart."

Held on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at the Fairplex Conference Center, the evening event raised awareness and funding for PVHMC's Stead Heart for Women, a program focused on preventing heart disease in women.

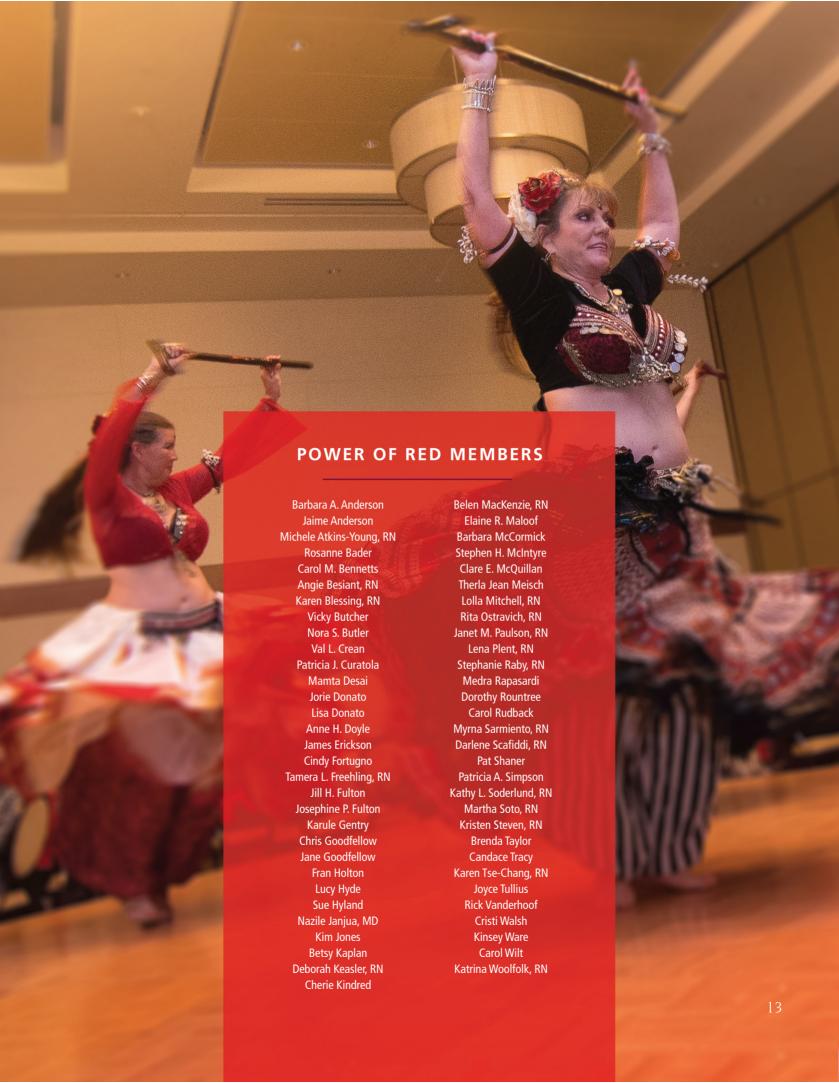
After enjoying a dinner of delicious heart-healthy cuisine, followed by a wonderful low-fat dessert donated by Burt & Rockies Ice Cream of Claremont, guests – most wearing red – were treated to dance demonstrations. Performers of all ages and backgrounds, who work either at PVHMC, the Claremont Club or Tribal Beats Studio, wowed the audience. From Zumba to Flamenco, tap and belly dancing, the women showed how dance can be an alternative to traditional gym workouts. With laughter and smiles, guests joined in, interacting with the dancers in an evening of fun.

"It was a huge success," said event organizer Peggy Mata, Office Coordinator at the Stead Heart & Vascular Center. "After this event, I started tap dancing with another co-worker, and I love it! I'm a mom of four and a grandmother of six. It just goes to show it's never too late to try something new!"

The Power of Red dinner, hosted annually by PVHMC Foundation, supports the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women campaign, which provides education on heart disease in women. All proceeds benefit the Stead Heart & Vascular Center's Stead Heart for Women, which provides information on risk factors, lifestyle modification, diet, exercise and support groups.

To learn more about the Power of Red or becoming a Power of Red Circle member, visit pvhmc.org. To make a gift toward the Stead Heart & Vascular Center, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909-865-9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.





At this year's Stroke Awareness Day, held on Saturday, May 6, 2017, stroke survivors, families, caregivers and the community came together at Pitzer Auditorium to celebrate and learn.

rom 9 a.m. to noon, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) knowledgeable and dedicated stroke team offered blood pressure screenings and stroke risk assessments and showcased the latest stroke diagnostic technology and adaptive equipment. They also provided information on recognizing the signs and symptoms of stroke; when to activate 911; stroke risk factors; post-stroke recovery management information; support and resources for caregivers; after stroke care programs; and nutrition. Light refreshments were served.

PVHMC holds the event each year to help reduce the prevalence of stroke, the fifth-largest cause of death in the United States and the top cause of serious long-term disability.

The theme of this year's event was BE FAST, the new acronym to help people remember the warning signs of stroke.

B=BALANCE: Is there a sudden loss of balance?

E=EYES: Is there a sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes?

F=FACE: Does the person's face look uneven? Is one side drooping?

A=ARM: Does one arm drift down when you ask the person to raise both arms?

S=SPEECH: Does their speech sound strange or slurred?

T=TIME: When someone is having a stroke, brain cells die every second. Call 911 immediately if you suspect stroke.

A highlight of the event was celebrating PVHMC stroke month honoree Maria Gamboa and the paramedic who helped save her life (read Maria's story on page 4).

"Stroke is a medical emergency and helping someone get the right treatment fast can save their life and reduce the devastation that stroke can bring," said PVHMC Stroke Program Manager Karen Tse-Chang. "If we help just one person recognize stroke symptoms and act quickly, we've made a difference."

