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SUMMER/FALL 2010

*"Care the Way YOU Want It ...Locally"*



*Mary Eckert, President and CEO of Millcreek Community Hospital; Barb Nichols, R.N., President and CEO of Corry Memorial Hospital; and C. Angela Bontempo, President and CEO of Saint Vincent Health Center in Erie. (Contributed photo)*

**Three Local Hospitals  
Partner to Benefit Area  
Residents**

*Regional Home Health and Hospice to Serve  
Erie and Crawford Counties*

Home health and hospice services in northwestern Pennsylvania will be expanded and enhanced through a new hospital-based partnership. The newly formed Regional

Home Health & Hospice is a joint venture between Saint Vincent Health System, Corry Memorial Hospital and Millcreek Community Hospital.

C. Angela Bontempo, CEO & President of Saint Vincent Health Center was joined by Mary Eckert, CEO & President of Millcreek Community Hospital and Barbara Nichols, CEO of Corry Memorial Hospital in making the announcement during a news conference held during the beginning of July at Saint Vincent.

The partnership, in development for nearly two years, combines the expertise of Corry Memorial Hospital Home Health and Corry Regional Hospice with Erie Home Health, which has been owned and operated jointly by Saint Vincent Health System,

Millcreek Community Hospital, Corry Memorial Hospital and Vantage®.

Regional Home Health & Hospice represents an expansion of home health and hospice services to a wider range of community members in northwestern Pennsylvania and will serve residents of Erie and portions of Crawford counties.

"We are all very pleased to have entered into this joint venture," said Pam Mead, Director of Regional Home Health & Hospice. "This benefits the regional community, allowing patients to access

*Continued on Page 3*

**Vantage® Care Apothecary & Crawford  
County Care Center**

*Bring Remote Medication Dispensing to Long-Term Care*

MEADVILLE, Pa., July 2010 –Vantage® Care Apothecary has launched its first InSiteRx™ Remote Dispensing System at the Crawford County Care Center in Saegertown, Pa. The InSiteRx technology will support improved quality of care and safety while strengthening medication process efficiencies at Crawford County Care Center.

Vantage® Care Apothecary will leverage the InSiteRx Remote Dispensing System by Talyst to provide pharmacist-approved medication dispensing on-location to residents at the Care Center. InSiteRx dispenses patient-specific multi-dose packets before medication passes, which ensures the most current prescriptions are being administered. The freestanding secure dispensing unit is automated, accurate, and provides immediate

access to medications for new residents, STAT orders, First Doses and PRNs.



*"...creating a safer medication  
process for long-term care  
residents."*

"Vantage® Care Apothecary selected the InSiteRx Remote Dispensing technology to better serve our LTC facility clients. This technology will create safer environments for its residents while improving medication delivery and

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## Vantage® Values...

*An honest, fair and truthful employee is a company's most important asset.*

# Miss Crawford County



*Jacquelyn Schnauber, 2011 Miss Crawford County*

## Takes a Stance to Raise Awareness

In 1997 when Jacklyn Schnauber was only 5, she met Heather Busin; Miss Pennsylvania. "Heather left a huge impression on me. That experience helped to inspire me to pursue my dream of someday being Miss Crawford County," stated Jacklyn. The college-bound Meadville High School graduate stayed focus on her goal and attained her crown.

As the current Miss Crawford County, Jacklyn's platform is Lyme Disease awareness since her Mother manages the disease daily. Jacklyn's Mother, Lynne Schnauber was diagnosed with a mono-like virus in 1985 when she was a junior in high school. "From that time on, I remember always being sick and college was a struggle," stated Lynne. In 1992 Lynne was further misdiagnosed with

chronic fatigue syndrome, despite the diagnosis and the health struggles, Lynne and her husband started a family. The pregnancies took their toll on her body. In 1999 during Lynne's second pregnancy, she started to experience neurological issues, only to be faced with the possible diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis. As a Licensed Practical Nurse, Lynne grew frustrated with her undiagnosed condition. Lynne shared, "After years of pain and not knowing what was wrong with me, I started to think; maybe I am crazy. When no one can tell you what's wrong, it's easy to start to believe". It wasn't until 2001; a friend of Lynne's asked her how long she had been managing her 'Lyme Disease', and that was it; the years of not knowing were over. She wasn't crazy - all of her symptoms from the past 16 years coincided with this disease. Finally with the proper diagnosis, Lynne has been able to seek the proper medical treatment to help manage her symptoms.

