



FORT WAYNE

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MEDICINE

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QUARTERLY



2023 State Legislative Preview

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Indiana University School of Medicine turns 40

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Public Health, Access to Care, Practice Issues Top 2023 ISMA Agenda

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Fort Wayne Medical Society Mission Statement

The Fort Wayne Medical Society is committed to the goals of the American Medical Association, the purpose of which is the preservation of the art and science of medicine, the personal development of member physicians and the protection and betterment of the public health.

The Fort Wayne Medical Society is committed to the principles of physician autonomy and self-determination in the practice of medicine.

The Fort Wayne Medical Society is committed to fulfilling the role of an active cohesive leader of the healthcare resources of our community by maintaining and assuring the quality, availability and the responsible economic utilization of our healthcare resources.

The Fort Wayne Medical Society is committed to active involvement in the decision-making process regarding medical, social, political and economic issues affecting patients and physicians within hospital and all various inpatient and outpatient settings.

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Fort Wayne Medicine Quarterly is the official publication of the Fort Wayne (Allen County) Medical Society, Inc.

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The views expressed in *Fort Wayne Medicine Quarterly* articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the Fort Wayne Medical Society.

Editorials are welcome and members are encouraged to respond to an opinion that might be different from their own.

References from articles will be included, if space allows. When not included, references can be obtained through the editor.

Editor's Note | Joel Harmeyer, Executive Director



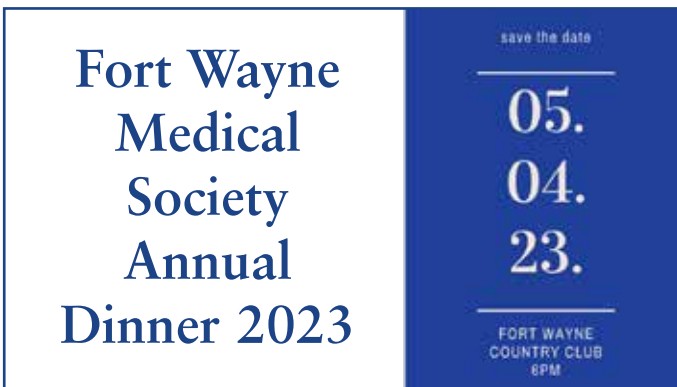
We have assembled a chock-full Winter edition of *Fort Wayne Medicine Quarterly*, so put another log on the fire, grab your favorite warm beverage, and settle in.

Legislative Workshop (see event photos on page 18)

After a three-year absence, we returned to an in-person Legislative Workshop held at Fort Wayne Country Club on October 26th. The event, moderated by Dr. William Pond, was attended by five state lawmakers. State Representatives Bob Morris, Chris Judy, and Dave Abbott were present, as well as State Senators Andy Zay and Dennis Kruse. Also in attendance was John Ruckelshaus and Jake Torrie from the ISMA's Legislative department. Additionally, Katie Kluger and Dave Albin joined us from ISMA's Membership and Marketing department.

The goal of the evening is collaboration, as this event has a proven track record of law creation. There was passionate discussion across a wide variety of topics including opioids, reproductive rights, marijuana/CBD, and prior authorizations. Though no specific actions were taken this evening, FWMS members and legislators alike expressed gratitude for this forum to share ideas.

Annual Meeting Save the Date



We have officially set the date for our 2023 Annual Meeting – Thursday, May 4th. The event will again be held at Fort Wayne Country Club. Tickets are \$50 per person. More details to follow. For now, please **SAVE THE DATE!**

Sip, Shop & Give (see event photos on page 25)

In conjunction with the Alliance, FWMS debuted a new holiday-themed event called **Sip, Shop & Give**. On Sunday, November 13th from 6 – 8pm, local retail establishment

goodMRKT opened its doors to our members and guests for a private shopping event. With live holiday music and delicious catered food, **Sip, Shop & Give** was enjoyed by many members and spouses. Holiday ornaments were available for purchase with the proceeds going to IU School of Medicine Fort Wayne. Many thanks to Harry Cunningham, owner of **goodMRKT** for his hospitality and willingness to host this new endeavor. With positive feedback and all-around high marks, we hope this event becomes a new holiday tradition for the Society each November.



Swag Shop

Lastly, I wanted to draw your attention to our merchandise line available for online purchase. We are quite proud of this project as there were logistical challenges to overcome. Most importantly, it is a personification of our new logo and identity branding. The challenge we faced was to present a complete line of men's and women's apparel without paying for and storing the inventory. Enter local business First Wilkerson. This company is a direct-to-garment digital printer and embroiderer. Basically, each FWMS apparel item ordered is a custom creation, eliminating the need for either company to hold inventory.

We think you will be impressed by the initial items we selected. There is truly something for everyone! Since this is the Winter issue of the *Quarterly*, let me draw your attention to our packable puffy jackets available in both Men's and Women's stylings. Just remember, each order you place is considered custom, so there are no returns. Every item has sizing information for your reference. We are thrilled to have found a way for our members to show Fort Wayne Medical Society pride and to partner with a local print-maker. Please visit us at www.fwms.org/shop to find your personalized FWMS items!



1. How do you describe St. Joseph Missions to someone unfamiliar with the organization?

St. Joseph Missions is an emergency shelter for single women.

We house 18 women at any given time. Not only do we provide shelter, we provide on-site case management to meet our guests where they are at and help them create goals and a plan for self-sufficiency.

2. What is the history of St. Joseph Missions?

Catholics on a Mission started feeding the homeless in 2013 and after a couple years of seeing the same faces, started questioning what more they could do. They started doing research and learned that there was no emergency shelter for single women here in our community. There are longer term programs for women and emergency shelters for men and families and even a domestic violence shelter but no emergency shelter for single women. So if you don't have kids or aren't experiencing domestic violence, there is nowhere for you to go. After learning this information, they felt called to open an emergency shelter for single women, the first of its kind in our community. After gaining support from the agencies in our community who serve the homeless and raising awareness and funding, we opened our doors in June of 2021.

3. What is a typical workday like for you?

That's a great question! I usually start my day checking and responding to emails and working on donor management. I love writing hand written cards and will usually do this daily. Depending on what projects are going on, I'll usually spend some time on that. Currently, we are working on the Winter Contingency Program so a lot of my time lately has been on that. That is a program where



we increase our numbers so women aren't sleeping on the street in the winter. Lastly, I spend time reaching out and making connections. My goal is for everyone in the city to know about us so I'm diligently working hard to spread the word.

4. How do you strike a work/life balance?

I am very intentional with my time and try to have really good boundaries. In non-profit, it's really easy to get sucked into the whirlwind. I work hard at not trying to get pulled in by making sure my boundaries are solid. When I leave work, I spend time with family, doing things I enjoy. I have a puppy right now and she desperately needs to go to school to learn some manners so that will be fun! I got her with the intention of being a therapy dog so I can take her to work to love on the women. Although she is pretty wild, she loves people so I'm looking forward to taking her to puppy classes to hopefully calm down!

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5. *What is the biggest challenge your organization faces?*

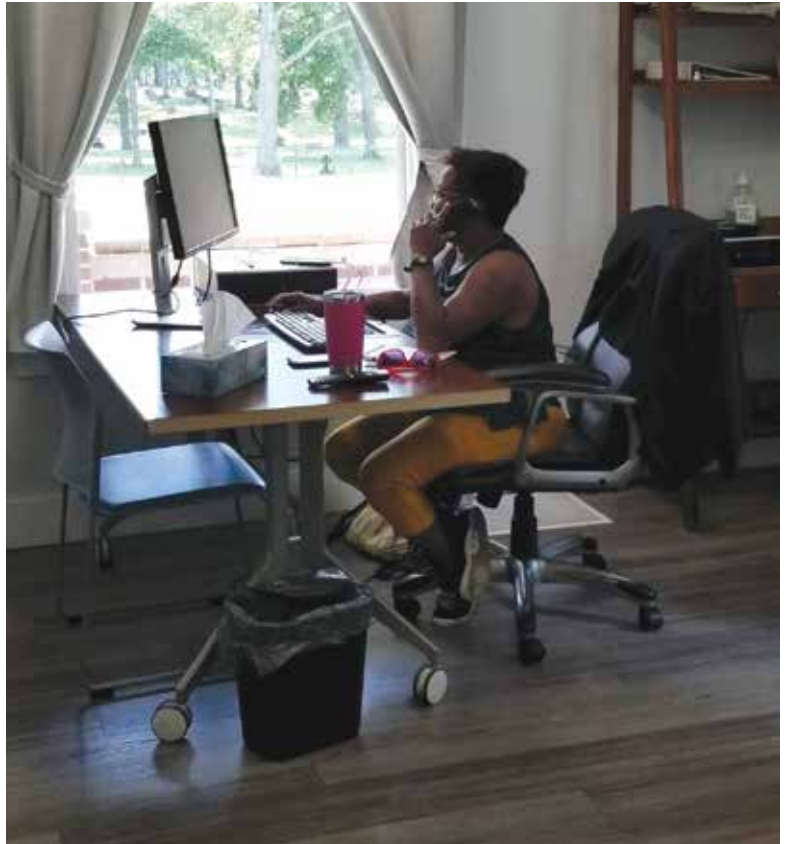
Our biggest challenge that we face as an organization is that not everyone knows about us. We are a new non-profit so getting the word out to attract more supporters is my number one priority right now. Our doors are constantly rotating with women who need shelter. We can't do this work alone, so to keep up with the demand, we need to raise awareness.