For more information on stroke and PVHMC's advanced stroke treatments, visit pvhmc.org. To make a gift toward the Stead Heart & Vascular Center, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org or call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.



HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AT OUR STROKE AWARENESS EVENT



PVHMC recognized for EXCEPTIONAL CARE



omona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has received two awards from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association that recognize the Hospital's exceptional quality in stroke and heart failure care.

The Get With The Guidelines® Heart Failure Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award rewards PVHMC's efforts in speeding recovery and reducing hospital admissions for heart failure patients. It's the seventh year in a row the Hospital has won the award.

The Get With The Guidelines® Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award with Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Elite Plus honors the Hospital's quality in diagnosing and treating stroke patients; especially in quickly providing clot-busting medications that lessen the chance of death or permanent disability.

The awards mean PVHMC patients are receiving the most appropriate stroke and heart failure treatments, according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines developed using the latest scientific evidence.

That's crucial at a time when 50 percent of heart failure patients in the United States die within five years and stroke is the fifth leading cause of death.

"We're proud to be honored for our ongoing commitment to patient excellence," said Debbie Keasler, RN, Director of the Stead Heart & Vascular Center.

"PVHMC is dedicated to improving quality of care for stroke and heart failure patients," said Richard E. Yochum, FACHE, President/CEO. "The recognition from the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association further reinforces our teams' hard work."

"We're pleased to recognize PVHMC for its commitment to stroke and heart failure care," said Paul Heidenreich, MD, National Chairman of the Get With The Guidelines® Steering Committee and Professor of Medicine at Stanford University. "Research has shown there are benefits to patients who are treated at hospitals that have adopted the Get With The Guidelines® program."

For more information on the Stead Heart & Vascular Center's dedication to excellence, visit pvhmc.org. To make a gift toward the Stead Heart & Vascular Center, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org or call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.



The recognition from the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association further reinforces our teams' hard work.



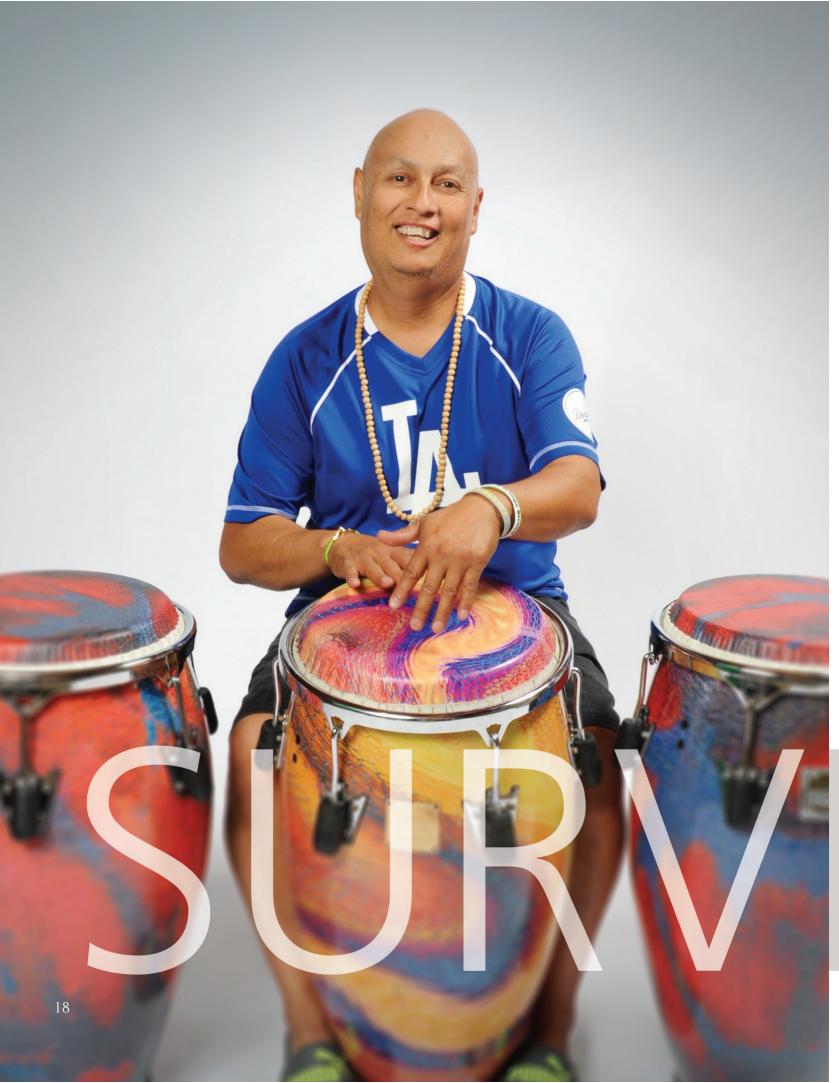
RICHARD E. YOCHUM, FACHE PRESIDENT/CEO

PVHMC appreciates our EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PARTNERS

WE LOVE
HONORING OUR
EMS PARTNERS.
THIS YEAR'S BBQ
WAS HELD ON
JUNE 28TH.



Laurie Sepke, RN, Prehospital Care Coordinator, surrounded by our EMS partners.





LYMPHOMA

Martin Ortega and his doctors had no idea what was wrong with him. For weeks, the 52-year-old musician, who lives in Chino with his wife Sandra, visited doctors and emergency rooms, but nothing helped.

Martin was given tests and progressively stronger antibiotics, and he'd feel better briefly. But the painful swelling on both sides of his neck kept getting bigger. It got to the point where he couldn't breathe while lying flat and didn't sleep well. He survived on Cup-A-Soup and noodles because it was hard to chew or swallow.

When Martin came to the Emergency Department at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) in March of 2017, he couldn't turn his neck. A CT scan of his neck and a biopsy of a lymph node in his neck revealed that Martin had non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a type of blood cancer.

"His disease was growing so fast that I started treatment the next day," said PVHMC hematologist-oncologist Preeti Chaudhary, MD. "But by early July 2017, after six cycles of chemotherapy, he was cancer free."

