

The Madonna Independent, an employee newsletter of Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, is published every other Friday by the Marketing and Public Relations department. To submit a story idea, news item, announcement or recognition information, contact Tami Rudder, editor, at 402-413-4292 or trudder@madonna.org.

All story ideas, news items, announcements or recognition information must be submitted the Friday before the Independent is printed. Note: The deadline for the next issue is Friday, July 26.

The Independent can be viewed online at www.Madonna.org

Reducing injuries at Madonna



Woolever wins national award



Mother daughter duo share volunteer duties

Transporting patients to the services in Madonna's chapel takes a lot of extra hands. Sally Jaeger and her mother, Laura, are two local volunteers who shuttle people to and from the Thursday interdenominational service and the Sunday music program. They have donated their time since 2009 and have each logged over 560 hours.

Sally, 26, was born with Down syndrome and wanted a volunteer activity she could enjoy with her mother. The Reverend Steve Werner is grateful the Jaegers chose Madonna as the venue for their generosity. "Laura and Sally are a wonderful breath of fresh air; so patient and caring," said Rev. Werner. Through their assistance, the blessings of faith and music are available to many others. "Sally and Laura have become part of the fabric of Madonna and of the long term care residents," added Rev. Werner.

A side benefit is the friendships that the mother daughter duo have developed through their volunteer efforts. Sally doesn't hesitate to give Rev. Werner a hug, wave enthusiastically to the organist, Dorothy, or flash her friendly smile with patients. "We love them all – they are wonderful friends," said Laura. Sally and Laura have respect for the residents and enjoy watching patients progress during their rehabilitation journeys. "We have learned so much from the amazing people at Madonna," said Laura.



Laura and Sally Jaeger (back row) have developed friendships with residents like Iva Brown during their four years of volunteering in Madonna's chapel.

Angie Howard receives Nicholas Liechti Caregiver Award



(L to R) Karen Liechti; Angie Howard, RN; Derek Tranmer, resident; and his mother Cindy Tranmer

A patient's mother nominated Angie Howard, a registered nurse on the St. Angela Ventilator and Special Needs Unit (VAU/SNU), for the 2013 Nicholas Liechti Caregiver Award for the extraordinary care Angie has shown to her son during his time at Madonna.

In her nomination letter, Cindy Tranmer wrote: "Angie Howard definitely deserves this award because she not only does her professional job well, but she also takes the time and energy to show that she truly cares for her patients. She is always friendly, upbeat and wearing a smile. My son, Derek, is a very lucky patient and resident to have Angie not only working with him, but for him. She has helped and supported him physically, socially and mentally. Derek recently transitioned to the vent full time and also made a decision about the feeding tube. It was Angie who stepped in as a friend to help him address and deal with this change in his life."

Karen Liechti recalled the extraordinary care her son, Nicholas, received for many years as a resident on the VAU/SNU. Following his death on September 22, 2011, Karen wanted to reward the outstanding staff who cared for Nicholas.

Karen and her family established the annual caregiver award in Nicholas' memory to be presented each year on his birthday – July 5. The Nicholas Liechti Caregiver Award is presented to a caregiver on VAU/SNU who goes above and beyond in providing extraordinary care and making patients feel special. Nominations for the annual award are sought from patients and family members on the unit. The award comes with a \$500 stipend provided by the Liechti Family. The first recipient of the award was Mario Menendez.



65th Annual National Amputee & 24th National Sr. Amputee Championships
ANTICIPATE • SPECTATE • PARTICIPATE
 August 11-16, 2013
 Wilderness Ridge Golf Course

If you are interested in sponsoring or volunteering at the event, contact Katy Martin at 402-413-4013.

Hosted by:
 Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital
 Wilderness Ridge
 Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau

Benedictine Oblate orientation

Benedictine Oblates are men and women of all Christian faiths who are interested in enriching their way of life.



Benedictine Oblates share values, such as moderation, humility and hospitality, in their everyday lives and strive to see Christ in others and respond likewise.

Benedictine Oblates study the Rule of St. Benedict, which has greatly influenced the world for the past 1,500 years. They also pledge to deepen their prayer life through Lectio Divina, the Liturgy of the Hours in the monastic tradition, and the study of Benedictine spirituality.

There is no cost to become a Benedictine Oblate, other than the fee for occasional books. Benedictine Oblates generally commit to at least one meeting per month.