a. *How can our members help?*

There are a number of ways your members could support us. We of course welcome financial gifts, it costs about \$86 to provide shelter and supportive services for our guests for one month. Another way to support us would be volunteering. We are always looking for individuals or groups to provide dinner for our guests. Lastly, as mentioned we are working hard to raise awareness so we would love to speak to any groups your members might be a part of about our mission and share stories about the impact we are making.

6. *What is one thing you'd like our physician members to consider when dealing with issues your organization faces?*

The women who come to us have heartbreaking stories and they are broken. A lot of them look like they could be my sister, or daughter, or even my mother on the surface but most of them come to us with mental health issues and a lot of them have endured trauma and abuse. The women who come through our doors are in survival mode and have been living in fight or flight mode for way too long.



Manchester University Fort Wayne Continues to Grow

Jennifer A. Campbell, PharmD, Dean of Student Life, Manchester University Fort Wayne



The 32,000 square foot expansion and renovation has taken its first step forward with internal demolition. This project is being undertaken in the 10-year-old building located on the corner of DuPont and Diebold. When the project is completed, the existing

façade facing Diebold Road will include a new entrance and two-story addition. Although a building facelift is always good for attracting attention, what is most exciting about the renovation is what will be happening on the inside.

When the building opened in 2012 with the launch of the Doctor of Pharmacy Program, there were only thoughts and dreams to launch other programs in the Fort Wayne location. Over the last ten years, those dreams have grown and become reality. First the Masters of Science in Pharmacogenomics campus program followed quickly by an online pathway. The long-standing Masters in Athletic Training program then made the move from North Manchester to Fort Wayne and the building saw its first major internal architectural change with the creation of an Athletic Training lab.

As is often the case with growth and change, the first change paves the way for additional beneficial change. Subsequent to the Athletic Training Program moving, Manchester began traditional and accelerated Bachelors of Science in Nursing programs (TBSN and ABSN). The ABSN program takes place in Fort Wayne and graduated its first class in December. The last two years of the TBSN take place in Fort Wayne. In August of 2022, the Doctor of Pharmacy program began a distance (predominantly online) pathway. In May the university is on track to have its first class of Doctor of Physical Therapy students and in August an online Masters of Science in Nutrition and Nutrigenomics will begin classes. With all of this growth and change, the building originally designed for one health professions program needs to change as well.



Some of the changes are those to be expected. New laboratory spaces for the new campus programs in Physical Therapy and Nursing are undoubtedly a necessity. With the start and switch to online options, the changes to the building for the new programs provides an amazing opportunity to update classrooms to enhance the ability to offer instruction and a place to learn that has the flexibility to evolve as the health professions evolve. With the increasing number of health-related programs, there is opportunity for students to learn across professions and this renovation will provide space for that in and outside of class.

Moving outside the classroom space, the increased and changing student population and the faculty and staff who worked creatively through the worst of the pandemic will see updates to collaboration spaces and student support services. An updated resource room, a large collaboration space, and a new student lounge/cafe will provide a variety of study spaces from individual to large group and quiet to loud. In addition to places to study, these spaces will also encourage community building. Through the pandemic, loneliness and stress increased and made success in academic programs more difficult.

The new space will include a centralized access point to student support services. These services include access to a success advisor, counseling services, the registrar's office, disability support services, and academic support (tutoring and a writing center). In addition to the more commonly known services, there will also be a place for

continued on page 10

the clothing closet and the mutual aid food pantry (the food pantry is modeled after the Forward Indiana pantries found in Fort Wayne and surrounding communities). Students struggling with food scarcity and not having the funds to buy the profession specific clothing they need, is a more and more common occurrence. These mutual aid supports provide an opportunity for all students, faculty, and staff to take what they need and give what they can.

In addition to enhancing support for the internal Manchester Fort Wayne student, faculty, and staff community, the renovation, is providing an amazing opportunity to reach out and support the broader Northeast Indiana community. As part of the renovation, a new Physical Therapy pro-bono clinic will be built. The clinic will have a focus on amputees, providing students and faculty with hands-on opportunities to serve a high-need population in the region. The university is also working on creating additional interprofessional outreach events, such as a community wellness day that will bring together the students in all programs to bring education and support out into the community.

Another area of a university that is not always very visible is the research occurring that brings innovation and advancement to the community. The renovation will ensure that the research already being conducted will continue to be supported in the pharmaceutical sciences labs, the classrooms, the community practice sites, and with community partners. With new Physical Therapy research labs and the addition of new programs, the types of research will also be expanded. The ability to incorporate students into all research projects gives additional depth and breadth to their studies.

Manchester University is excited to expand its Fort Wayne presence and impact on the community. We look forward to continuing to work with and grow collaborations with the medical community to maximize that impact and elevate the positive change on the wellness of Northeast Indiana.



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Parkview Health Graduate Medical Education: Heal the Hurting. Share Knowledge. Advance the Science.

Susan Steffy, MD, FACP, Designated Institutional Official to the ACGME, Parkview Health



**“Heal the hurting.
Share knowledge.
Advance the science.”**

While individual residency programs have developed their own mission statements, the above statement encompasses the overall mission of all Parkview Health graduate medical education specialty programs as they develop and mature. Five months have passed since our first class of resident physicians (15 internal medicine and four general surgery) arrived. This article reflects on their contributions to this mission statement and to the advancement of healthcare in our region.

Heal the Hurting

Access to care has increased, with the Parkview Residency Center at Parkview Hospital Randallia (Entrance 4, on Carew Street) seeing thousands of patients since opening earlier this year. Hundreds of new (never previously seen at a Parkview facility) patients have accessed the center for their care. We are extremely grateful to these patients, as they serve a vital role in the advancement of medical education and the development of future physicians.

Both general surgery and internal medicine resident physicians (with oversight from their attending/precepting physicians and collaboration with nurses and clinical staff) are providing compassionate care to all patients seen in the center, further solidifying the Parkview Health mission of improving our patient’s health and inspiring their well-being.

Share Knowledge

Weekly didactic sessions occur at both the Parkview Regional Medical Center and Randallia campuses, with presentations by both faculty and resident physicians. However, knowledge sharing is continuous, with resident physicians deeply immersed in inpatient hospital rotations (at Randallia) and subspecialty rotations such as medical intensive care, trauma, cardiology, plastic surgery and hematology/oncology at both Allen County campuses.

Knowledge sharing also occurs through resident physician participation in safety and quality teams with physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses and other educators.

Advance the Science

With the Parkview Mirro Center for Research and Innovation serving as the foundation, it is anticipated that healthcare science will advance at an ever-increasing rate as our Parkview residency programs mature. Note that immediate success is already evident as internal medicine resident physicians recently presented at the American College of Physicians regional meeting in October, while the general surgery program was represented at the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress with both poster and podium presentations.

For more information on Parkview’s Graduate Medical Education programs, visit parkview.com/GME.