Martin's recovery was typical, said Dr. Chaudhary. "Lymphomas can be fast-growing but most types are very responsive to treatment. Most of the time they melt away with chemotherapy." But the flip side is that without treatment, life expectancy with aggressive lymphomas can be just months.

What is lymphoma? Both major categories of the disease, Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, begin inside the lymph nodes in a type of white blood cell called lymphocytes, which help the body fight off infections and other diseases. (Leukemia, another cancer that targets white blood cells, begins in the blood-forming cells inside bone marrow, and progresses quite differently.)

Dr. Chaudhary explained that Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma each affect a different kind of lymphocyte. They grow at different rates and respond differently to treatment. Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, which Martin had, is the more common type and is the seventh most diagnosed cancer, according to the National Cancer Institute and Lymphoma Research Foundation.

Continued on page 20



The day after my first chemotherapy treatment, my pain went away and the swelling started going down. From the security guard and the lady at the front desk to all the doctors and nurses, I felt nothing but love and compassion



MARTIN ORTEGA CANCER PATIENT

LYMPHOMA Continued from page 19

"Because the initial symptoms of lymphoma can be similar to a cold or flu – lack of energy, unexplained fever, swollen glands, coughs, night sweats – the diagnosis is sometimes missed or delayed," Dr. Chaudhary said. But lymphomas don't remain "silent" for long.

How lymphoma affects your body depends on the type of disease but, if untreated, lymphoma can spread to almost any part of the body and can ultimately destroy organs.

"The good news is that we expect 70 percent of patients will be cured, provided they seek intervention early," Dr. Chaudhary said. "And research is focusing on how to improve results for the remaining 30 percent."

One of the newest treatments is immunotherapy, which the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved for lymphoma in May 2016 (immunotherapy is already approved for treatment of metastatic melanoma, lung cancer and kidney cancer).

"We believe that every day our immune system is eliminating cells that could become cancer," Dr. Chaudhary explained. "But cancer confuses the immune system and evades it. Our immune system fails to recognize the abnormal cell. Immunotherapy 'wakes up' our immune system with medication so that it will fight the cancer."

Immunotherapy is available at PVHMC for patients whose lymphomas do not respond to chemotherapy and radiation.

Martin Ortega's cancer did respond, and so well that he and his band were able to play during PVHMC's Cancer Survivors Day celebration on June 6, 2017.

"And now I'm back to normal," he said. "The day after my first chemotherapy treatment, my pain went away and the swelling started going down. I'm so glad I was taken care of at Pomona Valley Hospital and The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center. From the security guard and the lady at the front desk to all the doctors and nurses, I felt nothing but love and compassion."

For more information on how you can support The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation



Roadies GIVE BACK

Thank you so much to the kind and generous quilters from the Road to California Quilters Conference & Showcase. As part of a recent "Roadies Give Back" charity quilt project, they handmade and donated more than 40 quilts to cancer patients at The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center.



Cancer survivors and their loved ones came together at The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center to rejoice, reconnect and be recognized at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) annual National Cancer Survivors Day celebration, on June 6, 2017.

s a live band – with lymphoma patient Martin Ortega (see story on page 18) – played a mix of oldies, Latin and R&B music, men, women and families socialized, enjoyed refreshments and waited eagerly for their turn in the popular photo booth.

Many of them also attended the day's special workshop, "Surviving and Thriving Through Art Therapy." During the session, Creative Journal Expressive Arts Consultant Elizabeth Preston encouraged participants to re-embrace life and health through creative journaling.

"Very often the cancer journey is so demoralizing that people don't continue to take care of themselves afterward," Elizabeth explained. "They won't grab onto life again or work at a healthy lifestyle. In the workshop, I taught them how to express themselves through creative journaling, which uses both hands. Writing with the non-dominant hand activates centers of your brain you don't usually use and lets you access feelings you can't access any other way. I encouraged workshop participants to examine how they're using their time and what they value. Then they used their non-dominant hand to draw a picture of what they want to spend more time on – having coffee with a friend or going to the beach, for example."

"The creative journaling technique is a powerful way to reduce stress, improve mindfulness and maintain emotional equilibrium," Elizabeth said. "It's almost like you become your own counselor."

That's important, said Merlie Baello, RN, Manager of Medical Oncology, because the effects of cancer don't always end when treatment does. Most cancer survivors face ongoing physical, emotional and even social challenges as a result of their disease.

"I think Cancer Survivors Day at PVHMC is critical," said Elizabeth, who has participated in three of them, and who also conducts free Integrated Wellness workshops at the Cancer Care Center twice a month. "What these men and women have been through and their valiant, courageous struggle needs to be recognized every single year."

To learn more about The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center, visit pvhmc.org.

To make a gift toward The Cancer Care Center, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.



CANCER SURVIVORS

REJOICEANDRECONNECT



23

PVHMC LEADS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN WOMEN'S CARE EXCELLENCE

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has once more demonstrated that it is the place to go for everything from maternity to complete women's care.

t's the *only* Hospital in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties to receive all three 2017 Women's Care Five-Star Excellence Awards from Healthgrades, along with four 5-Star honors. This places PVHMC in the top 5 percent of all hospitals nationwide that Healthgrades evaluated for Obstetrics/Gynecology and Labor/Delivery care quality, and in the top 10 percent of those evaluated for Gynecologic Surgery.

Healthgrades' awards and ratings help women understand a hospital's clinical performance so they can make informed decisions about where to seek treatment for the best possible outcomes. Healthgrades examined PVHMC's quality in vaginal and C-section deliveries, overall obstetrics/gynecology care, hysterectomies, gynecologic surgeries and uro-gynecologic surgeries and procedures.