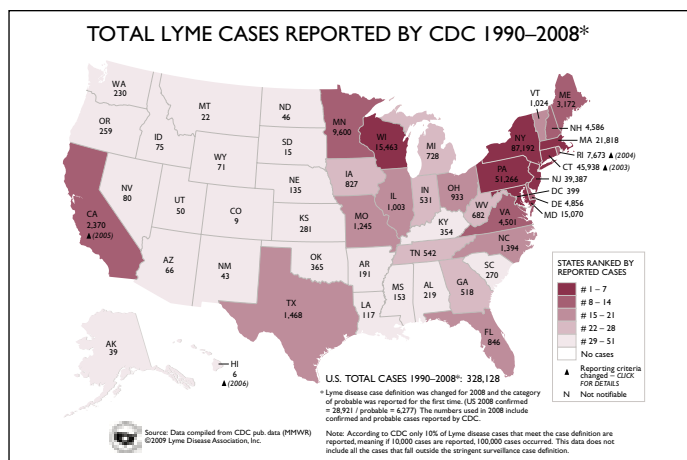
*"... a proper diagnosis is crucial to prevention as well as to successfully manage the disease."*

Julianne Sommers, Vice President of Infusion Therapy Services for Vantage® reached out to Jacklyn Schnauber, Miss Crawford County. "Inviting Jacklyn to experience firsthand how an IV pharmacy operates, especially since her Mother is our patient, was just the right thing to do. I felt offering her an educational visit would enrich her platform," stated Sommers.

As a voice for Lyme Disease, Jacklyn is eager to take any opportunity to broaden her understanding of her mother's disease and treatment. "Lyme Disease has affected my family for as long as I can remember, a proper diagnosis is crucial to prevention as well as to successfully manage the disease. I want to be my mother's voice to help others and to spread awareness," Jacklyn stated passionately.

Between the years of 1990 through 2008, the state of New York was ranked first with 87,192

*Continued on Page 10*



# Saint Vincent Health System President and CEO C. Angela Bontempo Named Honoree for American Cancer Society's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Erie Golf Premiere

The Erie County Unit of the American Cancer Society named Saint Vincent Health System President and CEO, C. Angela Bontempo, MHA/MBA, FACHE, as the Honoree of the 3rd Annual Erie Golf Premiere which was held on Monday, June 21, 2010 at the Kawkwa Club in Erie, PA.

"The American Cancer Society has shared an ongoing relationship for many years with Saint Vincent Health System by partnering together to bring numerous cancer-related programs and services to area cancer patients and their families," said James E. Martin, Regional President of Northwest Savings Bank and honorary chairman of this year's event. "It brings us great pleasure to recognize Saint Vincent Health System President and CEO, C. Angela Bontempo, as this year's Honoree for the American Cancer Society's Erie Golf Premiere," added Martin.

"As a cancer survivor," said Bontempo, "I realize the importance of cancer programs, and I am pleased to be a part of this American Cancer Society Golf Premiere."

Saint Vincent Health System associates serve on numerous American Cancer Society committees including Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, Relay For Life, I Can Cope patient service program, as well as the local Volunteer Leadership Council. In addition, Saint Vincent Health System medical professionals serve as media spokespersons for the American Cancer Society around major cancer sites as well as for American Cancer Society educational programs.

"As a hospital and a partner in the Regional Cancer Center of Erie, we understand the need for fundraising efforts such as this golf premiere," said Bontempo. "We have all been affected by cancer at one point in our lives, whether personally or through someone in our families or close relationships, and being able to have supportive programs for cancer patients through the American Cancer Society is invaluable."