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 Group: Parkview Physician Group-Infectious Disease
 11104 Parkview Circle Dr Ste 440
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Arabian Gulf University, 2008
 Residency: Dammam Medical Complex & Weill Cornell University, 2008-2010 & 2012-2015



DAVID COLLINS, MD
 Specialty: Neuroradiology
 Group: FW Radiology
 3707 New Vision Dr
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Indiana University, 2016
 Residency: Indiana University, 2017-2021



SADAF BANGASH, MD
 Specialty: Internal Medicine
 Group: Parkview Physician Group-Internal Medicine
 8233 Glencarin Blvd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46804
 Medical School: Khyber Medical College, 1996
 Residency: St Louis University & Indiana University, 2001- 2002 & 2002-2004



BRIAN COMMISKEY, DO
 Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Michigan State University, 2019
 Residency: University of Michigan Health, 2019-2022



RYAN BEAN, MD
 Specialty: Internal Medicine
 Group: IU Health Physicians
 7411 Hope Dr, Ste C
 Fort Wayne, IN 46815
 Medical School: Ross University, 2017
 Residency: Ascension St John Hospital, 2017-2020



SAMUEL COREY, MD
 Specialty: Plastic Surgery
 Group: Indiana Plastic Surgery Center
 10020 Dupont Circle Ct Ste 100
 Fort Wayne, IN 46825
 Medical School: Indiana University
 Residency: Memorial University Medical Center



LILLIAN BURKE, MD
 Specialty: Oncology & Hematology
 Group: Parkview Physicians Grp-Oncology
 11050 Parkview Circle Dr
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: University of Minnesota, 1979
 Residency: University of Minnesota, 1979-1982



RYAN GRIMM, MD
 Specialty: Pediatrics
 Group: Parkview Physicians Group-Pediatrics
 1818 Carew St Ste 320
 Fort Wayne, IN 46805
 Medical School: Indiana University, 2010
 Residency: Indiana University, 2010-2014



MATTHEW BYERS, MD
 Specialty: Obstetrics & Gynecology
 Group: Parkview Physicians Group-OB/GYN
 1270 E State Rd 205 Ste 140
 Columbia City, IN 46725
 Medical School: Northeastern Ohio University, 2011
 Residency: Sisters of Charity Hospital, 2012-2016



JOHN HEEMSTRA, MD
 Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Oakland University, 2015
 Residency: St John Hospital & Medical Center, 2015-2018



MADHAVI CHILAKAMARRI, MD
 Specialty: Internal Medicine
 Group: Parkview Physician Group-Internal Medicine
 8233 Glencarin Blvd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46804
 Medical School: Osmania Medical College, 1991
 Residency: Indiana University & University of Missouri, 1992-1993 & 1993-1997



NATHAN JAMES, MD
 Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
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 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Indiana University, 2016
 Residency: Texas A&M College of Medicine, 2016-2019

Fort Wayne Medical Society | New Members



REBECCA KAMINSKI, DO

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: AT Still University, 2015
 Residency: Michigan State University & WMU Homer
 Stryker M.D. School of Medicine, 2015-
 2018 & 2018-2021



KELLEY SMITH, MD

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Indiana University, 2011
 Residency: University of Illinois, 2011-2014



JOSEPH KRUG, MD

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Indiana University, 2006
 Residency: University of Kentucky, 2006-2009



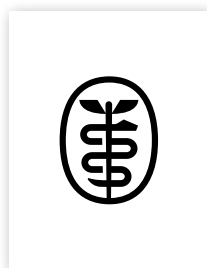
AMY SOUERS, MD

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Indiana University, 2016
 Residency: Orlando Health, 2016-2019



BRADY LAUGHLIN, DO

Specialty: Diagnostic Radiology &
 Interventional Radiology
 Group: Summit Radiology
 7221 Engle Rd Ste 220
 Fort Wayne, IN 46804
 Medical School: Lake Erie College, 2016
 Residency: ChristianaCare, 2016-2022



NAGA VUTUKURI, MD

Specialty: Oncology & Hematology
 Group: Fort Wayne Medical Oncology & Hematology
 7910 W Jefferson Blvd Ste 108
 Fort Wayne, IN 46804
 Medical School: Andhra Medical College, 2004
 Residency: Louisiana State University, 2012-2014



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Specialty: Internal Medicine & Hospital Medicine
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 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Lake Erie College, 2016
 Residency: Thomas Jefferson University, 2016-2019



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 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Lake Erie College, 2004
 Residency: St John Westshore Hospital, 2005-2009



KEVIN LOWE, MD

Specialty: General Surgery, HPB Surgical Oncology
 Group: IU Health Physicians
 7230 Engle Rd Ste 100
 Fort Wayne, IN 46804
 Medical School: Rosalind Franklin University, 2002
 Residency: University of South Alabama, 2002-2004



KATRINA WYSE, MD

Specialty: Obstetrics & Gynecology
 Group: Parkview Physician Group-OB/GYN
 Hospital Medicine
 11123 Parkview Plaza Dr Ste 101
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Case Western University, 2001
 Residency: Abington Memorial Hospital, 2001-2005



AHSAN MAHMOOD, MD

Specialty: Psychiatry
 Group: Parkview Behavioral Health Institute-
 Park Center
 909 E State Blvd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46805
 Medical School: Dow University, 1995
 Residency: State University of New York, 2000-2004



SYED ZAIDI, MD

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
 Group: Professional Emergency Physicians
 608 Union Chapel Rd
 Fort Wayne, IN 46845
 Medical School: Rowan University, 2016
 Residency: Michigan State University, 2016-2019

IUSM-FW 40th Year Anniversary Wraps Up with Establishment of a Legacy Scholarship | Gina Bailey





SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FORT WAYNE



IU School of Medicine-Fort Wayne faculty, staff and students welcome the New Year with gratitude towards our community of alumni, clinical faculty, and friends. During 2022 our campus reflected on the many accomplishments and milestones met over the last four decades, which concluded with a weekend celebration of our 40th anniversary in September.

Our weekend celebration began with a wine tasting at the Country Heritage Winery on Friday. Alumni, clinical faculty and students attended and enjoyed a beautiful fall evening sharing memories and stories. A dinner and dance followed on Saturday with a Wizard of Oz theme of No Place Like Home. The committee for the event, led by Jennifer Bojrab and Tonya Hughes, ensured that every detail for the dinner echoed the theme, including a cake with a yellow brick road leading to IU School of Medicine-Fort Wayne. IUSM Dean Jay Hess provided his vision for IUSM's future, and several students were recognized with scholarship awards.

To commemorate our Ruby Anniversary, our campus established the IU School of Medicine-Fort Wayne 40th Anniversary Scholarship. We are thankful to the many individuals who have contributed to the scholarship. Donations for this scholarship are still being accepted. For more information, please contact Gina Bailey at gibailey@iu.edu or (260)257-6866.



**Wine
Tasting
at
Country
Heritage**



Public Health, Access to Care, Practice Issues Top 2023 Agenda | Jake Torrie, Health Policy Analyst



The Indiana General Assembly is scheduled to begin its 2023 legislative session on Monday, Jan. 9. The ISMA Government Relations (GR) team is already hard at work preparing for the

upcoming session, with many health and physician-related issues expected to be considered by the General Assembly once it convenes. The GR team has already begun meeting with legislators to discuss the upcoming issues and to secure bill authors for ISMA's priorities. ISMA will be advocating for several legislative matters during the upcoming session, including budgetary requests needed to bolster public health and regulatory and transparency initiatives intended to preserve the physician profession and strengthen patient safety.

Support for public health

The 2023 legislative session falls in a budget year, as the General Assembly is constitutionally required to pass a biennial state budget during odd-numbered years. Expected to be at the top of the governor's budget requests this session is funding for the public health infrastructure recommendations from the **Governor's Public Health Commission**. This fall, the commission released its findings on the status of public health in Indiana and its recommendations for how the state can work to improve the overall health of Hoosiers.

The COVID-19 pandemic made clear the shortcomings of the current public health system. Significant budget requests will be made to provide much-needed support to local units that have struggled to address public health disparities in their areas. The funds will be used to better equip local health departments and county health officials with the necessary resources to support their populations.

During last summer's special legislative session, legislators expressed increased support for resources to support infant and maternal health. ISMA will work with members of the General Assembly to **support expanded access to contraceptives and maternal health resources**.

ISMA will continue its longstanding effort to **increase the cigarette tax to \$2 per pack** and create parity of taxation for other nicotine products. ISMA will also advocate for **revision of current statutes related to HIV and hepatitis**, as many existing laws have not been updated in several decades. These much-needed revisions will bring Indiana statutes in line with current medical best practices and, ultimately, help curb the social stigma surrounding the diseases.