Between 2013 and 2015, patients treated in hospitals receiving Healthgrades' Labor/ Delivery Excellence Award had a 53.8 percent lower risk of experiencing a complication while in the hospital. Patients treated in a hospital receiving the Gynecologic Surgery Excellence Award had a 47.6 percent lower risk. And those treated in a hospital receiving the Obstetrics/Gynecology Excellence Award had a 41.8 percent lower risk of complications while in the hospital.

"Hospitals that have achieved the Healthgrades 2017 Excellence Awards have proven that they deliver high-quality care to their patients," said Healthgrades' Chief Medical Officer, Brad Bowman, MD. "Health systems that have achieved this particular distinction stand out among their peers."

"As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of our Women's Center, the Healthgrades recognition demonstrates our commitment to provide state-of-the-art care to the women in the region," said Richard E. Yochum, FACHE, PVHMC President/CEO. "We have invested in both the physical and human resources necessary to become a high-performing Hospital."

For more information about Women's Services at PVHMC, visit www.pvhmc.org/#About_WCC_Services. For more information about the Healthgrades Women's Care Five-Star Excellence Awards, visit Healthgrades.com/quality.

To make a gift supporting Women's Services at PVHMC, contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.

















POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

PVHMC RECEIVES PATIENT SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARD for SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR



AROUND the HOSPITAL

We are proud that the
Healthcare Public Relations
Marketing Association
acknowledged the HealthCares
2016 magazines with a Bronze
Golden Advocate Award in the
Magazine category!

or the second year in a row, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has received the Healthgrades Patient Safety Excellence Award, honoring the Hospital's exceptional performance in preventing serious and potentially avoidable complications for hospitalized patients. The award rates PVHMC among the top 10 percent of all hospitals nationwide.

"Patient safety is our top priority," said Richard E. Yochum, FACHE, President/CEO. "This award is a testament to our commitment to provide the highest quality healthcare to the community."

Healthgrades, the leading online resource for comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals, examined PVHMC's performance in 13 patient safety areas, including surgical complications and hospital-acquired infections. According to Healthgrades, patients treated in hospitals that have received the Patient Safety Excellence Award are 40 to 50 percent less likely to experience problems while in the hospital. •

For more information about patient safety at PVHMC, visit pvhmc.org/#Patient_Safety. For more information about the Healthgrades Patient Safety Awards, visit Healthgrades.com/quality.

HOSPITAL-WIDE ELECTRONIC RECORD SYSTEM

omona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has long used electronic medical records (EMRs) so our clinicians have access to the most up-to-date patient information and can provide the best care. Now, the Hospital is combining several EMR systems into one Hospital-wide platform that will improve quality, efficiency and care coordination even more.

The different EMR systems used in various areas of the Hospital, as well as our four community clinics, will now be merged into one, using Cerner Millennium, a leading EMR technology. No matter where the patient receives care, Physicians, Nurses and other healthcare professionals will be able to see all their most current health information at a glance.

An EMR is a digital version of a patient's paper chart and contains all of a patient's medical information, including medical history, laboratory and test results, radiology images, immunizations, medications and much more. With all of this information immediately available, caregivers can provide the best treatments quickly.

"We're confident that Cerner will smoothly integrate our different systems," said Kent Hoyos, PVHMC's Vice President of Information Technology/CIO. "It's all part of PVHMC's commitment to continuously provide the best technology for patient care."

The CareConnect 2.0 Steering Committee and Managers of the Cerner Implementation



PVHMC AUXILIARY CELEBRATES

80 Years of Service

ighty years ago, 24 community volunteers created a non-profit Auxiliary to benefit Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC), its patients and the community through volunteer service and fundraising. Since November 3, 1937, the PVHMC Auxiliary has raised more than \$5 million for the Hospital and provided more than two million Volunteer hours.

"Our Volunteers and Auxiliary members are often the first people to greet you when you enter our doors. They are an important part of this nationally recognized community Hospital," said Stacy Mittelstaedt, Director of PVHMC Volunteers. "Their dedication makes all the difference in our ability to deliver an excellent patient and family centered experience."

Since the Auxiliary's first projects of furnishing patient rooms, buying beds for the original on-site nursing school in the 1940s and raising funds to build PVHMC's first Pediatric wing in the 1950s, the Auxiliary has continued to support the needs of the Hospital. In 1998, it raised \$1 million to assist in the development of The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center and will soon be paying off its second \$1 million pledge towards the Robert and Beverly Lewis Outpatient Pavilion.

The Auxiliary raises funds through the Tender Touch Gift Shop, annual holiday fundraising events, memorials and donations. Each year, it receives requests for support that include educational materials, equipment and supplies. It also helps some of the families who need transportation to the Hospital, a car seat or even clothing for their newborn baby.

On November 8, 2017 PVHMC hosted a luncheon to celebrate the Auxiliary's rich history of service and recognize members for their support of the Hospital. Claremont resident Tony Spano received the Bill Case Honorary Award, which celebrates the contributions of male Auxiliary members. Spano, who is a PVHMC Volunteer, former President of the Auxiliary, Hospital Board Member and current Chairman of the Auxiliary's Sick Baby and Hospital Assistance Fund, was recognized for his 13 years of service.

In addition, La Verne resident Virginia Swarts received the Life of Service Award for providing outstanding customer service during her 32 years as a Volunteer and Auxilian. During her years of service, Swarts served as an Auxiliary Board Member and Chairperson for nine years. She was also the first Volunteer to be honored as Volunteer of the Year in 2005. Swarts celebrated her 96th birthday in 2017 and volunteers every week at PVHMC's main lobby information desk.

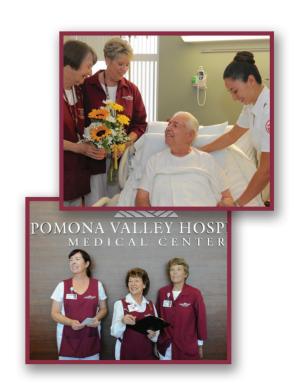
"The Auxiliary is not only a part of the rich history of our Hospital, but will a part of the future as well," Mittelstaedt said. "PVHMC is so fortunate to have this energetic, caring and engaged group of people volunteering on its behalf."