All proceeds raised from the American Cancer Society Erie Golf Premiere will benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of cancer research, education, advocacy and patient service programs.

As the nation's largest non-governmental investor in cancer research, contributing more than \$3.4 billion, the American Cancer Society saves lives by helping people

*"We have all been affected by cancer at one point in our lives..."*

stay well by preventing cancer or detecting it early; helping people get well by being there for them during and after a cancer diagnosis; by finding cures through investment in groundbreaking discovery; and by fighting back by rallying lawmakers to pass laws to defeat cancer and by rallying communities worldwide to join the fight. With a global grassroots force of more than three million volunteers, the American Cancer Society fights for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community.

"Birthdays can be even more meaningful for the cancer survivor," said Bontempo. "I am celebrating my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday cancer free!"

As a result of the American Cancer Society's efforts, more than 11 million people in America who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will also be celebrating birthdays this year.

To learn more or to get help, call the American Cancer Society any time, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org.



*C. Angela Bontempo, CEO Saint Vincent Health System, Mrs. Amy Lund, and Dr. Peter Lund.*



# Dahlkemper and USDA Rural Development Announce Funding for New Corry Memorial Hospital

US Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper (PA-3<sup>rd</sup>) district serving northwestern PA along with USDA Rural Development State Director Thomas Williams announced on August 31, 2010 that they selected Corry Memorial Hospital to receive a \$22,603,000 Community Facilities Direct Loan and a \$12,170,000 Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan through Northwest Savings Bank. These funds will be used to construct a 77,000 square foot, critical access hospital to replace the current 59 year old structure. Dahlkemper a member of the House Committee on Agriculture stated, "I am pleased to share this exciting news with everyone in Corry, especially the dedicated health care providers and staff of Corry Memorial Hospital". Williams stated, "These projects and others like them, are contributing to fully restore the American economy while improving the quality of life in small cities throughout rural Pennsylvania". Ground breaking is scheduled within the next several months.



*Paul "Hoop" Roche, Chairman of the Board, Corry Memorial Hospital; Barbara Nichols, Chief Executive Officer, Corry Memorial Hospital; USDA Rural Development State Director, Thomas Williams and US Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper*



Everyone has a story...  
take **PRIDE** in yours!

**SARAH FAIVRE, Pharm.D**



Sarah attended Mercyhurst College graduating with a Biology Degree only to move on to LECOM School of Pharmacy, recently graduating as a Doctor of Pharmacy.

**FRED HARRINGTON**



**VP of Vantage®  
Healthcare Linen  
Services**

Fred has success attained his certification for laundry and linen management from ALM. The Certified Laundry & Linen Management

Program is a tool to equip individuals who are in a leadership position who want to increase their level of competency and have a desire to enhance their understanding of both management and industry specifics.

## Miss Crawford County

*Continued from Page 2*

reported cases of Lyme disease followed by Pennsylvania with 51,266 reported cases according to the Center of Disease Control.

Vantage® Home Infusion Therapy Services covers a range of services, including: intravenous antibiotics, bleeding disorder management, pain management, parenteral and enteral nutrition as well as providing the education needed for patients to feel comfortable with their therapy at home. The eighteen member team serves approximately 350 plus patients daily and works closely with physicians to coordinate safe, effective infusion therapy for patients. To learn more about Vantage® Home Infusion Therapy Services please call 800-548-5463 or visit our website at: [www.vantagehealthcare.com](http://www.vantagehealthcare.com).



## Mobile Services Now Offering GreenLight™ Laser Therapy to Prostate Patients

A new treatment is now available at Saint Vincent Health Center, Meadville Medical Center, Titusville Area Hospital and UPMC Horizon that may provide relief for men suffering from enlarged prostate. Also known as benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), this noncancerous enlargement of the prostate affects more than half of all men over the age of 60. Although BPH is a common health problem, many men lack awareness and understanding about the condition, symptoms, treatment solutions and overall health risks with delaying treatment.