Access to care, physician workforce

Addressing the current physician workforce shortage is high on ISMA's list of legislative priorities for 2023. ISMA will seek **increased funding to expand graduate medical education (GME)** to help create additional residency positions. Statistics show that residents tend to practice medicine in the state in which they completed residency, so creating additional residency slots will help keep more physicians in Indiana.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently required the state of Indiana to equalize provider reimbursement rates across all of its Medicaid programs. One way to accomplish this is for the state to reduce reimbursement rates for HIP 2.0 and increase rates for the other Medicaid programs. However, ISMA and other affected stakeholders will advocate for additional funding in the state budget to **increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for all Medicaid programs to Medicare rates.**

Insurance and regulatory issues, transparency, scope of practice

ISMA will seek to **protect the physician-patient relationship** by opposing any measures that would establish criminal punishments for physicians who provide abortion services in good faith. Further, ISMA will seek to **give the Medical Licensing Board discretion over the appropriate licensure action** for physicians who are found to be in violation of the newly established abortion statutes, should the Indiana Supreme Court uphold the law.

A proposal to **reduce the volume and complexity of prior authorization** has also garnered wide support from ISMA and many of its health care industry partners. A large group of stakeholders has come together and intends to introduce and support legislation to create a pilot program that would waive prior authorization requirements for a select list of the most approved codes across the health care industry.

Efforts to increase health care transparency and patient safety through **physician and health care provider identification and physician information advertising** will also be pursued during the 2023 session. So that patients can easily and accurately determine the qualifications of the individual providing their care, ISMA will seek

legislation that would require identification badges to be worn by physicians and nonphysician practitioners in appropriate clinical settings. The badges would display the person's name, license type and employment status. Regarding the advertising of physician information, ISMA will seek legislation that would require all non-physician practitioners practicing under a collaborative agreement in an office-based setting to clearly display their collaborating physician's name, credentials and contact information in common areas and online.

Finally, ISMA plans to introduce legislation to **ensure physician involvement in emergency departments** by requiring the onsite presence of a physician with training in emergency medicine in every emergency department.

Advocacy Day is March 15

Mark your calendars now to attend ISMA's 2023 Physician Advocacy Day, which will take place on Wednesday, March 15, at the Indiana State Capitol. This is a great opportunity for us as physicians to meet with legislators, learn about the legislative process and advocate for ourselves and our patients at the Statehouse. More details regarding the day's schedule will be shared as we get closer to the date.

Renew membership to stay informed

If you have not already renewed your ISMA membership for 2023, submitting your dues soon will ensure that you continue to receive ISMA publications such as Legislative News, as well as legislative calls to action during the session. If you are part of a practice receiving a group discount, your practice administrator will take care of your renewal. Payment may be mailed back to ISMA with your dues statement or submitted online at www.ismanet.org/renew. Contact Vicki Riley at vriley@ismanet.org or 317-454-7735 with any questions.

You can also keep up with ISMA's advocacy through The Clinic podcast at www.ismanet.org/podcast and wherever you listen to podcasts.



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Annual Legislative Workshop

Wednesday, October 26, 2022
Fort Wayne Country Club

From top left to right: FWMS President, Dr. Brian Herr chats, with Representative Abbott; John Ruckelshaus poses with Dr. Fen-Lei Chang; Dr. Justin McGee and wife Jae smile for the camera; Medical Student Griffin Elzey stands with Dr. Bill Pond and Representative Judy; Senator Dennis Kruse and Bob Hathaway; Dr. Tom Gutwein poses with Dr. and Mrs. McGee as well as Alliance members Cami Pond, Dawn Davis, and Liz Hathaway.





Melanoma is a significant health burden with 99,780 cases, and 7,650 deaths estimated from melanoma in the United States in 2022. (Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program., 2022) Treatment of melanoma is evolving rapidly, with new systemic

therapies and related changes in surgical paradigms requiring continuing education for physicians.

Risk factors for melanoma include fair complexion and ultraviolet light exposure and melanoma is slightly more common in males. (Ryerson AB, 2016) Eighty-four percent of patients will present with localized disease (98% five - year survival), 9% with regional node metastases (62% five – year survival), and 4% with distant metastasis (18% five – year survival). (Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program., 2022)

Melanoma has a propensity to generate satellite metastasis. Early in the 20th century, because tumor nodules near but not confluent with the primary lesion were seen in excised specimens, surgical management of melanoma included resections with a 5 cm margin. (Handley, 1907) Since then, less aggressive resections have been shown to provide adequate cure rates with less morbidity. (Cohn-Cedermark G, 2000) Current recommendations include 1 cm from the outer border of the lesion for thinner melanomas and 2 cm for deeper melanomas. Excision should include subcutaneous tissue to the deep fascia. (Susan M. Swetter, 2022)

Sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB) involves preoperative, intradermal injection of radiotracer +/- vital blue dye which then migrates to the most proximal lymph node(s) in the drainage basin of the skin containing the melanoma. One to several lymph nodes are removed and evaluated for melanoma cells. Until the 1990s when sentinel lymph node biopsy was introduced, management of at-risk lymph node basins included either complete basin lymphadenectomy or observation only. Completion basin dissection conferred significant morbidity, while observation left tumor in place in patients with occult metastases and did not provide prognostic information.

Early data showed that SLNB had a low false negative rate (5.2% for experienced surgeons), and comparatively low risk of post – operative complications (10.1%). (Donald L Morton, 2005) Since, sentinel lymph node biopsy has become a fundamental staging procedure which determines treatment of melanoma for those with no clinical signs of metastasis, but whose primary lesion is intermediate in depth. In a 2013 study of 613 patients, depth of melanoma ≥ 0.75 mm conferred a risk of lymph node metastasis of 6.3%. Melanomas < 0.75 mm had positive SLN rates of $< 5\%$. (Dale Han, 2013) Deeper lesions have significantly higher risk of lymph node metastasis. (Jonathan S Ni, 2019)

National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines suggested consideration of SLNB for patients with lesions deeper than 0.8 mm or ulceration or other high risk features. Depth of lesions is best assessed by full thickness biopsy, either excision or punch – type. Shave biopsy is not recommended for melanoma due to the risk of not including the entire depth of the lesion thus compromising determination of lymph node metastasis risk. (Susan M. Swetter, 2022)

For patients who have regional lymph node metastasis found with SLNB, completion lymph node dissection (such as axillary, inguinal or neck dissection), which was previously the standard of care, may not be necessary for some patients. Comparative studies of observation vs completion lymph node dissection in those with positive SLNB showed similar melanoma specific survival and a 24% rate of lymphedema in the completion lymph node dissection. (Mark B Faries, 2017) Whether to perform completion lymph node dissection in patients with positive SLNB should be based on individual risk / benefit analysis and determined by a multidisciplinary team familiar with all treatment modalities. (C Angeles, 2019) For patients with palpable lymphadenopathy, completion lymph node dissection is recommended. Axillary dissection for melanoma should include all three levels of axillary nodes rather than only the more accessible levels I and II basins as is standard of care for breast cancer. (Susan M. Swetter, 2022)

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Until recently, interferon was the only approved systemic therapy for advanced melanoma with, at best, marginal improvements in overall survival. In 2016 a study of the anti – CTLA4 antibody, ipilimumab, showed significantly increased disease specific and overall survival in patients with lymph node positive disease. However, toxicity necessitated therapy cessation in about one – half of patients. (Eggermont A S. V., 2016) Shortly after, the anti PD – 1 agent nivolumab showed higher recurrence free survival than ipilimumab with improved toxicity profile. (Weber J, 2017) Another anti-PD1 drug, pembrolizumab, showed improved recurrence free survival vs placebo in lymph node positive patients. (Eggermont A B. C., 2018) In patients with BRAF mutation, the BRAF inhibitor dabrafenib and the MEK inhibitor trametinib improved survival in patients with unresectable disease. (Robert C, 2015) For some investigators, the success of these new systemic agents is further support for treatment strategies that avoid completion lymph node dissection. Thus, these new therapies have added options for advanced disease, but have further complicated treatment paradigms. (C Angeles, 2019)

Recently, the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer developed recommendations for synoptic operative reporting of melanoma resections. The synoptic reporting for wide local excision includes margin width, depth of excision, orientation of the incision and type of closure of the wound. Synoptic reporting for sentinel lymph node biopsy and lymph node dissection were also included in CoC recommendations. The use of synoptic reports for several types of cancer, including melanoma, has recently become a quality measure for CoC accredited cancer centers. (Kelly K. Hunt, 2019)

In summary, cure for early melanoma is expected but lymph node involvement or distant metastases decreases survival decreases substantially. Diagnosis relies on full thickness biopsy, and depth of invasion determines surgical margins and informs the decision for or against SLNB. Newer systemic treatments have led to re-evaluation of traditional treatment paradigms and have moved some to advocate for avoidance of completion lymph node dissection in patients with non-palpable lymph node metastases.

