

Bryon Health Center Quarterly Newsletter

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It's Who We Care For!
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A Night of Magic

Byron Health Center hosted 'A Night of Magic' on February 18th at 7:00 p.m. Members of The Fort Wayne Magic Club hit the stage for this multi-focus magical event in Eakin Family Room.

Residents, guests, staff and their families enjoyed a distinctive magic show designed with the entire family in mind. The parents had just as much fun, if not more, than their children. 'A Night of Magic' was free and open to the public. About 75 people attended the event.

The magicians interacted with the crowd prior to and during 'A Night of Magic'. Attendees delighted in the 'up close and personal' card tricks, illusions, puppets and other fun

presentations. The show kept everyone wondering and talking about it for days afterwards. "A Night of Magic was a great event for families to enjoy an evening out together," said Elizabeth Johnson. "It was also a great event for introducing audiences to live magic entertainment. The families were absolutely enthralled with The Fort Wayne Magic Club and their unique mix of comedy and magic."

Complimentary refreshments were available immediately following the performance. Seating was limited, so those that in attended arrived early to secure a good spot. 'A Night of Magic' lasted approximately one hour.



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Upcoming Events

- ◆ June 15th Picnic
- ◆ Father's Day
- ◆ July 5th Picnic

Byron's Got Talent

Byron Health Center highlighted the talents of residents and staff during the 3rd annual Byron's Got Talent event 'Welcome to Our House' on March 6th at 2:00 p.m. in the Eakin Family. Residents and staff through a try-out process to be involved in Byron's Got Talent 'Welcome to Our House'. Over a dozen acts were secured to perform, including both groups and solo acts. Performances ranged from comedy, singing, dancing and even karaoke.

The two-hour event was hosted by Fort Wayne's own Jack Hammer. After a successful 25 year career in Radio, Hammer reinvented himself as the Executive Director of the Three Rivers Festival, Indiana's second largest summer festival. As a lifelong MC, entertainer and musician, Hammer shared the stage with some of the biggest names in Rock & Roll. Now he shared the stage with those in Byron's Got Talent.

"The Byron's Got Talent 'Welcome to



Our House' event was encouraged to showcase the many wonderful talents of our residents and staff, some of which may have been hidden for quite some time," said Byron Health Center's Elizabeth Johnson.

Participating acts were assessed on presentation, production and originality by local celebrity judges including WANE TV Chief Meteorologist Nicholas Ferreri, Embassy Theatre Marketing Director Barb Richards and Ellison Bakery President Todd Wallin. Performers competed for special recognition in performance categories including Most Entertaining Solo Act, Most Entertaining group Act, Most Original Act and Audience Choice Act.



Byron Health Center residents and staff assist with preparing the SCAN Brown Bag Lunch fundraiser as part of 50 Acts of Kindness. (above)

One of the Acts of Kindness at Wunderkammer Company even made front page news on February 29th in The Journal Gazette. (below)



Over 650 people attended the 2016 Eggstravaganza Easter Egg Hunt.



50 Acts of Kindness

Byron Health Center is celebrating 50 years as a licensed nursing home in 2016 by performing 50 Acts of Kindness throughout the year. The 50 Acts of Kindness volunteer campaign mirrors Byron Health Center's theme for 2016: Pay It Forward. Byron Health Center is emphasizing doing an act of kindness, out of compassion, not competition, without expectation of returned kindness to its team members and residents throughout the year realizing "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give".

Some of the places and events that Byron Health Center residents and staff volunteered included Wunderkammer Company, WBCL Leap Day Serve for

Burn Survivors, Stop Child Abuse & Neglect (SCAN) 31st Annual Brown Bag Lunch fundraiser, Fort Wayne Sport Club, Community Harvest Food Bank and Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt.

Do you have a project or volunteer opportunity that might fit in well with Byron Health Center's 50 Acts of Kindness volunteer campaign? Let us know how we can help. Please contact John Drebenstedt at jdrebenstedt@byronhealth.org or 260-637-3166 ext. 271, with your Act of Kindness opportunity. Byron Health Center will then assess the opportunity to determine if we are able to help.

Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt

Byron Health Center again hosted an Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt presented by Grandview Pharmacy on Saturday, March 26th, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Byron Health Center residents, volunteers, staff and family members spread Easter Eggs throughout the campus of the facility. Over 500 members of the community brought their children out to enjoy some day-before-Easter fun.