To learn how to get involved or donate to the PVHMC Auxiliary visit www.pvhmc.org.









PVHMC PHYSICIANS HONORED ON

DOCTORS' DAY

very year on Doctors' Day, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) recognizes each of its physicians for their unwavering commitment to saving patients' lives and improving the health of the community.

This year's event, held on Tuesday March 28, 2017, featured a golf and Caddyshack theme. While the 1980 movie played in the background, doctors practiced their hole-in-one shots on the putting green and enjoyed other games, winning prizes donated by many departments in the Hospital. They lunched on sushi and barbecued meats at tables with centerpieces sprouting golf clubs and tees among the flowers. And each doctor received a gift certificate to a local car wash.

PVHMC President/CEO Rich Yochum led a special presentation, honoring 17 physicians who joined the medical staff in the 1960s. Each received a beautiful crystal clock. Two of these physicians, Family Practice doctor Paul Orr, MD and Orthopedist William Hale, MD are still practicing today!

The Hospital also presented Guardian Angel awards to many physicians who were recognized by their patients, families and PVHMC Associates.

"It was an opportunity for the Hospital to recognize and honor the contributions doctors make at a community hospital," said Kenneth Nakamoto, MD, Vice President, Medical Staff Affairs, who helped plan the day's event. "We are appreciated every day, but just like Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day, this is one special day when we receive heartfelt recognition."

For information on honoring a PVHMC Doctor as a Guardian Angel, visit pvhmc.org. Click on "Giving and Support" and then "Make a Gift."

We are appreciated every day, but just like Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day, this is one special day when we receive heartfelt recognition.

KENNETH NAKAMOTO, MD, VICE PRESIDENT, MEDICAL STAFF AFFAIRS



DOCTORS' DAY GUARDIAN ANGELS



RANDY N. KARU, MD was recognized by Charles Saliba and Elizabeth Rimpau

HEATHER COFFIN, DO was recognized by Stephen McIntyre

> RYAN AGENA, DO was recognized by Mr. & Mrs. Richard O. Wood

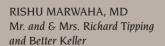




MUTHUSAMY MUTHIAH, MD was recognized by Marvin Pitts and Gilbert & Anna Borgquist

> MICHAEL DEANDA, MD was recognized by Mr. & Mrs. Richard O. Wood





GUARDIAN ANGELES NOT PICTURED:

SHAUNA S. McGINNIS, DO was recognized by Teresa Morishita

DUANE W. STYLES, MD was recognized by Frances Hern

ALBERT K. CHONG, MD was recognized by Blair & Nancy Maffris

RAMA R. THUMATI, MD was recognized by Mimi Sarmiento, Jim Burke, Susan Dowler and Darlene Scafiddi, RN, MSN

LIBIA WOHLERT, MD was recognized by Dennis Hommey

KAHADER K. ABOUNSAR, MD was recognized by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tipping

WILLIAM L. DISCEPOLO, MD was recognized by Marvin Pitts

SWARNA S. CHANDURI, MD was recognized by Budi & Siska Utama and Mary Ellen Dawson

MATTHEW U. JANSSEN, MD was recognized by Sylvia Steinberg

SRI G. GORTY, MD was recognized by Budi & Siska Utama and Glenda Ferguson

PAUL REISCH, MD was recognized by Budi & Siska Utama

JOHNSON LIGHTFOOTE, MD was recognized by Budi & Siska Utama

MAHIPAL SHAHM, MD was recognized by Budi & Siska Utama

A.MOHAN, MD was recognized by Budi & Siska Utama

GIRI R. TUMMURU, MD was recognized by the Vega Family

celebrating 20 YEARS

Primary care (sometimes called family medicine) is essential in any community; when people need a physician, their first stop is usually a primary care doctor's office or clinic. Yet 20 years ago, specialty physicians were the focus of most hospitals, said Darlene McPherson, PhD, FNP, Director of Operations at the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) Family Medicine Residency Program.

All that changed for PVHMC when the Family Medicine Residency Program was established in 1997, Darlene said.

"Once the Residency Program established itself in the community, there was a different level of respect for primary care medicine," she said. "It turned the whole mindset around."

In May 2017, PVHMC celebrated the Residency Program's 20th anniversary, with events that honored Physicians, Hospital Associates, and Residency Program staff.

"Everybody at the Hospital plays a role in helping train our residents, and we wanted to acknowledge that and celebrate with them," Darlene said.

Medical students become doctors once they graduate from medical school, but they must undergo three years of residency training and pass a licensing exam before they can practice on their own. In the PVHMC Residency Program, they see patients in the Hospital, physician offices and clinics under the watchful eye of experienced physician faculty.

According to Darlene, more than 108 physicians have graduated from the PVHMC Residency Program since it began, with about 34 percent staying to practice in the immediate community. The 20th anniversary celebrations highlighted the fact that many graduates either remain in the Pomona area or choose to practice in other underserved areas.

"Our program seeks out young doctors who want to work in this community or in similar communities, and who understands the culture of our patients and the healthcare barriers many of them experience," Darlene said. "That's become our standard."

To learn more about the PVHMC Family Medicine Residency Program, visit pvhmc.org.

Pictured, upper right: Susan Ugalde, Allan Cabral, MD, Sandra Marquez, Keith Kusunis, MD, and Fatima Salas

The PVHMC Residency Program held three events to celebrate its 20-year milestone:

- An open house for Hospital Associates and community Physicians. Held in Pitzer Auditorium, the fun party featured food, raffles, historical artifacts and booths that displayed different aspects of the Residency Program through the years.
 - A dinner gala for Physicians, held at the El Prado Golf Club in Chino
 - A special luncheon at Coco Palm Restaurant in Pomona for Residents and Associates in the Family Health Center in Pomona.



FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY TEAM

ONGOING CLASSES and programs | 2017

Women's and Children's Services

Some classes are available at our Chino Hills location. Registration is required for most classes. Call 909.865.9858, e-mail ferc@pvhmc.org or register online at https://resources.pvhmc.org/ceii_web/class/default.asp.

FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Maternity Orientations | Free

- Every Wednesday and every other Monday at 7 pm and one Saturday per month at 9 am
- Orientaciones en español disponibles dos veces al mes (Por favor llame para más detalles)

Childbirth Preparation Classes | \$80

- Five-week series (Mondays, 6:30 9 pm)
- Weekend Express (one Saturday & Sunday or two consecutive Sundays, 9 am 2 pm)
- One-day class (Thursday or Friday, 6-9 pm or Saturday, 1-4 pm)

Cesarean Birth Preparation | \$20 (Second Wednesday of every month, noon – 1:30 pm) **Baby Express** | \$40 (basics of baby care)

• Saturday class (once a month, 9 am – 3 pm)

Breastfeeding Class | **\$20** (one Thursday a month, 6:30 – 8:30 pm)

Pregnancy & Postpartum Stress Group | **Free** (Every first, third & fifth, when occurring, Tuesday, 12:30 – 2 pm. Held at Pomona Valley Health Center, 1770 N. Orange Grove, Suite 210)

This is an emotional support group for Prognant and New Money Lynch and Children provided

This is an emotional support group for Pregnant and New Moms. Lunch and Childcare provided. Call Sandra Marquez at 909.469.9490 for more information.



FOR NEW MOTHERS

Safety Seat Checkup | **Free** (once a month – call for date and time)

Lactation Center ∣ **Free** (Monday, Thursday & Friday, 9 am – noon; Tuesday & Wednesday, noon – 3:00 pm).

Walk-ins welcome. You must arrive 30 minutes before closing. Breastfeeding information line 909.623.6455.

FOR DADS OR DADS-TO-BE

Boot Camp for New Dads | **\$20** (one Saturday a month, 9 am – noon)

FOR CHILDREN

Big Brother Big Sister Class | \$10 (one Saturday a month, 10 – 11:30 am)

Safe Sitter Class | \$40 (two-day class). Call for date and time.



FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS/FAMILY/FRIENDS

CPR | **\$20** (one Saturday a month, 9 am – noon – this is a non-certified class)

FOR WOMEN

Every Woman's Journey | Free (monthly, in Chino Hills and Claremont)

This free program offers women timely topics on health and wellness.

To be added to our mailing list, please call 909.865.9858.



keeping you well informed

The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center

All programs are free and registration is not required (except for Look Good...Feel Better and for a wig fitting). Call 909.865.9907 for questions and to confirm meeting day/time.

FOR WOMEN

Breast Prosthesis Display (fourth Monday of each month, noon – 1:30 pm)

Look Good...Feel Better in conjunction with the American Cancer Society

(fourth Monday of each month, 10 am – noon). Pre-Registration is REQUIRED. Call 800.227.2345.

Wig Program (one free wig for women undergoing cancer therapy. Call 909.865.9907 to schedule an appointment)

FOR THOSE WITH CANCER AND THEIR LOVED ONES

Leukemia/Lymphoma/Myeloma Support Group (first Wednesday of each month at noon)

Pomona Valley Ostomy Association (fourth Monday of each month, 7 – 8:30 pm)

When Cancer Enters Your Life (first Thursday of each month, 6 – 7:30 pm)

OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

Bereavement/Loss Support Group (every Wednesday, 7 – 8:30 pm)

Creative Journaling (second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 9:30 – 11 am)

Stretch & Yoga (every Monday at 3 pm, Wednesday at 11 am and Thursday at 5 pm, except the first Thursday of each month)

Patient/Community Library (open Monday – Friday, 8 am – 5 pm)

The Stead Heart and Vascular Center

Heart Smart Education Classes (every Tuesday, noon – 1 pm. Lunch provided) Educational topics focus on reducing the risk of having or repeating a cardiac event. The Heart to Heart support group is held the last Tuesday of the month. In conjunction with the Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation department. Reservations are required. Call 909.865.9831 for questions, reservations and to confirm meeting day/time.

Life After Stroke – New Beginnings (every second and fourth Thursday of the month, 10 – 11:30 am). This is an educational support group designed to enhance the quality of life and independence of those affected by a Stroke through self-help education, supportive discussions and community resources. Held at Pomona Valley Health Center in Claremont. For more information call 909.865.9823.

Life with Heart Failure – New Beginnings Having heart failure is a life-altering experience for the patient and their loved ones. Learn from others at this support group. Call 909.865.9983 for dates and times.

Orthopedics

Joint Replacement Preparation Class (every Wednesday, 10 am – noon at the Robert & Beverly Lewis Outpatient Pavilion). For those who are considering or are scheduled for a total hip or knee replacement surgery, please call 909.630.7403 to register.

PVHMC FOUNDATION

THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A

Money! You can't take it with you but you can do outstanding things with it to carry on your philanthropic legacy. That includes expressing your appreciation and loyalty to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) mission to help our community in the

BY GLENDA J. FERGUSON | PVHMC DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

form of a charitable bequest – a gift made through your will.

If you have named PVHMC Foundation in your estate plans and have not informed us, please call Glenda Ferguson at 909.865.9659. Your name(s) will be added to our Hospital Donor Wall under the Circle of Friends section. Please allow us to recognize your kindness while you are still alive. If you haven't placed us in your estate plans and would like to, please contact us and we will be happy to assist you.

Here are 10 important reasons to have a will:

You decide how your estate will be distributed. A **will** is a legally binding document in which you determine how your estate will be handled upon your death. If you die without a **will**, there is no guarantee that your wishes will be carried out. Having a **will** helps minimize any family disagreements about your estate and determines the "who," "what" and "when" of your estate.

2 You decide who will take care of your minor children. A **will** allows you to appoint the person you want to raise your children under age 18 and assures it is not someone you do not want. Without a **will**, the court will choose a family member or state-appointed guardian to care for your children.