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State (ISMAA) and Local (FWMSA) Medical Alliances Host North Central States Annual Meeting “Leading, Learning, and Living”

Betty Canavati



Representatives from around the country congregated at the Bradley Hotel in downtown Fort Wayne the weekend of Oct. 14-16th to attend the annual North Central States (NCS) medical alliance leadership development meeting.

The ISMA-A Board: Dawn Davis, President, Jennifer Bojrab, Secretary, Liz Hathaway, North Region Representative, Tonya Hughes, Membership, and Betty Canavati, Treasurer/ NCS 2022 Meeting Chair, met for almost a year to plan and organize this meeting.

On Friday evening, registrants met in Birdies Lounge for a relaxing meet and greet, followed by dinner in the Allen Room sponsored by ISMA and FWMS.

Joel Harmeyer welcomed physicians and spouses. He introduced FWMS President-elect, Scott Stienecker, who introduced ISMA President Dr. Pardeep Kumar.



Dr. Kumar is an internal medicine physician practicing in Terre Haute. He had a wonderful presentation on the *Evolution of the American Health Care System*.

Major health care landmarks were highlighted, starting with the introduction of:

- Medicare by Lyndon Johnson,
- Medicare Part D by George W Bush,
- The Affordable Care Act by Barack Obama.

Growth of health care expenditure as a percentage of GDP has vastly outpaced the rate of inflation over the past 20 years. It is currently approaching 20%.



Our second speaker for the evening was Joseph D Henry, who works for the Cyber-security

and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in Region V (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin). He also performs the role as the CISA Cybersecurity State Coordinator for IN. He has worked within the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.



Drug use and abuse was the theme for Saturday morning.

Captain Kevin Hunter, Vice and Narcotics, spoke about the overall drug abuse problem countrywide and locally.

Rebecca Bruner, the Deputy Director-Addiction and Forensic Treatment and IN State Opioid Treatment Authority (SO), presented the drug problem and solutions from our state perspective.

The third presentation was a panel discussion lead by Kim Moser, Representative 64th House District, Kentucky General Assembly, AMA-Alliance Past-president.

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L to R: Kim Moser, Toni Cardin, Jacqueline Nguyen (AMA A President), Mark Gerardot, Tommy Streeter, Wendy Davis, Dawn Davis, ISMA-A President

Drug Abuse-A Different Perspective panel included:

- Tomi Cardin, founder and director of the Redemption House Ministries
- Sargent Mark Gerardot, FWPD Vice and Narcotics Division, Hope & Recovery Team (HART)
- Tommy Streeter, Community Outreach Coordinator Allendale Treatment
- Honorable Wendy Davis, Allen County Circuit Court, Member of IN Attorney General Drug Task Force.

FWMS Alliance President, Tonya Hughes, presented her Narcon Dispensary Initiative during lunch. She had researched the situations in all the states where participants were from and gave them information for action in their areas.



After lunch, the participants went to the Vera Bradley Design Center for a tour and discussion with co-founder and director, Barbara Bradley Baekgaard.



Alliance participants came from: Kentucky, Missouri, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, West Virginia and Indiana.

Barbara shared with the group what it took to build a successful company. Her commitment, determination, enthusiasm, and flexibility were great assets on this journey.

Barbara also shared how the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer Research was established in 1998. Since then, they have contributed \$38.6 million to support cancer research. In 2022, the Foundation had pledged to raise 50 million dollars for cancer research.



The Vera Bradley Design Center tour was followed with a reception sponsored by FWMSA and ISMAA at the LC Nature Park.



After a brief presentation by Dr. George Manning, Director of Education and Land Stewardship, participants went on a walk to learn more, and meet Fred, the oldest elk.



ISMAA President, Dawn Davis, and NCS Meeting Chair, Betty Canavati, distributed all the raffle items first thing Sunday morning. The purpose of this fundraiser is to raise money to support the regional alliance meetings. The host state receives some funds to use as needed and several new attendees receive money to help offset expenses they incurred to attend the regional meeting. There were 16 auction items and more than \$2200 was raised.

The Sunday morning sessions focused on the “Living” theme.



The first speaker was Dr. Jon Walker, whose presentation was about self-compassion and resiliency.



The second speaker was Dr. Peter Hanley. He spoke about demystifying nutritional and other risk factors as it relates to heart health and inflammation.

The final presentation was a talk and demonstration by Jim Riegger and Anne Canavati. Their message was about how important regular resistance training is for our bodies, especially as we age and experience more muscle wasting and bone loss.

The event was well-attended, informative, fun and a huge success. The ISMAA thanks the FWMS for your support.



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The Clinical Benefits of Coffee/Caffeine. A Latte Review. | Mark DelBello, MD



I am not a coffee guy. I did not grow up on coffee. Over 85% of the world drink coffee.

The first coffee houses were places to exchange information. In Arabia, coffee houses were known as “School of the Wise”. From Arabia, coffee migrated to Europe.

When coffee was introduced in Venice in 1615, some people referred to it as the “bitter invention of Satan.” The local clergy condemned coffee, and the controversy was so great that Pope Clement VIII intervened and gave coffee papal approval. Coffee houses became intellectual hang-outs prompting the term “penny universities” since a penny would get you a cup of coffee and stimulating conversations.

If you asked me what Arabica, Robusta, Liberica and Excelsa were, I would probably say they are the names of the children of a professional athlete, but I would be incorrect. They are the four types of coffee beans. Liberica and Excelsa coffee still exist but do not play a role today in the coffee business. Basically, two types of coffee beans are traded globally. Arabica is the most common (63%) and Robusta second (37%).

Coffee is a complex substance and the general consensus among experts is that caffeine is the key health-promoting ingredient in coffee. Caffeine is one of many polyphenols in coffee. Polyphenols are a large group of compounds that are helpful in cell restoration and repair.

Decaffeinated coffee has about 97% of the caffeine removed as required by the FDA.

I have always thought coffee came from a bean, but that is not exactly true either. Coffee comes from a tropical evergreen shrub/tree that bears a tart fruit known as a coffee cherry and the seeds of the fruit become coffee beans.

Caffeine has consistently been shown to improve endurance by 2-4% across dozens of studies in several endurance-type sports, including cycling, running, cross-country skiing, and swimming.

One of the key mechanisms linking caffeine to improved performance is decreasing “rating of perceived exertion” (RPE). This allows one to train harder, feel better about training and increase chances of a rewarding outcome. It’s like being “on your game” or “in the zone.”

Caffeine exerts its main effects on the central nervous system by increasing the concentration of many neurotransmitters. This results in positive effects on mood, motivation, focus, and alertness in most, but not all, individuals.

Coffee/caffeine is not for everyone and individuals need to assess how he or she responds to it. People with anxiety, arrhythmias, esophagitis/hiatal hernia, fibrocystic breast disease, insomnia, palpitations, and tachycardia (fast heart rate) may not do as well as others. Certain populations that have pre-existing conditions may be aggravated by coffee intake.

Along with caffeine improving training and performance, it has also been shown to reduce mortality and morbidity.

Coffee consumption is consistently associated with a lower risk of mortality with estimates indicating that the largest reduction occurs at three cups a day.

Studies published in recent years have shown protective associations between coffee consumption and the risk or development of 18 different types of cancers.

The medical literature clearly supports the general statement that drinking coffee has a much greater likelihood of decreasing the risk of cancer than not drinking it.

Coffee also has favorable associations with type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, gallstones, gout, and renal stones. The largest risk reduction is associated with intakes of three to four cups a day.

The number of studies showing that caffeine has a beneficial effect on the risk of dementia/cognitive decline was 46 of 57 (81%), including 111,926 of 153,070 (73%) subjects.



