Volume 21, Number 12 June 4, 2010



Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

TRUE SPIRITS OF

Each year Pastoral Care recognizes employees whose everyday actions make HUP a better place for patients and staff alike. This year, at the annual celebration, they honored two special people ... and an entire department.

Top right: Chaplain resident Sarah Lamming (shown with Al Black, COO) received the 2010 Ralph Thomas Taylor Award for her many creative contributions to worship.

HUP Security won a 2010 Spirit of *Caring Award for their work with* Pastoral Care that keeps HUP safe.

A Unique Approach to **Worship and Remembrance**

Caring

Chaplain resident Sarah Lamming believes that worship does not need a set routine to be meaningful. To expand beyond traditional approaches, she added several creative elements to prayer services at HUP, including dance, music, sharing of food, and even using a bubble machine! She also rearranged the chapel's pews into two circles — from the normal rows - to encourage fellowship and participation.

As another part of her 9-month chaplain residency, Lamming cared for the pastoral care needs of patients and families who came to the ED.

She saw many gunshot-related deaths and quickly realized that these victims deserved special recognition. "They should not just stay a tragic statistic." So, with the help of chaplain resident Marion Hamermesh, she put together a jigsaw puzzle of the world entitled "Global Peace" and created a monthly service to remember each person. "A piece of the puzzle is removed for each life lost, and a candle is lit in their memory," Lamming said. "Each of these deaths affects our world. When people lose their lives to guns, our world is diminished piece by piece, person by person."

In recognition of all her contributions, Lamming received the 2010 Ralph Thomas Taylor Award, in memory of Chaplain Taylor's eloquence in leading worship in the interfaith setting.

HUP's Unsung Heroes

HUP Security - winners of the Spirit of Caring Award are "extraordinary men and women, the unsung heroes at HUP," said Chaplain Chris Brown. "Thank you for working with us, for being our guardians."

In presenting them with the award, Brown recalled a recent situation which brought a territorial gang war into the Emergency Department. "The four victims were from two rival gangs, and we were very concerned that the violence might spill over into the ED," he said. Security worked quickly to provide four separate areas where Brown could minister to the grieving families. "Security stayed with me and with the doctor as we went from room to room."

The bond between Security and Pastoral Care is based on mutual support, said Security director Joe Forte. "We provide a safe *(continued on page 4)*

Marie Green's dedication. knowledge and compassion in the ED led to her receiving a 2010 Spirit of Caring Award





IT'S GREAT ADVENTURE TIME!

HUP is planning another Six Flags/Great Adventure outing, on Saturday, July 17. Tickets are \$38 per person which includes an all-you-can-eat barbecue lunch. You can also purchase discount parking tickets for \$10. You can buy tickets in person at the HRIC office (Ground Gates) every Friday in June, between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm, and every day this month at 3001 Market Street, Suite 320. To purchase tickets online, go to www.sixflags.com/ greatadventure and put hup10 inside the promo box. For more information, call 615-2606.



Editorial Staff

Sally Sapega Editor and Photographer

Lisa Paxson Designer

Administration

Marc Kaplan Director of Communications

Susan E. Phillips Senior Vice President, Public Affairs

Contact HUPdate at:

3535 Market Street, Mezzanine; phone 215-662-4488; fax 215-349-8312; or e-mail sally.sapega@uphs.upenn.edu. HUPdate is published biweekly for HUP employees. Access HUPdate online at www.uphs.upenn.edu/news/ publications/HUPdate



ranks

"For almost ten years I have been under the exceptional care of **Dr. Stephen Schuster** and **Lisa Downs** of the Hematology-Oncology Department. I know you are familiar with their extraordinary talents.... I am writing to praise other staff of this fine institution that otherwise made an unbearable stay tolerable. I am referring to the Nursing Staff in the Rhoads Pavilion. In the past few months, I have spent time on the 6th and 7th floors and a longer stay on the 3rd floor. The care, compassion, and understanding that I received from the nursing staff was exceptional. I have never encountered a more dedicated and caring group of individuals in my lifetime."



"While waiting for my car from Valet Parking, I had the pleasure of watching **Joe** [**Robinson** of Volunteer Services] in action. The heat outside didn't slow him down as he darted between cars and the entrance helping patients and their families maneuver through the busy traffic. Everyone he touched broke into a smile. One patient, an elderly woman in a wheelchair with a neck brace, was struggling along and Joe gave her a big smile and some kind words as he helped her out of harm's way.... Clearly this comes naturally to Joe but I believe he should be applauded for his caring, gentle, and light hearted style. He certainly does his part to contribute to the great Penn Health experience."



Dual Celebration in L & D

Within one week, Ashli and Thomas Wortham celebrated two major events – marriage and the birth of twin boys. The high school sweethearts had been together 11 years when they decided to tie the knot, before Ashli gave birth. The wedding plans were in place for April 6 but pre-term labor brought her to HUP on March 30. That didn't stop the wedding. With help from **Vickie Wilson, RN, Leticia Pendleton, RN,** and **Meghan Maloney, RN,** the bride held a bouquet of flowers and the husband wore a boutonnière. Wilson sang "The Lord's Prayer." On April 21, the newly married couple welcomed sons Christopher Michael and Nicholas Carter.

TRUE SPIRITS OF Caring ((continued from page 1)

environment for them, and they help us by calming families and bringing down the anxiety level so the situation doesn't become violent. We work together to keep HUP safe."

Compassionate and Willing to Stretch

Marie Green's coworkers describe her as knowledgeable, dedicated and constantly going above and beyond. "Marie always takes the time to ask us, 'Can I do anything else?'" said **Janice Nelson**, chaplain resident. "She is a passionate spirit."

To recognize her willingness to take charge and give so much back, the 21-year employee was also a 2010 Spirit of Caring winner. "My job motivates me," Green said upon receiving her award, adding with a smile, "Of course, now that I won an award, I'll have to work a little harder to uphold my image!"

Chaplain **Ralph Ciampa**, director of Pastoral Care, congratulated all the winners of this year's awards and thanked the many staff, student and volunteer chaplains who make over 30,000 pastoral care contacts a year. "Thank you all for the spiritual and emotional care you give to patients, families and, sometimes, staff. You all touch so many lives."