Common symptoms of BPH, including frequent urination—especially at night; weak urine flow; pain or burning during urination; and starting or stopping during urination, can have a devastating impact on quality of life. Treatment options for BPH typically have been limited to a lifetime of medication or an invasive surgical procedure. Now, men with BPH have the option to choose a minimally invasive surgical treatment known as GreenLight™ Laser Therapy.

GreenLight™ Laser Therapy is a quick, outpatient procedure that delivers immediate and dramatic symptom relief without the side effects or expense of medication or the risks associated with invasive surgery. More than 375,000 men worldwide have been treated with GreenLight™ Laser Therapy.

*“BPH affects more  
than half of all men over  
the age of 60”*

Choosing a treatment for enlarged prostate involves careful consideration to determine if the treatment is long-lasting, easy to tolerate and safe and effective in relieving symptoms and restoring urine flow. The most commonly available treatments all require the patient to make significant compromises in these areas. Medication is a costly alternative that can stop working overtime and has potential side effects. Invasive surgery is associated with higher risks and complications, such as impotence and incontinence, and requires a two – three day hospital stay and four to six weeks of recovery.

All surgical treatments have inherent and associated risks. The most common risks associated with Photoselective Vaporization of the Prostate (PVP) are: hematuria, short term dysuria, and urinary tract infections. You should talk with your doctor about benefits and risks before moving forward with any treatment option. Patients can be evaluated for GreenLight™ Laser Therapy through: Allied Urology Associates of Erie, Dr. Mandeep Singh of Meadville, Dr. Russell E. Adkins of Titusville, Dr. Hernan C. Alvarado, Dr. Walter P. Beh, Dr. Suresh P. Amina and Dr. Anthony J. Elisco of Horizon.

“Vantage Mobile Services is committed to making new technology available to all of our communities; GreenLight™ Laser is another example of this commitment. We are very pleased with the success of this newest addition and have already seen a positive impact to our patients and facilities. Brian Kelly, Lead Laser Technologist has the experience and expertise necessary to assure quality in this service,” comments Carrie Pappal, RN, BSN, VP of VMS. For more information, please contact Vantage® at 800-715-1214.

## Remote Medication Dispensing

dispensing efficiencies,” said Robin Smith, Vice President of Pharmacy Services at Vantage®. “The InSiteRx system reduces waste in long-term care settings and pharmacies which is good for everybody.”

Nurses benefit from remote dispensing because it gives them more quality time to spend with their patients. And the medications are available on-demand when the nurse needs them.

“We are thrilled that Crawford County Care Center has become a pioneer in remote dispensing; the new system will help nurses save time while also creating a safer medication process for long-term care residents,” said Carla Corkern, Talyst CEO. “Talyst is proud to empower pharmacies with the ability to virtually eliminate waste and reduce medication errors with automated technologies such as InSiteRx.”

To learn more about remote medication dispensing, please visit Vantage® at: <http://www.vhcn.com/vca/insiterx.htm>



### ABOUT CRAWFORD COUNTY CARE CENTER:

The Crawford County Care Center is a 157-bed skilled nursing facility established in February 1990.

### ABOUT TALYST:

Talyst is engineering the safer pharmacy. The company was founded in 2002 to provide automated medication management systems to acute care hospital pharmacies. The following year Talyst launched AutoPharm®, the innovative software platform designed to drive a complete suite of medication storage, packaging, refrigeration, and barcoding hardware.

As of 2010, Talyst has installed automated systems in more than 500 acute care hospitals, integrated healthcare companies, long-term care facilities, and corrections facilities. Talyst is dedicated to delivering world-class software and proven hardware components to enhance efficiency, provide greater inventory control, and improve patient safety in all care environments.



*Noreen Lee, Administrator and  
Mary Ann Haemer, Director of Nursing*

## Hospitals Partner

*Continued from Page 1*

home health and hospice services that are closest to their own homes.”