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Fort Wayne Medical Society



From top: Dr. Krach and wife Maria pose with Dr. O'Shaughnessy and wife Kathy; Dr. Hughes and Jennifer Garrison smile for the camera; Dr. Brian Herr and wife Lindsey smile with Dr. Samuel Corey and wife Hillary; Dr. Sushil Jain and Dr. Isa Canavati enjoy the evening.



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▶ Maple Heights Behavioral Health Opening Soon



L-R: Isa Diaz, senior vice president of strategic affairs, Acadia Healthcare; Dr. Jeffrey Woods, operations group president, Acadia Healthcare; Jennifer Snyder, CEO, Maple Heights Behavioral Health; Mark Medley, regional president, Community Health Systems; Stephanie Crandall, director of intergovernmental affairs, City of Fort Wayne; John Urbahns, president & CEO, Greater Fort Wayne Inc.; Tim Hingtgen, CEO, Community Health Systems; Scott Shaffer, chaplain for Dupont Hospital, Lutheran Health Network; Drew Martin, vice president of behavioral health, Community Health Systems.

Maple Heights Behavioral Health, a new hospital at 3955 W. Washington Center Rd., recently held a ribbon-tying ceremony to mark its opening and celebrate the joint venture between Acadia Healthcare and an affiliate of Lutheran Health Network.

Maple Heights Behavioral Health will offer inpatient mental healthcare for adults and seniors for a range of behavioral health concerns, including anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, with plans to add inpatient adolescent and intensive outpatient treatment programs over time.

Lutheran Health Network and Acadia Healthcare announced the joint venture to build the 120-bed hospital and began construction in 2021. Maple Heights will complete regulatory certifications required for new hospitals through December and then officially begin accepting inpatient admissions.

"The welcome from the local community has been very encouraging," said Jennifer Snyder, CEO Maple Heights Behavioral Health. "This symbolizes the willingness to bring behavioral health services to those in need, regardless of the stigma that often limits a desire to seek care."

As a provider of acute behavioral health services, Maple Heights Behavioral Health will assess incoming patients immediately and stabilize any emergency situations. Over the course of treatment, patients will receive restorative therapies and healing care. Once

stabilized, patients will be matched with long term services needed to help them to achieve and maintain their mental health needs.

"Lutheran Health Network has a proud history of growing to meet the health care needs of our community," said Clyde Wood, Lutheran Hospital CEO and Maple Heights Behavioral Health board member. "After a community needs assessment made it clear the local demand for mental health care was not being met, we were glad to collaborate with Acadia Healthcare on a new behavioral health hospital. Today is a proud day for our two organizations and the community as a whole."

In addition to psychiatric care, patients will have access to restorative therapies such as group fitness programming in the hospital's gymnasium, which includes a basketball court. Other activities will include yoga, music and art therapies.

"We are delighted to work with Lutheran Health Network to provide quality behavioral healthcare to the Fort Wayne community," said Chris Hunter, CEO of Acadia Healthcare. "We are also grateful to our elected officials for supporting this new hospital and being advocates for increasing access to behavioral healthcare for the patients and families of northeast Indiana."

For more information, please visit mapleheightsbehavioral.com.

▶ Hospital Marks 100th Patient Treated with Robotic Exoskeleton Technology

The Rehabilitation Hospital of Fort Wayne recently began treating the 100th patient with its robotic exoskeleton, which is the only one like it in the region used to help patients with stroke, spinal cord and acquired brain injuries regain mobility.

The wearable medical device the hospital acquired in February 2021 helps patients relearn to stand and walk earlier in their rehabilitation process with therapists. Patients are strapped into the suit while motors help drive hip and knee joints. Software connected to the device can be adjusted based on a patient's needs and tailored for each session.

The 100th patient treated with the technology is Fort Wayne resident Shirley Brookshire Hicks, who recently suffered a stroke and is using the exoskeleton to gain more confidence standing and walking as part of her physical therapy at the Rehabilitation Hospital.

"By getting patients like Shirley waking earlier in their rehabilitation process with the exoskeleton, we can help them improve walking speed and distance, which are critical to achieving the best possible recovery," said Greg Parrett, the hospital's director of therapy. "The exoskeleton software enables our therapists to customize the treatment, ensuring patients are engaged and the device is challenging their body as treatment progresses."

Training with the wearable device is one of the latest advancements in stroke treatment and neurorehabilitation, helping increase a patient's strength, which improves step patterns, weight shifting and posture. Most patients are able to take an average of 400 steps their first time training in the device.

The exoskeleton medical device at the Rehabilitation Hospital is approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for use with stroke and certain spinal cord injuries and is the only exoskeleton with FDA approval for use with acquired brain injury patients. For more information about the robotic exoskeleton and other services available at the Rehabilitation Hospital, visit rehabhospital.com/rehab-services.



Shirley Brookshire Hicks of Fort Wayne works with two physical therapists on regaining standing and walking abilities in the exoskeleton at the Rehabilitation Hospital, where she is recovering following a stroke.

▶ Lutheran Hospital One of Money's Best Hospitals for Maternity Care

Lutheran Hospital has earned recognition as one of the Best Hospitals for Maternity Care in America by Money powered by The Leapfrog Group.

To compile its new list of top hospitals in the country for maternity care, Money – in partnership with the Leapfrog Group – used maternity care data submitted via the 2022 Leapfrog Hospital Survey, which participants were required to submit by Aug. 31.

The 259 hospitals that made the cut are a combination of hospitals providing care for uncomplicated pregnancies as well as hospitals providing care for high-risk deliveries.

"Lutheran Hospital's Birthplace team is committed to providing quality maternity care to meet the unique needs of moms and babies," said Clyde Wood, Lutheran Hospital CEO. "We are proud to have the teams' dedication recognized among the best in the nation."

Visit <https://money.com/best-hospitals/maternity/> for the full list of Money Best Hospitals for Maternity Care and money.com/methodology-best-hospitals-for-maternity-care/ for the complete methodology, or contact press@money.com for more information.

Learn more about all of Lutheran Hospital's maternity care services at lutheranhospital.com/maternity-care-services.

▶ **New Augmented Reality Technology Gives Surgeons “X-ray Vision” for Added Precision, Efficiency While Keeping Eyes on the Patient**

A new, innovative augmented reality guidance system at Dupont Hospital will allow surgeons providing minimally invasive spine surgeries to “see through” a patient’s anatomy like they have X-ray vision.



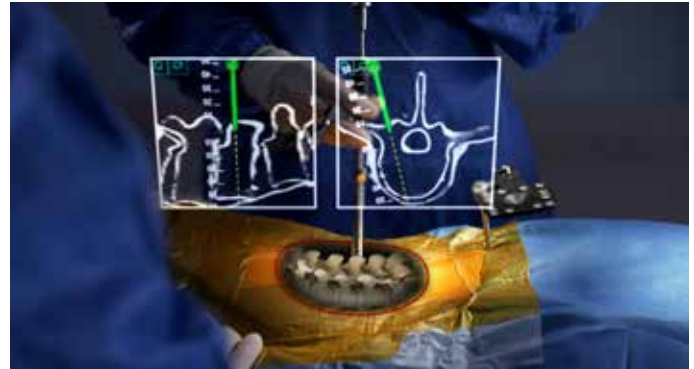
The device is the first augmented reality

guidance system to be used in surgery and is currently approved for use in open and minimally invasive spine implant procedures. Similar to a real-time global positioning system, this “see-through” surgery lets surgeons know exactly where to place implants in a patient’s unique anatomy, bringing a new standard of personalization and care to the operating room.

“The ‘X-ray vision’ the device provides allows us to simplify complex spine surgeries, making them safer and more effective for patients and enabling us to handle difficult cases in an efficient, minimally invasive way,” said Dr. William Aaron Kunkle, an orthopedic surgeon performing minimally invasive spine surgeries at Dupont.

Dupont is the only hospital in northeast Indiana and one of only three in the state using the technology, which is unique from other image guidance systems because surgeons maintain focus directly on the patient rather than on a distant screen displaying the patient’s anatomy.

