



Communique

May 7, 2020

A CGH Medical Center Publication

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CGH Dixon Front Line Defenders



From left to right, Kayhla, Missy, Maggie, Lauren, Amanda, Julie and Katherine from CGH Dixon Medical Center

In appreciation of all of our nurses, CGH will celebrate National Nurses' Week beginning May 6 and ending on May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday. This event is held annually to recognize and highlight the hard work and commitment involved in nursing, the largest healthcare profession.

"During this week and all year round, we take this opportunity to celebrate our nurses and the difference they make in the lives of our patients and their loved ones every day," said Dr. Paul Steinke, CGH President and CEO. "It is their daily contributions to the health and well-being of the patients we serve throughout the area that we are truly proud of."

Developed in 1993 by the American Nurses Association, National Nurses Week is a time for everyone – patients, employers, and other health care professionals – to recognize the positive impact that nurses have on our health and in our community, while focusing on the future of the profession as well. This year is extra special because it is the 200th anniversary of Nightingale's birth. The International Council of Nurses have given the theme, "Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Nursing the World to Health," to demonstrate how nurses are central to addressing a wide range of health challenges.

"We know that the demand for registered nursing services will continue to be greater than ever because of the aging American population and the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies," said Kristie Geil, CGH Chief Nursing Officer. "More qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers not only across the country, but also here in the Sauk Valley and our surrounding communities. In honor of our nurses' caring attitude, teamwork and commitment to excellence," Geil continued, "we celebrate our nurses and thank them for the quality work they provide all year round. You truly are the heartbeat of healthcare!"

CGH Medical Center employs over 800 nurses ranging from certified nurses aides to nurse practitioners with a variety of educational backgrounds and specialty certifications, including nurses who are working on the doctorate in nursing practice. The years of experience range from new graduates to 40+ years of experience.

CGH Celebrates Nurses Week



Thank You Wahl Clipper Corporation USA!

Thank you Wahl Clipper Corporation USA for the amazing gift baskets that were recently delivered to frontline staff in our Medical and Surgical units, ED, EMS, Daycare and Main Clinic. They were very much appreciated!



2 East



3 East



Daycare



EMS



Main Clinic

Mother's Day is Coming!
Window Shop at CGH Auxiliary Gift Shop
for the perfect Mother's Day Card and Gift!

All Mother's Day Cards in Corner Display Window!
P.S. More Gifts Available in Store Window Across from the Ryberg!

Tons of NEW Spring Merchandise!
*NEW Wind Chimes!
*NEW Garden Stakes!
*NEW Home Decor!
*NEW Garden Decor!

Send Orders to Kim at ext. 4474
or Kim.Skrogstad@cghmc.com

Home Town Heroes



Dr. Eric Kuhns is interviewed by KWQC in CCU.

KWQC-TV 6 recently highlighted CGH Medical Center's COVID-19 preparedness and response as we have taken - and continue to take - all measures possible to keep our staff and patients safe during the pandemic.

To watch the segment on Home Town Heroes, visit our Facebook page.

#TeamCGH #ProudtobeacGHer #hometownheroes

Better Hearing & Speech Month

Each May, Better Hearing & Speech Month (BHSM) provides an opportunity to raise awareness about communication disorders and the role that speech language pathologists and audiologists provide in offering life-altering treatments for people of all ages. BHSM information is more important than ever during this challenging time of the coronavirus

pandemic. Many people are telecommuting and relying on devices that assist with hearing and speech while working and learning remotely. The Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists at CGH do incredible work with our patients every day and we are so grateful for all they do!

Did you know...

- 1 in 5 American teenagers suffer from some type of hearing loss (up from 1 in 8 last year),
- Approximately 40 million Americans have communication disorders or report trouble hearing,
- Approximately 1 million Americans suffer from aphasia (loss of ability to understand or express speech),
- More than 3 million Americans stutter,
- Nearly 1 in 12 children ages 3-17 has had a disorder related to voice, speech, language, or swallowing in the past 12 months,
- Men are 2X as likely as women to have hearing loss among adults aged 20-69,
- Lack of awareness is the leading barrier to early detection according to speech-language pathologists.

May is Better Hearing & Speech Month



CGH Angels

Thursday April 9th, 2020 is a day I will never forget. Most of us will recall the restrictions of COVID 19 and maybe the crazy blizzard followed by sunshine that day. But I will forever remember April 9th as the day I could have lost my life.