Benedictine Oblate orientation will be held at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital on Sunday, Aug. 25, and Monday, Aug. 26, at 7 p.m. in the Sheridan. The general public is invited to attend either session. For additional information contact Carol Olson, Lincoln Oblate Dean at (402) 413-3886 or www.nebraskabenedictineoblates.org.

The Lincoln chapter of the Benedictine Oblates is affiliated with Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton, S.D. Lincoln Oblate Deans include: Carol Barry, Steve Liechi, Carol Olson, Jim Rea and Mary Schroer. Sr. Phyllis Hunhoff, at the Sacred Heart Monastery, is the associate director of the Nebraska Benedictine Oblates.

> CALENDAR

June 22 **NEO**

June 31 **CPR Certification**

Agee

9:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

Call ext. 4401 or 4402 to register

Aug. 15 **Permobil Power Trip Demonstration**

Madonna parking lot

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Safety Champions play big role in reducing injuries

- Transfer and repositioning employee injury costs have reduced more than 88 percent from FY 2006 (a year before the program began) to FY 2013.
- Transfer and repositioning employee injury events have reduced from 48 in FY 2006 to only 17 in FY 2013 – a reduction of more than 64 percent.

According to Sandy Stutzman, employee health and safety manager, much of this success is due to the diligence of the Nursing and Therapy Safety Champions, along with the Safe Patient Movement subcommittee of the Employee Safety Committee.

Safety Champions include:

Acute Rehabilitation Unit

Jody Luzum, Lead Safety Champion

Kathleen Bernadt

Chandra Lukas

McKenzie Randel

Kendra Bevans

Markie Novotny

Amy Ferris

Matt Hollamon

Ventilator Assist Unit

Amanda Georges

Andra Walters

Angie Howard

Dustin Rupe

Long Term Acute Care Hospital

Amy Bokowski

Danni Grotzky

Cathy Smith

Laura Chambers

Jenna Hobenfeldt

Marsha Smith

Erica Gehle

Hope Johnson

Martin Spohn

Extended Care North

Taylor Miller

Molly Vanatta

Transitional Care Unit

Ashley Myers

Janelle Smith

Kayla Bent

Ashley Myers

Katie Cheney

Jenny Ruhter

Madonna is fortunate to have this designated team of safety champions serving as peer safety experts to the unit staff for patient movement activities, primarily transfers and repositioning. These activities are recognized as high risk tasks for patients and employees.

Safety champions are constantly working with their peers to address safer ways to move patients. This not only keeps patients safe, but also the staff that work with them.

Nurses and therapists are selected based on their enthusiasm and willingness to learn the principles for safe patient movement. Safety champions foster a culture of safety at Madonna through coaching others, intervening in unsafe situations, assisting with identification of unsafe situations and providing a role model for safe behavior.

Chapel Services

Catholic Mass is offered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 4 p.m., Wednesday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Saturday at 4:30 p.m. The Worship Service is Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Hymn/Music Program is Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

July 21 Steve Werner

July 28 Nebraska Christian Women's Choir

Regional CMSA chapter wins award

The Case Management Society of America

(CMSA) presented its national awards to both individual and chapter recipients at the 23rd

Annual Conference and Expo in New Orleans, LA., on June 25. Danna Woolever, Madonna admissions development coordinator, belongs to the Kansas City chapter that won a Chapter Excellence and Innovation Award. The award recognizes chapters that embody the CMSA mission of promoting the growth a value of case management and supporting the evolving needs of the case management professional. This is the third national award the Kansas City chapter has won.

Danna has been involved with CMSA for 13 years and has served as vice president, president and past president, and was the 2011 Making a Difference award recipient. "It has been a great organization for me both professionally and personally and I am very proud of winning this national award," said Danna.



Danna Woolever

Employee Focus: Fun factoids about Jo



Jo Schleppebach
ProActive Membership Service Assistant
ProActive Employee for 5 years

1. My husband Gary and I have four children.
2. My favorite thing to do is watch our kids at their sporting events.
3. I love to take photos - mostly of our kids.
4. In August, we will become "empty nesters." And in September, I will get a life!

I started at the front desk at Madonna ProActive and now work in membership. I love working in membership because I get to know the members and their families. I feel like I am really helping people and making a difference in their lives.