The augmented reality guidance system consists of a transparent near-eye-display headset and all elements of a traditional surgical navigation system. It accurately determines the position of surgical tools in real-time and superimposes them on the patient’s CT scan. The navigation data is then projected onto the surgeon’s retina using the headset, allowing him or her to simultaneously look at both the patient and the navigation data. The technology is designed to revolutionize how surgery is done by giving the surgeon better control and visualization, which may lead to easier, faster and safer surgeries.



“This technology is definitely an added value for spine surgeries,” said Dr. Nicholas Wetjen, a general and pediatric neurosurgeon also performing spine surgeries at Dupont. “It improves upon the traditional guidance systems with impressive precision and a design that doesn’t disrupt the surgery workflow.”

About eight out of 10 people will experience debilitating back pain during their lifetime. For some people, medication and lifestyle changes won’t be enough to help relieve the pain and surgery is the only option.

Bariatric Surgery at Lutheran Downtown Hospital

- ▶ Our newest bariatric surgery program delivers surgical solutions and support to help patients lose weight, reduce risks related to serious medical conditions and enjoy long-term success.
- ▶ Board-certified surgeon Dr. Emanuel Nearing II* offers proven weight-loss techniques that include gastric bypass (Roux-en-Y) and sleeve gastrectomy.

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LutheranHealth.net/bariatric-weight-loss

* Member of the medical staff of Lutheran Downtown Hospital. Lutheran Downtown and Lutheran hospitals are owned in part by physicians.

► Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program expands, offering hands-on training in newly renovated student lab

The Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program will soon train twice as many people in a newly renovated student lab, helping to meet rapidly growing demand in a lesser-known healthcare field.

Renovations to the program's space, including the student lab, classroom and offices in the lower level of Parkview Hospital Randallia, were completed earlier this month. The updated accommodations will allow the program to admit up to 20 students per year, more than doubling its previous capacity of nine students per year.

In addition to expanding capacity, Parkview's program is transitioning from a 10-month "rotation-based" model to a 12-month "student-based" model. Previously, students completed lab training through clinical rotations, while their lecture schedule may have covered different topics.

Under the new student-based model, students will complete labs and lectures on the same subjects simultaneously, with the majority of their training taking place in the new student lab. No active patient samples are processed in the student lab, but it features equipment similar to that of an active lab, giving students realistic, hands-on practice on a smaller scale. In the final 10 weeks of their program, students will complete their clinical rotations with lab departments throughout Parkview to learn and work under the supervision of a credentialed lab scientist.

"We are thrilled to expand and enhance our program so we can offer even more people the opportunity to receive hands-on training and experience," said Brian Goff, program director, Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program. "Medical lab science is often called the 'stealth medical degree' because most people think of becoming a doctor, nurse or pharmacist instead. But now is an especially exciting time to enter this lesser-known career field as we see incredible advances in science and technology, along with rapidly growing demand for more highly trained individuals."

Established in 1956, the Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program is accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. The focus of Parkview's program is to prepare students to pass their exams for national certification, which is required by most employers.

In the last three years, the Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program has maintained a 100% pass rate for national certification. Currently, the program also has a 100% job placement rate. Students are being hired immediately upon completion of their program and certification, which is proof of the increasingly high demand for professionals in this field.



L to R: Lisa Daniel, director of corporate lab services, Parkview Health; Brian Goff, program director, Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program; John Bowen, president, Parkview Regional Medical Center & Affiliates; Trent Miller, senior vice president of lab and imaging, Parkview Health; Catherine Egley, clinical lab school educator, Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program; and Allegra McMillen, clinical lab school educator, Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program.

"About 70% of medical decisions are based on lab results, so we have a significant impact on patient care, but we are often not seen by the patients or providers," said Allegra McMillen, clinical lab school educator, Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program. "This career is ideal for someone who maybe has an introverted, puzzle-loving personality, but wants to help patients and providers get the information they need."

Catherine Egley, another clinical lab school educator, agreed. "I didn't know medical lab science was a degree option even though I had been deeply steeped in science classes throughout high school and college. We are going to see open positions in our field for the foreseeable future, making this a lucrative career option for people who want to work in science or healthcare but don't necessarily want that daily interaction with patients."

The Parkview Medical Laboratory Science Program also offers students some flexibility as to when they enroll. A student could complete Parkview's program during the final year of their bachelor's degree, or they could complete their bachelor's degree before starting Parkview's program.

More details on admission requirements can be found at <https://www.parkview.com/careers/medical-laboratory-science-program/about-our-program>.

▶ Parkview Health earns Most Wired recognition for ninth consecutive year



Parkview Health has once again been recognized by the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) Digital Health Most Wired survey.

For the 2022 survey, Parkview was certified at level 10, the highest possible level, in both the acute and ambulatory care categories. This is the ninth consecutive year the health system has been named among the country's Most Wired healthcare organizations.

The Digital Health Most Wired survey and recognition program serves as a comprehensive "Digital Health Check-up" for healthcare organizations across the world. As success in digital health increasingly determines the quality of patient care, the scope of the CHIME Digital Health Most Wired survey reflects the progress of leading healthcare providers as they reinvent healthcare for a new century.

Among the more than 38,000 organizations surveyed by CHIME, Parkview Health ranked above peers in categories like analytics and data management, population health, infrastructure and patient engagement. The survey assessed the adoption, integration and impact of technologies in healthcare organizations at all stages of development.

"Since the 1960s, when Parkview Memorial Hospital implemented its first computer systems, Parkview has been committed to using technology to support improved patient outcomes," said Ron Double, chief information officer, Parkview Health. "CHIME and the Most Wired program help us, as healthcare technology leaders, evaluate our performance and continually strive to improve quality, engagement and satisfaction with our patients, providers, clinicians, co-workers, partners and the community. This is worthwhile work that is transforming healthcare and saving lives."

"We are proud to honor your team's exceptional dedication to excellence in digital health," said CHIME President and CEO Russell P. Branzell. "Your pioneering performance in the industry inspires other organizations by example. Patients in communities around the world receive better care when you drive change through digital transformation, as you have proven through your success in this rigorous program."

▶ Expansion of virtual initiatives allows Parkview Health to enhance care for all patients from one location



During a media demonstration at the Parkview Digital Care Center, Tamia Collins, virtual care technician, remotely monitors Taylor Thompson, a fellow virtual care technician who was acting as a patient. Thompson was in a hospital room at Parkview Hospital Randallia, but Parkview's virtual care technicians will provide virtual sitting services for all Parkview Health hospitals.

Parkview Health is expanding its virtual care initiatives at the Parkview Digital Care Center to enhance healthcare throughout the region.

Combining care delivery, technology and support in one centralized location, Parkview's Digital Care Center is home to its Virtual Health and Virtual Care departments. The Virtual Health department, which offers virtual outpatient care options such as Parkview MyChart and Parkview OnDemand, has been part of the Digital Care Center since 2020.

New to the center is Parkview's Virtual Care department, which provides 24/7 remote clinical support for all of Parkview's hospitals. The Virtual Care department is a clinical group of experienced nurses and Virtual Care technicians who monitor inpatients across the Parkview system and play a key role in patient safety, healing and recovery.

"The Virtual Care department serves as yet another example of how Parkview is committed to enhancing the patient experience and care environments, while controlling the costs associated with care," said Michelle Charles, chief nursing informatics officer, Parkview Health. "The addition of virtual nurses and virtual care technicians allows our bedside staff to focus more exclusively on each patient's needs. This team will maximize our resources and effectively monitor multiple inpatients to address their needs more quickly."

Virtual nurses are experienced critical care nurses who perform surveillance of patient data to detect early signs of sepsis development. The virtual nurses notify bedside nurses and providers to initiate sepsis intervention care, which is shown to prevent serious illness or death.

In the future, Parkview will evaluate additional ways that virtual nurses can augment bedside care, including interacting with patients via the TV in their room, providing education and facilitating faster discharges.

Virtual care technicians are specially trained caregivers who use continuous video monitoring, or virtual sitting, for patients at risk of falling or harm. They can rapidly intervene or redirect patients via the system's microphones, and they notify staff about concerns or emergency situations. To respect patients' rights to privacy and confidentiality, the virtual sitting service is only initiated by a nursing order, and no audio or video is recorded.

Both virtual nursing and virtual sitting are shown to improve patient outcomes by reducing the incidence of sepsis or injury, shortening hospital length of stay and decreasing patients' overall cost of care.

► New Parkview Opportunity Scholars program will provide college education and career start for 50 students a year

A new program will give local students the opportunity to complete a college degree and launch their careers with Parkview Health.