More than 11 million Americans receive home-delivered health care from home health care providers. Through technological advances, home-delivered health care has grown far beyond basic professional nursing and home care aide services to provide a wealth of medical care in the comfort of a patient’s own home.

Home health service coordination for Regional

Home Health & Hospice will be organized through the Erie office, located at 3526 Peach Street and hospice services will be organized through the Corry office, located at 13675 Rte. 6 in Corry, PA.

*“...allowing  
patients to  
access home  
health and  
hospice  
services that  
are closest  
to their own  
homes.”*

### WHAT IS HOME HEALTH CARE?

Home health care enables individuals recovering from surgery, illness or injury to receive skilled healthcare services at home. A range of assistance and services are available, such as: IV therapy, pain management, wound vacuum treatment, physical therapy, occupational therapy, medication teaching, medical social services, speech therapy and home health aides among others.

### WHAT IS HOSPICE CARE?

Hospice services provide a team-based approach to meeting the medical, spiritual and emotional support needs of terminally ill patients and their loved ones. The team includes the patient’s family doctor, a medical director, registered nurse, a social worker, hospice health aides, counselors and trained volunteers. Patients can receive hospice-based comfort care at home, in a nursing facility or personal care boarding home. Hospice care also provides medications, medical supplies and equipment related to the patients’ diagnoses and a medical director and nurses are on call to provide assistance 24 hours a day.

*For more information on  
Regional Home Health & Hospice,  
please call 814-866-1705.*

# Legislative Update From Washington, DC

*The Federal Affairs Network, (FAN) meetings are held in June and December of each year, and provide government relations executives from alliance hospitals and health systems exclusive access to key policymakers on the federal front. The meetings feature discussions and presentations by federal healthcare veterans, Capitol Hill insiders and other health policy experts. This year's June meeting was held at the Willard Intercontinental in Washington DC.*

## **BLAIR CHILDS**, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs, Premier

Blair Childs, Premier's Senior Vice President for Public Affairs, provided FAN attendees with a broad overview of the potential implications for hospitals of healthcare reform and what Premier is doing to help prepare its members for the implementation process. He also highlighted Premier's policy priorities and how they were addressed in the law, including: accountable care organizations, value-based purchasing and bundled payments.

## **STU ROTHENBERG**, the self-proclaimed "election handicapper" opened the FAN meeting with an in-depth analysis of the political landscape headed into the mid-term elections.

Rothenberg pointed out the critical changes that have occurred among voters since President Obama's election, including slipping polling figures and increased voter angst in light of a sluggish economic recovery, the BP oil spill, perceived runaway spending in Washington and backlash against the health reform legislation. In particular, Rothenberg discussed how Obama's approval ratings have slipped from 60-65 in 2009 to just 45 percent a year later. At the same time, voters who believe the country is headed in the right direction have fallen from 45 percent in the first quarter of 2009 to just 39 percent this spring. Rothenberg argued that the polling results are similar to those that brought about the Republican revolution in 1994, and are a strong indicator of shifts in power in the fall. In the House, Rothenberg predicts that Republicans are likely to pick up between 25 and 30 seats, and could potentially pick up enough seats to take the majority. In the Senate, a Republican takeover is far less likely, but Rothenberg believes Republicans stand a good chance of picking up anywhere from five to seven seats.

## **SENATOR JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER (D-WV)**

In his remarks to the group, Senator John D. Rockefeller (D-WV) discussed the "extraordinary undertaking" of healthcare reform and the impact it will have on patients, healthcare organizations and the provision of care. Senator Rockefeller noted that many provisions of the law aid hospitals in their mission of improving quality and efficiency of care and that patients will have better access to primary care physicians. Additionally, he highlighted the significant role group purchasing organizations play in reducing the cost of care.