You can help your heirs avoid a lengthy probate process. All estates must go through probate, with or without a **will**. But having a **will** speeds up the process and informs the court of how you'd like your estate to be divided. The purpose of probate courts is to "administer your estate." When you die without a **will** (known as dying "intestate"), the court will decide how to divide the estate, which can cause long, unnecessary delays.

4 You can minimize estate taxes. A **will** also allows you to minimize your estate taxes. The value of what you give away to family members or a charity, like PVHMC Foundation, reduces the value of your estate when it's time to pay estate taxes.

5 You decide who will be the executor of your estate. Executors pay off your bills, cancel your credit cards, notify the bank and other businesses that you have died, and make sure all your affairs are in order. Because executors play the biggest role in the administration of your estate, you want to appoint someone who is honest, trustworthy, and organized (which may or may not be a family member).

6 You can disinherit individuals who would otherwise stand to inherit. Most people do not realize they can use a **will** to specifically disinherit individuals. A **will** specifically outlines how you want your estate distributed but if you don't have a **will**, your estate may end up in the hands of someone you did not intend (such as an ex-spouse with whom you had a bitter divorce).

You can use your money to make gifts and donations. This is one of the best reasons to have a **will**. It allows your legacy to live on, reflecting your personal values and interests. In addition, gifts up to \$13,000 are excluded from estate taxes, so you're also increasing the value of your estate for your heirs and beneficiaries. Be sure to check current laws to learn the most up-to-date gift tax exclusions.

You can help your heirs avoid legal challenges. If you die without a will, part or all of your estate may pass to someone you did not intend. For example, one legal case involved the estate of a man who was awarded more than \$1 million from a wrongful death lawsuit. When the man died, his father – who had not been a part of his life for more than 32 years – stood to inherit the entire estate, leaving close relatives and siblings out of the picture.

9 You can change your mind if your circumstances change. You can change your will at any time while you're still alive. Births, deaths, divorce and other life changes can create situations where changing your will is necessary.

1 O You can plan for the future because tomorrow is not guaranteed. Procrastination and the unwillingness to accept death as part of life are common reasons for not having a will. Sometimes the realization that wills are necessary comes too late – such as when an unexpected death or disability occurs. To avoid the added stress on families during an already emotional time, it may be wise to meet with an estate planning lawyer to help you draw up, at minimum, a basic estate plan, before it's too late.

Please contact Glenda Ferguson at 909.865.9659 or email glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org if you would like a copy of the "Five Wishes" form that allows you to decide:

- The person you want to make care decisions for you when you can't
 - The kind of medical treatment you want or don't want
 - How comfortable you want to be
 - · How you want people to treat you
 - What you want your loved ones to know



COMMUNITY DONATES a

RECORD \$120,000

at PVHMC WINE TASTING EVENT



Each year, an estimated 15 million babies are born prematurely. Thanks to the dedication and generosity of the community, a record \$120,000 was raised at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation's 13th Annual Wine Tasting event to help give the Hospital's tiniest patients a chance at life.

In addition to funding hotel stays for parents who live out of town but have a child in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or Pediatrics Unit, proceeds from the event will purchase another Giraffe OmniBed for the NICU. The OmniBed provides the best environment outside of a mother's womb for infants born prematurely.

A large portion of the total raised – \$50,000 – was a gift made by the Hogan family, owners of Claremont Toyota, during the event's Paddle Auction. The family is a long-time supporter of the Hospital and Claremont Toyota has sponsored the Wine Tasting for many years.

More than 400 attended the event on Friday, May 12, 2017 at the Fairplex Conference Center. John Solomon, owner of Liquorama Fine Wine & Spirits, personally selected the fine wines and food pairings for guests to sample.

"We're so grateful for the generous contributions and ongoing commitment by so many people in our community," said event Chair Rosie Erickson, PVHMC Foundation board member. "You're truly helping us make a difference in the lives of these small patients and their families."

For more information on how you can support the PVHMC NICU or Pediatric Unit, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation



Christina Melendrez Browning, donor of the Cuddle Cot and Glenda Ferguson, Director of Development

Christina's Family





In Loving Memory of
Maddison Marie Melendrez

Born Still

November 10, 2011

If Love Could Have Saved You,

You Would Have Lived Forever

hen a mother gives birth to a stillborn baby, nothing is more devastating than saying goodbye. Parents who were prepared to create a lifetime of loving memories with their new child suddenly have just a few precious hours.

Now, thanks to a donation by the mother of a stillborn baby girl, grieving parents at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) have more time to say goodbye.

Christina Melendrez Browning donated a Cuddle Cot to PVHMC in honor of her daughter, Maddison Marie Melendrez, who was stillborn at PVHMC in 2011. The Cuddle Cot is a refrigerated bassinet that preserves a baby's body for up to five days, giving the family more time for photographs, measurements, cuddles, kisses, lullabies and tears.

"She was so beautiful," Christina said of Maddison. "If I had more time with her, it would have been amazing." She was able to spend less than three hours with her baby before the little body began to break down and had to be taken from her.

CUDDLE COT GIVES GRIEVING PARENTS



Allowing parents enough time to grieve with their babies is important, according to M. Hellen Rodriguez, MD, Medical Director for Maternal-Fetal Medicine at PVHMC and Chair of the PVHMC Foundation Board of Directors.

"A mother is much more likely to have severe depression if she's not allowed enough time to greet her baby and to say goodbye," Dr. Rodriguez said. "Parents have gone from planning a future to a funeral in a heartbeat, and that's very traumatic."

PVHMC is the first Hospital in Los Angeles County to offer the Cuddle Cot, which was developed in the United Kingdom and brought to the United States in 2013. Every year, more than 24,000 women in the U.S. give birth to stillborn babies.

"Maddison was everything to me, and I don't want her to be forgotten," said Christina. "I donated the Cuddle Cot to honor her and to give back to other mothers so they don't feel they're the only person who's ever gone through this."

