

Bryon Health Center Quarterly Newsletter

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It's Who We Care For!
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Care-A-Van Zoomobile Makes Visit

Byron Health Center hosted the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo Care-A-Van Zoomobile on Tuesday, April 24th, at 10:30 a.m. This Zoo Education Department Community Program allowed residents and team members to get up close and personal with a few friendly animals in the Eakin Family Room. The program is an opportunity for the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo to share its love of animals with some people who may otherwise not be able to come out to the Zoo in person.

The Care-A-Van Zoomobile Community Program began with a short informational video about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo followed by an opportunity to visit with some friendly

animals the Zoo volunteers brought along. Friendly critters included a mourning dove, a hedgehog and a salamander. Local media came out to cover the visit.

The Fort Wayne Children's Zoo is operated by the non-profit Fort Wayne Zoological Society under a cooperative agreement with the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department. The zoo receives no tax funding for operations and operates solely on earned revenue and donations. The Mission of the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo is to connect kids (and the community) with animals while strengthening families and inspiring people to care.

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ 3 Rivers Festival
- ◆ All-Campus Picnics
- ◆ Summer End Carnival

Centier Bank Helps Wishes Come True

Byron Health Center Resident Council received a \$250 grant from Centier Bank as part of the 'Wishes Come True' program through our partnership with Senior Crimestoppers. The funds will be used towards Council activities. Centier Bank also continues to fund the Senior Crimestoppers program in our community which provides lock boxes and a toll-free phone number and reward for reporting information about any type of crime that may take place in the community.





Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt

Byron Health Center again hosted an Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt presented by MKM Architecture & Design and Healthcare Therapy Services on Saturday, March 1st, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Unfortunately, this year, the weather didn't cooperate and we had to move the event indoors. Byron Health Center residents, volunteers, staff and family members spread Easter Eggs throughout the hallways of the facility. Despite the inclement weather, over 400 members of the community brought their children out to enjoy some day-before-Easter fun. The event was free of charge.

Health Center residents, volunteers and staff participated in the event and helped to pass out Easter Egg prizes. 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 Maximus and the Indiana Tech Cheerleaders and the Hoosier Batman.

Byron Health Center hosted the Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt indoors for the first for area children to enjoy. (above) Area children enjoyed a visit from the Hoosier Batman as well as face painting. (below)



Prior to the actual Easter Egg Hunt, booths were set up in the Eakin Family Room with snacks and activities for all to enjoy included Easter arts & crafts, plant-a-seed and other fun opportunities, like face painting. Byron

Sponsors of the event included Havel, Instate Welding Services, Familia Dental, the Prifogles and Rosie Scranton along with presenting sponsors: MKM Architecture & Design and Healthcare Therapy Services. Other candy was provided in part by generous friends of Byron Health Center, including Combustion Mechanical, Core Benefits, Goodwill Industries, Hometown Pest Control, Ellison Bakeries, the Volunteer Center and members of the Byron Health Center staff.



National Nursing Home Week Celebrated

Byron Health Center again celebrated National Nursing Home week from May 13th - 19th with many activities and events for both residents and staff.

experiences to cultivate a shared sense of purpose at the center and in the surrounding community.



During National Nursing Home Week, skilled nursing care centers across the nation united under the theme, "Celebrating Life's Stories."

Once a year, always beginning on Mother's Day, care centers nationwide take pride in publicly honoring the indomitable spirit of residents and recognizing staff who face each day with a sense of purpose and compassion. Planned activities included Pajama Day, Sports Day, Diversity Day, Super Hero Day and Hat & Jeans Day.

Centers will be encouraged to collect narratives on each individual's most significant life events, relationships and



John Eakin Wins Community Volunteer of the Year Award

Long-time Byron Health Center volunteer John Eakin was recently named the LeadingAge Indiana Community Volunteer of the Year for 2018. The award recognizes the value of the volunteer in the life of the organization and how they have significantly enhanced the quality of life for residents; demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to preserving dignity, well-being and independence of residents and demonstrated the mission of the organization in a number of ways.