## **BETH FUCHS**, Principal, Health Policy Alternatives

Beth Fuchs of Health Policy Alternatives provided a thorough description of the insurance provisions contained in the new healthcare reform law, specifically the creation of health insurance exchanges. Fuchs described the insurance changes that take effect immediately as an attempt to stabilize the insurance market today, provide for affordability and serve as a platform for more comprehensive reforms that will occur in 2014. Reviewing the reforms that begin in 2014, she outlined the key changes including rating reforms, the ban on pre-existing condition exclusions, guaranteed issues and guaranteed renewability, and anti-discrimination provisions. She then went on to describe for attendees the major role and functions of the exchanges. In closing, Fuchs discussed the federal vs. state responsibilities in implementing these reforms.

## **ROBIN RUDOWITZ** of the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured and

**JOY JOHNSON WILSON** of the National Conference of State Legislatures provided an overview of how the Medicaid program will change under the new health reform law and its potential impact on states and hospitals.

Rudowitz highlighted the major changes in the law, including the expansion of eligibility to 133 percent of the federal poverty level and to non-pregnant childless adults, additional federal financing for coverage and additional options for long-term care and care coordination for individuals eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. She also explained some of the key Medicaid benefit and payment provisions, including: improved coverage of smoking cessation provisions, establishment of a

*Continued on Page 5*



Tom Surman, Vice President Corporate Communications, Vantage®; Denis O'Brien, Vice President Government Relations, Saint Vincent Health System; and Jason Altmire, US Congressman Fourth Congressional District, PA



# Healthy Living Expo

**Saturday, October 30, 2010**  
Bayfront Convention Center • Erie, PA  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Free of Charge - Open to the Public**

**Come Enjoy Healthy Living**



THROUGH A  
**VETERAN'S EYE**  
A SALUTE

## 12th Annual Through a Veteran's Eyes A Salute

**November 11 - 13, 2010**  
Lew Davies Community Center  
Park Avenue, Meadville, PA

**Vantage® is a Proud Sponsor!**

## **LECOM**

*Continued from Page 5*

with patients and being involved in their care – has been incredibly rewarding.”

Ms. Apple's great uncle, also an osteopathic physician, helped steer her toward the profession, and she hasn't looked back. As she completes her career at the College, she reflects on her time and on the foundation for her success as a future physician. “The education I received at LECOM will be the springboard for a patient-centered career,” she said.

The LECOM School of Pharmacy is well represented at this year's commencement ceremony, as the College's sixth class of pharmacists prepares to give back to the communities they served during their time as students. Jaime Caputo, Pharm.D., an Erie native who will move on to the world of community retail pharmacy this summer, champions the belief that “dedication is not what others expect of you, it is that which you bring to others.” A self-described “people lover,” Dr. Caputo is enthusiastic about her work as a pharmacist. She and her family came to Erie when she was just 10 years old. Hailing from a family of medical professionals (her mother and sister are nurses and her father is a pharmacist in the same Erie pharmacy chain where his daughter takes her full-time position in May) Dr. Caputo advances the family tradition. Finding inspiration in her father's return to school to attain his pharmacy degree, Dr. Caputo decided to follow in her father's footsteps and to echo the pharmacy career choice.

These ceremonies not only acknowledge the important choice so many students have made to give back to their communities, but also those who have guided the efforts of both the College and its administrators throughout the students' careers. In Erie, the College will acknowledge the contributions of LECOM Board of Trustees member John Johnston, D.O., and educator Shaun Herness, Ph.D., with special Presidential Awards. In Bradenton, LECOM Board of Trustees member Joan L. Moore, D.O., will receive a special Presidential Award.

Homer once wrote, “Always to be best, and to be distinguished above the rest.” In the case of the LECOM Class of 2010, their ability to be the best will distinguish them as they move forward to become leaders in the health care profession for many years to come.

## Historical Society Recognition

### *Vantage® Receives Historical Society Recognition in Franklin and Meadville, PA*

Vantage® received recognition for the preservation of the Exchange Bank & Trust Company on the corner of Liberty and Thirteenth Street in downtown Franklin, PA. The Historical Society also recognized Vantage®'s rehabilitation of the Talon Plant #7 location at 1305 South Main Street, Meadville, PA, the current home of Vantage® corporate offices.