For information on Cuddle Cots, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org or call 909.865.9659.

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT FEELS BLESSED

Ebenezea "Ebony" Castro, one of the recipients of a Cherie Rudoll Scholarship, said receiving the scholarship has been a blessing in many ways.

t helped me pay for school so I can advance my career and then give back to my community," she said. "It's very beautiful to me that people who don't even know me can see that I'm trying to do something meaningful with my life and are giving me the support to do it."

Ebony, 30, is an LVN who works full time in Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) cardiac unit, loves being a nurse. When she earns her Bachelor of Nursing degree from West Coast University next year, she'll be the first in her family to graduate from a community college or university. Once she becomes a registered nurse, she plans to give back to the scholarship program so someone else can have the same opportunity she's had. She also intends to continue her education, with the goal of becoming a nurse anesthetist.

The Cherie Rudoll Scholarships are presented each year to select PVHMC Associates in the Hospital's RN program to help them earn nursing degrees. The scholarship fund was established in 2007 by the family of Cherie Rudoll, a former Vice President of Nursing and Patient Care Services at PVHMC, who passed away from cancer.

"The Foundation is honored to award this nursing scholarship to PVHMC Associates who have chosen to be in the nursing profession," said Glenda Ferguson, Director of Development.

"The extra help from the scholarship is really and truly a blessing, and I'm very grateful for it," Ebony said. "Ultimately, I want to work side by side with a practitioner to open my own practice and do missionary trips. My passion is to have my own organization, do medical treatments, feed the homeless, and give back. We're so fortunate in the United States to have educational opportunities and careers. I want to reach out to other countries and help others."

To learn how you can support future nurses through the PVHMC Foundation Cherie Rudoll Scholarship Fund, please contact Glenda Ferguson at glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org, call 909.865.9659 or go online at pvhmc.org/foundation.

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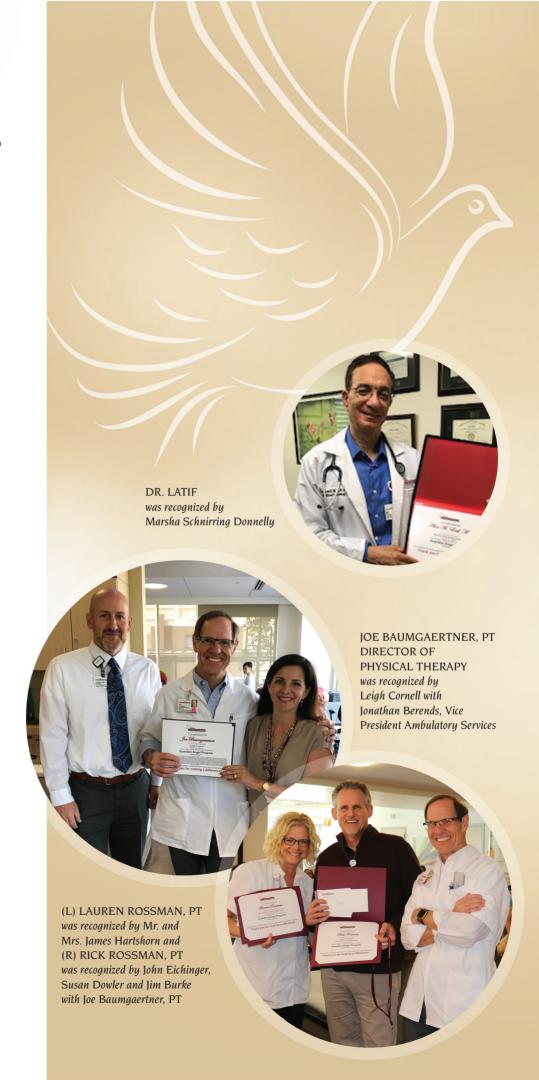
Standing are the family of Cherie Rudoll, along with Darlene Scafiddi, RN, MSN, Vice President Patient Care Services



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onor a special Doctor, Nurse, Volunteer or **Hospital Associate** who became your Guardian Angel by providing exceptional care or service. Make a charitable donation to PVHMC Foundation in their name and they will be recognized with a special presentation, commemorative certificate, letter from the President/CEO, and a Guardian Angel lapel pin and badge holder. All donations support PVHMC Foundation.

Visit pvhmc.org/foundation, use the attached envelope, or call the Foundation office at 909.865.9139.



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Optima Insurance/California Healthcare Insurance recognized our K9 UNIT for the excellent education they provided their team. Pictured (l-r):

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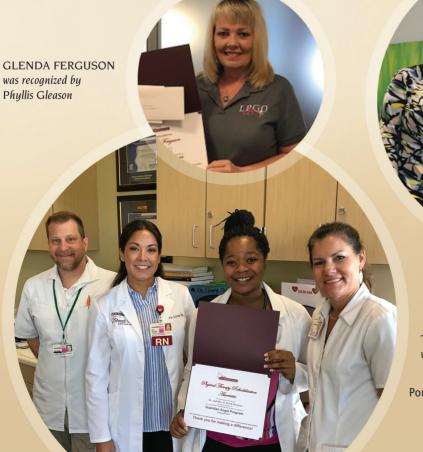
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PVHMC HELIPAD IS NOW OPEN

he low-flying "whump, whump" of helicopter rotor blades near Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) means coordinated teams are working fast to save the life of someone in critical need. On September 7, 2017, the Hospital's helipad opened to receive patients whose lives depend on receiving care quickly.

The helipad, located atop the parking structure adjacent to the Hospital's Trauma Center, is an essential element of the Hospital's new Trauma Center designation. Since the helipad was completed in July 2017, about 200 PVHMC Doctors, Nurses, Technicians, Security staff and Maintenance Department Associates − including those who are part of the Maternal-Fetal Transport Program − have received specialized training required by the Federal Aviation Administration. Now, emergency transport helicopters from as far away as Fort Irwin to local fire, air ambulance and law enforcement agencies can speed patients to the Hospital when every second counts. ●