Prior to the actual Easter Egg Hunt, booths with snacks and activities for all to enjoy included Easter arts & crafts, plant-a-seed and other fun crafts as well as face painting by the sisters of Preceptor Gamma Iota. Byron Health Center residents, volunteers and staff participated in the event and helped to pass out Easter Egg prizes. It was a fun-filled afternoon for all! Children of all

ages received a very special visit, along with photo opportunities, from Peter CottonTail, the Easter Bunny. Appearances were also made from local mascots including the IPFW's Don the Mastodon, Fort Wayne Derby Girl's Mean Jean, the Fort Wayne TinCap's Johnny TinCap, the Crazy Pinz Stryker the Parrot and the Three Rivers Festival's Admiral Andy as well as the Indiana Tech Cheerleaders. Sponsors of the event included Indiana Tech, Healthcare Therapy Services, Huntertown Dental Services and Rosie Scranton along with presenting sponsor: Grandview Pharmacy. Other candy was provided in part by generous friends of Byron Health Center, including Combustion Mechanical, Core Benefits, Goodwill Industries, Havel, Hometown Pest Control and members of the Byron Health Center staff.

The event was free of charge. Special friends of Byron Health Center received exclusive invitations, including: congregation members of Keefer Creek Baptist Church, students, staff and parents from Eel River and Oak View Elementary Schools, the Fort Wayne Derby Girls and members of the Fort Wayne Corvette Club. Refreshments were served. Extra volunteer help was provided by the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and www.volunteerfortwayne.org.



Welcome Chef Brad Hoffman

Byron Health Center welcomed Chef Brad Hoffman, CDM CFPP, to its Leadership staff. Brad serves the residents and staff as the Director of Food Services. For over 30 years, Brad has been thriving in the restaurant and health care foodservice industries. His work has included specializing on new business. During 17 years of restaurant industry experience, Brad was instrumental in the opening of two new restaurants. After transitioning to the health care food service industry, his experience was vital during the opening of a new nursing home as well as a new hospital.

Brad has been influential in moving from a cafeteria-style dining service to a restaurant-style dining service at long term care facilities, starting restaurant service as part of a cultural change in at least two nursing homes. He strives to do the same at Byron Health Center. "Meals and great food are such an integral part of our residents' daily happiness," stated Brad. "I am very

excited to help implement a new system of service and level of quality here at Byron Health Center."

His culinary skills have already won over both residents and staff with the offering of daily homemade soups. Brad is a graduate of Heritage High School and studied Culinary Arts and Hospitality Administration at Ivy Tech in Fort Wayne. He earned the honored distinction of being selected as head Chef for Ivy Tech's graduating class fundraiser: "Putting on the Ritz". He has also earned distinctions as a Certified Dietary Manager and a Certified Food Protection Professional. He is also a member of the Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals

Brad, and his wife Becky, reside in Monroeville and have three children along with two grandchildren. In his spare time, Brad enjoys hunting, fishing and gardening. He takes special pride in preserving and cooking his harvests.



Chef Brad Hoffman is the new Director of Food Services.

Family Fun Night with Grandview Pharmacy

Byron Health Center welcomed its new partnership with Grandview Pharmacy during the first Family Fun Night of 2016 on January 14th. Family members joined their loved ones for an evening of fun and frolic. There was entertainment from local blues band Swick & Jones along with refreshments and games which also helped to welcome in the New Year and new partner in care: Grandview Pharmacy.



Representatives from Grandview Pharmacy enjoy Family Fun Night in January with residents and their family members. (right)

Swick & Jones entertains the crowd at Family Fun Night. (left)



Fat Tuesday Fun for All

Byron Health Center residents and staff enjoyed an afternoon of revelry on Fat Tuesday during a party hosted by Life Enrichment.

Traditional paczkis and other refreshments were enjoyed along with traditional zydeco music as performed by Jay and Patrice. The event ended with a ceremonial parade throughout the building.

Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, the day before Ash Wednesday, culminates in celebration before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season.





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Ombudsman Delivers Pajamas

The Long Term Care Ombudsman's 6th Annual Pajama Drive Program delivered new gowns and pajamas to several residents of Byron Health Center on March 15th.

Donations of pajamas are collected by the Ombudsman throughout the year and then hand delivered to nursing home resident in need.

You can help by donating pajamas. Visit www.doingthegood-ombudsman.org for more information.



Art Project Interests Explored

Several residents explored their artistic side with a special art project creating sun-catchers. Using painting skills and precise brushstrokes, residents were able to decorate the objects made with a Saint Patrick's Day theme.

Art projects are a great way to introduce new and exciting experiences for Byron Health Center residents.



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