The Crawford County Historical Society is one of 600 historical societies across the state of Pennsylvania. Their goal in recognition is to encourage a change in public attitude to one of embracing history and respecting the past. "The rehabilitation process of our corporate office, previously Talon Plant #7, did just that for me. Meadville had always been home to Vantage® and when we established the new corporate site, the whole process was more than construction, it was preservation of a key piece of Meadville's rich economic history." Katrina McCullough, Director of Public Relations, Vantage®.

According to Diane Shafer Dominick, Ph.D., "The Historical Society awards were created for several purposes: the first is to recognize individuals and organizations that believe in architectural preservation and demonstrate that belief in a material way. The second reason is to help raise county awareness of the benefits, both visual and economic of the practice of preservation."

Since Vantage® began 26 years ago, there has been growth and business outreach in twelve additional states. However, the focus for development is first and foremost in the communities at home: Meadville, Franklin, and Erie. These are the Vantage® foundation communities in which growth will continue through building on current infrastructure for the future.

## Toys for Tots Calls the Vantage® Center Home

### *The Meadville Tribune's charitable coverage brought light to the need of the Crawford County Toys for Tots division.*

Carrie Nageotte, the area coordinator, has been nothing but appreciative for the program's new home location at the Vantage® Center. Nageotte started the area's Toys for Tots program out of her home 13 years ago. As the program grew; she and her handful of volunteers were forced to move to her garage for additional work space but it was space without heat. In 2005 Nageotte relocated to the Talon Business Center on upper Arch Street, working out of a damp sometimes wet basement. In April the basement location was flooded and the Toys for Tots program lost a couple of pallets of donated items. To add insult to injury the Arch Street Talon Business Center location transferred from private ownership to the redevelopment authority leaving the programs location stability in limbo. The need to secure a stable, dry location became Nageotte's mission and the Vantage® Center proved to be an excellent fit.

The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys each year, and to distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. The goal is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to our less fortunate youngsters. The overall objective is to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas. Our nation's most valuable resources, our children, are worth the effort. Toys for Tots helps to unite members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.

The Crawford County Toys for Tots program provides toys and books to approximately 1,400 area children. They are always looking for donations through the means of toys, time or cash. On August 6<sup>th</sup> Vantage® held a welcome celebration for the new tenants.

### **Legislative Update** *Continued from Page 4*

"health home" state plan option, and a 1 percentage point federal matching assistance percentage (FMAP) increase for states that provide recommended prevention services and eliminate cost sharing. Wilson focused on the impact implementation of the new law will have on the states and the challenges it will impose on state budgets. Most notably, she said, the law fundamentally changes the state role in Medicaid by changing the status of Medicaid in relation to the rest of the U.S. healthcare system.

Presentations were made by; Robert Kocher, M.D., the Special Assistant to the President for Healthcare at the National Economic Council with a panel of congressional staffers that included: Liz Fowler, Senior Counsel to the Senate Finance Committee; Dan Smith, Staff Director of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee; Tim Gronniger, Professional Staff Member for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce; and Jennifer Friedman, Professional Staff Member for the House Committee on Ways and Means. Kocher provided the Obama Administration's perspective on implementation of the new law, while the staff panel focused on implementation of some of the quality provisions as well as current legislative efforts to address the Medicare physician payment sustainable growth rate formula and extend supplemental FMAP funds into 2011.

*The next FAN meeting is scheduled for December 6-7, 2010 at the historic Hay-Adams Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C. Vantage® Owner hospitals are encouraged to attend. There are no registration fees for our hospital owners.*



## LECOM Graduates More Than 500 Medical Students

### *Campuses in Erie and Florida Confer Degrees on Future Physicians, Pharmacists and Educators*

ERIE, Pa. – The Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine stands proudly united in congratulating its Class of 2010, with more than 500 students receiving degrees from the school's campuses in Erie, Pa., and Bradenton, Fla. The College, which boasts the largest student population of any medical school in the U.S., concludes a successful year of expansion, achievements and milestones in its continued mission to improve the quality of health care to meet the medical demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