Nancy Lauritzen

I wasn't feeling well so left work early and struggled in the snowy wind toward my car, finding it more and more difficult to breathe. The last thing I remember was gasping for breath and losing consciousness with no one in sight to help. If not for the team of CGH angels who saw me go down and came out to check on me, I'd not be here to tell this story. Right there in the crossroad of the Main Clinic they began CPR and, during the next several hours, these amazing professionals literally brought me back to life.

There are so many "what ifs" to the story that would have resulted in a much different ending. I was in the midst of a blizzard with no one around me, but because of COVID there was a triage team near the door who, along with a visitor, "happened" to see me go down. If I'd have gotten into my car or still been at my desk, on the road, or at home, no one might have noticed... and I'd not have the privilege of telling this story. But all the "what ifs" were supernaturally orchestrated to allow me to be here today.

As many times as I've heard "codes" announced and I say a prayer, I never imagined that code could or would be me. I've talked to several coworkers who responded to this code blue. As I asked questions to help fill in the pieces of that nearly fateful day, I appreciated the stories they shared...what they felt, what they had witnessed and what they had done. There was a common theme: "we have the best team" and "I am so proud to be a part of this team," followed by, "I'm so happy you are okay." Wow, I am so happy to be alive too, and I owe it to our CGH team!

God truly works miracles as He guides us every day to do what we know and use our skills to work as a team. And, every once in a while, He weaves it all together to help us remember why we do what we do, to give us a new perspective on what's important, and to remind us to appreciate even more the blessings of the talented and caring people we have around us.

Thank you for all you do, every day, my friends.
God Bless the CGH Angels!

Nancy Lauritzen, Nursing Administration

95 Years Young

Long Time CGH volunteer

Edward Schweiss (husband to co-volunteer, Connie, deceased; father to **Karen Zigler**, Pharmacy and **Kris Gallardo**, retired; and father-in-law to **Val Schweiss**, retired) is turning 95 on Wednesday, May 27.



Edward Schweiss

A **SURPRISE** drive by parade is being organized at 11:30 a.m. on May 27 for people to go by and celebrate with him. Ed's address is 802 W 13th Street, Sterling.

Anyone that would like participate can meet on the road behind Washington school and drive south down Avenue H since his porch is on that side.

Remember this is a **SURPRISE!**



MAY 2020

Employee of the Month



Jay Johnson

Vascular Radiologic Tech,
DID/Vascular Surgery



I live in: Rock Falls

Joined CGH on: July 10, 2017

Education: AAS, Sauk Valley Community College

Family: Wife, Angie; sons, Blake and Bryce; stepson, Breck; and stepdaughters, Anna and Genea

Proudest Achievement: My family, going back to school to finish my degree, 12 years of military service, and this Employee of the Month award

Hobbies: Lifting weights, biking, carpentry and home improvement projects, working on cars, installing car audio, and building computers

Jay comes in every day with a smile that is infectious to everyone around him. His positive attitude can brighten the day of patients and staff just by being himself. He is eager to help no matter what the need is and will do any task that is asked. In fact, he consistently does more than is needed. He is a hard worker who will come in on his days off, stay late to help a coworker, and come in early without hesitation. Jay is efficient, knowledgeable and skilled at his job but is always looking to learn more. The OR staff, surgeons and patients can always depend on Jay, with a job well done and always with a smile!

~ OR Staff

We congratulate him on being chosen May's Employee of the Month.

Purpose, Worthwhile Work, Making a Difference!

ATTENTION RECOVERED COVID-19 PATIENTS

BE A CONVALESCENT PLASMA DONOR

Patients who have recovered from COVID-19 can help give others a fighting chance by donating Convalescent Plasma. These antibody-rich blood products can give people hope and make a difference.

POTENTIAL VOLUNTEER DONORS MUST:



HAVE HAD AN INITIAL POSITIVE MOLECULAR TEST RESULT for SARS-CoV-2 virus. Also called PCR, this test is a requirement for self-referrals and care provider referrals.

AND



BE RECOVERED FOR 28 DAYS If a follow up SARS-CoV-2 test with a negative result has been performed by care provider, then at least 14 days.

AND



BE 17 YEARS OLD and meet all other health requirements to donate. Details at www.bloodcenter.org.

If you meet the above criteria, please fill out the appropriate form (**self-referral or care provider**) found at www.bloodcenter.org and our Patient Services team will follow up with you.

(833) 610-1025 • patientservices@mvrbc.org • www.bloodcenter.org

"Plasma is used routinely in transfusion, where it has an excellent safety profile that we expect to be maintained with this product. We are hopeful." - Dr. Louis Katz, Chief Medical Officer (MVRBC)