If one would stop by our community any day of the week, there is a great chance they would see John visiting with our residents. Most would just assume he is a staff member. He has volunteered daily at Byron Health Center for over 20 years. He visits with residents and helps include many others in activities or doing errands throughout the

community. On Saturdays, John and his wife Vickie, visit with the ladies on our ladies memory care neighborhood, serving up cake and talking about their days. They also serve as Guardians for several Byron Health Center residents.

The Eakins have sat with countless residents nearing end-of-life, more specifically, those residents with no family or friends, so they would not be alone when they crossed over. John and Vickie would pray, talk, read to and comfort them. The Eakins also help comfort staff and thank them for their exceptional care during these most of difficult times. They know that the residents at Byron Health Center are also family to the staff that care for them. John calls it their 'calling', their 'ministry' to volunteer and serve the Byron Health Center residents.



Long time Byron Health Center volunteer John Eakin was honored with the LeadingAge Indiana Volunteer of the year award.

Early Summer All-Campus Picnics Enjoyed both Inside & Out



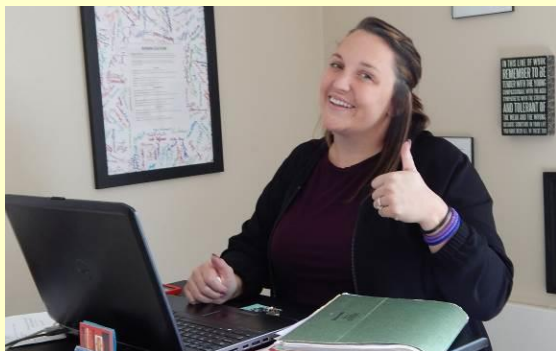
Byron Health Center welcomed the summer with a lunchtime picnic on May 16th. Sloppy Joes, Potato Salad, Corn on the Cob and Strawberry Pie were still enjoyed by all.

Memorial Day was celebrated on May 30th with Hamburgers on the grill with all the fixings, Pit Beans, Cole Slaw and Strawberry Angel Fluff on the menu. Unfortunately, cooler temperatures forced the meal indoors.

June 14th was the day for another outdoor picnic with Hot Dogs on the grill, Cole Slaw, Chips and Root Beer Floats!



Executive Director Wins New Nursing Home Administrator of the Year



Byron Health Center Executive Director Sarah Starcher-Lane, HFA, ICYB, was recently named the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) 2017 Indiana New Nursing Home Administrator of the Year. The award recognizes the ACHCA member who has demonstrated exceptional commitment and potential as a leader, innovator, and motivator in post-acute and aging services, as well as in ACHCA-Indiana, and has been a practicing administrator for five years or less.

“It was a true honor to accept this award and it means a lot that I was nominated by my peers. Serving the residents and staff at Byron Health Center has changed my life and I am grateful to go to “work” each and every day,” said Sarah. “I especially want to thank my mentor, Deb Lambert, for her guidance and knowledge. I would not be the Administrator or woman I am, without her.”



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Health & Wellness Fair

Byron Health Center hosted a Health & Wellness Fair on April 27th. The 4th annual event was open to the public and hosted by the Wellness Committee. The Fair included many vendors, such as the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's, Centier Bank, Lutheran Health Network Trauma, Indiana Tech, Operation: Fight for a Fitter Fort, Tranquil Touch Spa, Healthcare Therapy Services, Summit City Cycles, NAMI Fort Wayne, American Heart Association and Live On Goods.



The Longest Day for Alzheimer's Association

Team members and Residents of Byron Health Center showed their support for the Alzheimer's Association by participating in The Longest Day event on June 21st.

Participants wore purple throughout the day and helped raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association. The funds will be used to help support research to someday find the first survivor of the disease by reaching a cure.

Over \$??? was raised for the Alzheimer's Association through online donations and proceeds from a bake sale.



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