*"...the College continues to build a strong reputation as one of the leaders of medical education."*

In commencement exercises in Erie on May 30, 2010, at the Louis J. Tullio Arena in downtown Erie, LECOM conferred degrees on 214 doctors of osteopathic medicine and 123 doctors of pharmacy. Additionally, the College awarded 20 Master of Science in Medical Education degrees and, for the first time, a Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences degree. In Bradenton, LECOM will host a graduation ceremony for its third class of D.O.s, conferring degrees on 149 deserving medical students on Sunday, June 6.

While the campuses stand miles apart on the map, together they stand united in delivering programs of excellence in education, research, clinical care and community service, and through the examples set by its graduates, the College continues to build a strong reputation as one of the leaders of medical education.

Each of the College's graduates has a unique story to tell, and none are more unique than the story of M. Ivan Rusilko, D.O., a native of nearby Meadville, Pa., who has made a name for himself not only as a student of osteopathic medicine, but also as a first-class bodybuilder who earned the title of Mr. USA in 2008. Having competed in myriad contests, including a recent attempt to earn the title Mr. World 2010, Dr. Rusilko has set himself apart not only to perfect his body, but to advance and champion his personal mission to make a difference in his community.

Throughout his world travels, Dr. Rusilko has come to recognize that being an American is a magnificent gift and he takes great care and responsibility to nurture his place in his community and to firmly establish himself as a source of betterment to it. LECOM takes immense satisfaction in sending this medical scholar, athlete, and distinguished citizen into the world of health care, with the utmost confidence that there is plenty of muscle behind his mission.

As a point of fact, Dr. Rusilko is not the only LECOM graduate with a successful side career in the world of competitive modeling. Andrea Apple, a graduate of LECOM Bradenton, has flourished both in the classroom as a medical student and on stage as a beauty pageant contestant. The 23-year-old from St. Petersburg has balanced the rigors of medical school, along with meeting her obligations as a two-time winner of Dade City's Miss Kumquat Festival. Her victories in local competitions qualified her for the 2007 and 2009 Miss Florida pageants.

"As Miss Dade City's Kumquat festival queen, I was able to serve my community, bring recognition to the doctor of osteopathic medicine profession, and to the Miss Florida organization," she said. "I want to base my career in quality care and compassion for the patients I will serve. The clinical part of my education – working

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**Everyone has a story... take PRIDE in yours!**

**ARDIS KLIBER, Pharm.D**



Successfully completed the National Home Infusion Certification Program – an intense 7 module, 27 continuing education credit program designed for the home infusion pharmacist

"Earning my NHIA Home Infusion Pharmacy Certificate is a personal and professional achievement. It represents my commitment and dedication to the profession of home infusion and reflects the importance I place on continuing education for patient safety and positive patient outcomes." Kliber, Pharm.D

**JASON HOOVER**



Jason Hoover started with Vantage® in August of 2007 as a shredding driver/technician. His dedication and hard work has earned him a Route Manager position. Jason is married with children and

resides in Springboro.

**KEN JOHNSTON**



Ken Johnston has been with Vantage® for 9 months with previous experience in the DME field. Ken started with Vantage® as a floating Manager/CSR in December and enjoys his position because it gives him a

chance to make a difference in people's lives. Johnston lives in Meadville with his wife Amanda and two kids Mason and Madelyn.

# 2010 Vantage Invitational

July 21, 2010, Meadville Country Club

Will McCarthy was our Honorary Event "Chairperson" for the 21st Annual Vantage® Invitational. Will was diagnosed with Hemophilia Factor IX when he was 18 months old. Now 8 years old, Will loves to golf, play basketball, listen to music and is learning to play guitar. Will has found a great team at Vantage® that help with his infusion therapy in the comfort of his home instead of at the ER. the McCarthy family extends their thanks to Vantage® and the Erie Hemophilia Foundation for helping to provide support and safety to Will.