The Parkview Opportunity Scholars award, created by Parkview Health in partnership with Ivy Tech Fort Wayne and Warsaw, the Questa Education Foundation and Fort Wayne Community Schools, will be offered to 50 Fort Wayne Community Schools seniors per year.

Different than a traditional scholarship, the award is a forgivable loan that will cover full tuition and fees for a qualifying associate degree from Ivy Tech Fort Wayne and Warsaw. Students will receive full loan forgiveness if they complete their associate degree within two years and complete at least one year of full-time employment in their degree field with Parkview Health after graduation.

Qualifying degree programs can be related to any careers that are employed by Parkview Health, including clinical healthcare or professional and support services roles. Examples include nursing, medical assisting, accounting, cyber security, public safety and culinary arts.

The Parkview Opportunity Scholars award was created to support students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to complete a college degree – whether they have a financial need, are a first-generation college student, a first-generation American, or they may not have considered college due to other barriers. Starting with the class of 2023, the program is open to seniors attending any of the five high schools within the Fort Wayne Community Schools district.

The award was designed to remove many of the barriers that prevent students from considering or completing a college education. The application does not require a written essay, and it provides alternatives for those who cannot file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To help students successfully complete the program requirements, they will be offered additional support, including a student cohort, financial counseling, mentoring and embedded learning experiences at Parkview Health.

“The key word of this program is opportunity – it’s about giving students the opportunity to not only complete a college degree program, but also start their careers with the area’s largest employer,” said Hallie Custer, vice president, human resources, Parkview Health. “It’s also an opportunity for Parkview, and the community, to fill our talent pipeline with candidates who have completed a high-quality education.”

Heather Schoegler, director, strategic education partnerships, Parkview Health, added, “This program builds on our existing partnerships with several area schools to support regional educa-

tion and workforce development. Whether you are a high school student, college student or Parkview co-worker, we have opportunities available to support your education and career path.”

Fort Wayne Community Schools has been focused on increasing success rates for students after high school.

“Our goal is to ensure students are prepared for what comes the day after graduation,” said Mark Daniel, Ph.D., superintendent, Fort Wayne Community Schools. “This is a great opportunity for students to gain the skills they need for a meaningful career right here in northeast Indiana. As we develop career pipelines for students, we are keenly focused on the needs of employers in our area, including healthcare and related fields.”

The Questa Education Foundation will administer the application and award process.

Creating opportunities for local students aligns with the mission and priorities of Questa, a long-time partner of Parkview Health.

“Questa is focused on making college affordable for local students and retaining graduates in our region to build our workforce,” said Elizabeth Bushnell, executive director of Questa.

“This program is a wonderful example of how regional employers can partner with educational institutions to support students and develop new talent.”

To create this new program, Parkview chose to partner with Ivy Tech Fort Wayne and Warsaw, the community’s only two-year degree institution, because of their ability to offer high-quality training and education for an array of career paths.

“Ivy Tech Fort Wayne and Warsaw is committed to maintaining close relationships with community partners and matching our program offerings with high-demand jobs in northeast Indiana,” said Kim Barnett-Johnson, Ph.D., chancellor, Ivy Tech Fort Wayne and Warsaw. “This partnership with Parkview Health, Questa Education Foundation and Fort Wayne Community Schools will give our students a direct pipeline from a quality education to a high-demand career. Graduating debt-free with a valuable Ivy Tech degree will be financially advantageous for these students, who can then create more growth in our local economy, which is central to the mission of Ivy Tech Community College.”

Students are encouraged to apply for the Parkview Opportunity Scholars award before the priority decision deadline of March 1, 2023. If any awards remain after March, Fort Wayne Community Schools seniors may continue applying until the start of Ivy Tech’s classes in fall 2023.

For more information, including the full list of eligible degree programs, or to apply for a Parkview Opportunity Scholars award, visit questafoundation.org/parkview-opportunity.

► **Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography receives \$29,000 grant funded by pink ribbon license plates, donations**

Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography has received a \$29,000 grant from the Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust (IBCAT), which disburses grants made possible by the sale of



breast cancer awareness special recognition license plates and other financial donations.

The IBCAT grant will be used to provide mammograms for women who do not have sufficient financial resources. This supports the ongoing work of Francine's Friends to remove barriers to mammography screening.

"Our mission is to make life-saving mammography screening easy and convenient by removing barriers, such as transportation or costs," said Marita Dwight, mammography director, Parkview Health. "We are grateful for the support of the Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust, as well as everyone who purchases the pink ribbon license plate or donates to their cause. IBCAT's funds stay here to improve access to breast cancer screening, diagnosis and support services for your fellow Hoosiers."

Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography helps improve access to screening for all women, not just those facing financial barriers to care. The coach provides screening mammography to women age 35 and older, with or without health insurance, who have not had a mammogram within the past 12 months. Many health insurance plans are accepted.

The Francine's Friends coach travels five to six days a week, visiting 11 counties in northeast Indiana. On average, the coach provides approximately 3,500 mammograms per year. In 2021, however, it provided only 2,900 mammograms, following a national trend of declining cancer screenings as a result of the pandemic.

"Early detection is key to the treatment of breast cancer," Dwight said. "Don't put off your screenings any longer. Your next mammogram could potentially save your life."

For more information about Francine's Friends Mobile Mammography, including the current schedule of public stops, visit Parkview.com/FrancinesFriends.

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► Parkview Cancer Institute to be renamed in honor of Parkview CEO Mike Packnett and his family



Mike Packnett, retired CEO of Parkview Health

The Parkview Cancer Institute will be renamed the Packnett Family Cancer Institute in honor of Parkview Health CEO Mike Packnett and his family, who played an instrumental role in the development of the facility and its comprehensive care model.

Mike Packnett, who retired at the end of 2022, helped to launch plans for the Parkview Cancer Institute shortly after his wife Donna was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2012. Based on their experience, the Packnetts aspired to create a cancer center that made

high-quality, multi-specialty cancer care more accessible to the region. They also wanted to give patients and their families a better experience as they navigated the complexities of a cancer diagnosis.



The Parkview Cancer Institute delivered on those goals when it opened in 2018. Its multi-disciplinary care teams, who are experts not just in cancer, but in specific types of cancer, provide highly specialized care for each patient. The facility was designed to be a healing environment, offering a comprehensive array of outpatient services under one roof. It features a concierge team to greet and assist guests, as well as an atrium with an indoor garden.

The renaming was announced on Oct. 28 during Parkview's Leadership Development Institute, a quarterly meeting of leaders from across the health system.

"We wanted to honor Mike, Donna and their daughters for the immeasurable impact they've had on our region," said Dan Starr, CEO of Do it Best Corp., and chairman of the Parkview Health Board of Directors. "The Parkview Cancer Institute truly transformed cancer care. Now, the Packnett Family Cancer Institute will continue that legacy and honor the work they did to make it possible."

Neil Sharma, MD, president of the Parkview Cancer Institute, reflected on conversations he had with Mike Packnett when they were in the early stages of planning. "When I think about Mike's leadership, I think about his commitment to excellence, innovation and compassion for others. These are the same ideals that we used in the foundation of the Parkview Cancer Institute. The Packnett family should be proud of what they've created and how it's making our world a better place."

Mike, Donna and their daughters, Kristin and Kelli, were present for the renaming announcement.

"When you hear the words, 'You have cancer,' it stops everything," Donna Packnett said. "We are forever grateful to the Parkview family for their support, and we are honored that our journey could help ensure the best possible care and outcomes for our cancer patients and families."

"Knowing my mom and our family will have a legacy that is tied to such an incredible place of healing that brings hope, empathy and excellent care is overwhelming," said Kelli Packnett.

"My sister, Kelli, and I moved here from Oklahoma to help care for our mom," Kristin Packnett said. "We saw how cancer affects more than the patient – everybody in the family goes through it. Better cancer care for other families is definitely the silver lining in our journey with cancer."

Taken by surprise at the announcement, Mike Packnett shared his gratitude to the Parkview board for their gesture. "The cancer institute means more to our family than you will ever know. We are so humbled to have our name on the building, but we are also so grateful for Dr. Sharma's leadership and all our co-workers who serve there and will continue to ensure each patient's journey is the best it can be."

The facility's signage and other materials will be changed to the Packnett Family Cancer Institute in early 2023.



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