

JUNE 2016

Recognizing excellent staff partners

The St. Jude Family Advisory Council (FAC) strives to recognize hospital staff members whose actions and attitudes promote and support patient family-centered care (PFCC).

PFCC emphasizes respectful partnerships among patients, families, staff and health care leaders. The philosophy of patient family-centered care shapes policies, programs, facility design, and the quality and safety of patient care. PFCC leads to better health outcomes, wiser use of resources and greater patient and family satisfaction.

The Family Advisory Council presents two types of awards to honor hospital staff members:

PFCC Champion

Presented twice a year at a Breakfast of Champions event, this award

honors St. Jude staff members who exemplify the concepts of patient family-centered care in their work area and beyond.

Partner in Excellence

The annual Patient Family-Centered Care Partner in Excellence is typically selected from previous PFCC Champions. It is a staff member whose work with patient families provides a basis for long-lasting partnership and growth of the patient family-centered care program.

This year the Family Advisory Council selected Ray Bunker as the PFCC Partner in Excellence. FAC Parent Chair Katie Witsoe presented the award at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in May.

Bunker is a project manager for St. Jude Facilities Design and Construction. His coworkers describe

him as “one of the best technicians in the world” and “tenacious at correcting problems.” Most recently he collaborated with the parent advisers on plans for the next three inpatient floors that will be located in the Kay Research and Care Center.

“Ray has graciously worked with members of the Family Advisory Council as true partners,” Witsoe said. “He has made time to take parents to the construction zone on numerous occasions and have them test out a mocked-up inpatient room just to make sure the design would work best for patients and families.

“Ray is always open to suggestions and changes when possible, and he is never too busy to listen and show appreciation for the parents’ perspectives.”

You can nominate a St. Jude staff member for a Patient Family-Centered Care Champion award. To find out more, visit www.stjude.org/fcc-champion-award.

Spiritual Care chaplains hold VBS week for St. Jude patients and siblings

By Kimberly Russell, Chaplain

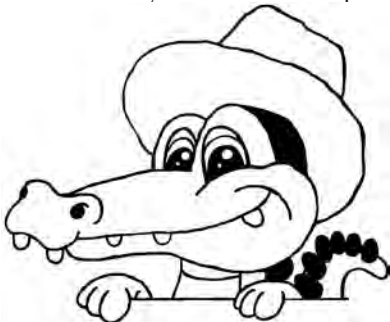
Vacation Bible school is a church event that many kids look forward to each summer. It can be hard to make your home-church VBS fit into your child’s schedule when you are at the hospital every day. For the second year, the Spiritual Care chaplains are offering a week-long VBS opportunity for patients and siblings at St. Jude.

This year’s theme is Exploration Station. Come join us in exploring the stories Jesus shares in the areas where they took place. We will explore the beach, the wilderness, the countryside, the mountains and the farmland. Navi Gator, our tour guide, will lead the group through a story, song, crafts, games and snacks. Each day we will have a new and exciting adventure.

VBS at St. Jude is offered for children ages 5–13. We also welcome teen and young adult patients and siblings who want to volunteer as helpers. VBS at St. Jude will be held on campus, and the crafts and other activities will be geared toward our diverse group of patients and siblings. Wheelchairs, crutches and wagons are welcome.

Dates: Monday, June 27, through Friday, July 1
Times: 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Where: The IRC, Room E-1003 (look for maps at the Guest Services desks in the Patient Care Center and Chili’s Care Center lobbies. Signs will also be posted.)

If your child would like to attend VBS at St. Jude, talk to a chaplain about pre-registration. We can put VBS into your child’s daily schedule, which will help other staff know that your child is planning to attend VBS that day. We look forward to celebrating a week of vacation bible school with you.



Massage on the GO offers massage services for patient family members

Looking for stress relief? Chair and table massages for adult caregivers and other patient family members are now available in the hospital from Massage on the GO.

The cost for these massage services is \$1 per minute. There is a 10-minute minimum required. Payment may be made by credit card, check or cash at the time of the appointment. Some medical insurance, with a medical doctor referral, may be accepted.

These services are offered each Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Massages range from 10 to 60 minutes, but you must schedule in advance.

To schedule an appointment or to learn more about this service or about how insurance might be used, email Sam Nelson at sam@massageonthegomemphis.com or visit www.massageonthegomemphis.com.



Talking about Medicines

Tips for patients on leucovorin with high-dose methotrexate

By Jennifer Robertson, PharmD, Pharmaceutical Department

Leucovorin is sometimes called a “rescue” medicine. It is taken in an effort to “rescue” the normal cells in the body from the side effects of methotrexate, an anticancer medicine. Leucovorin is available in several forms:

- 5-mg, 15-mg and 25-mg white tablets taken by mouth
- A clear liquid taken by mouth
- A clear to pale yellow liquid given by vein

The doctor will tell you if your child needs to take leucovorin after methotrexate.

It works best when the amount of medicine remains constant in the body. To keep the amount constant, make sure your child takes this medicine at the planned times. It is very important that your child does not miss any leucovorin doses.

In most cases, leucovorin should not begin earlier than 24 hours after methotrexate is started.

Sometimes the staff will check the blood levels of methotrexate and use that information to adjust the leucovorin dosage.

If you have questions about leucovorin, talk to a St. Jude doctor, nurse or pharmacist.



Brothers and sisters of patients can become Olympic stars at Sibling Star Day 2016

Child Life will host the 2016 Olympic-themed Sibling Star Day Thursday, June 9. The day will be filled with fun for siblings 4–19 years of age. Registration will be open from 10–10:30 a.m. in the Danny Thomas/ALSAC Pavilion. Siblings will take part in Olympic-style activities from 10:30–11:30 a.m. and have lunch from 11:30 a.m.–noon.

Families will be asked to join the siblings for dessert in the Danny Thomas/ALSAC Pavilion at noon to watch sports clips of the Sibling Star Day Olympics. After dessert, families will line the red carpet outside the

Pavilion as the siblings walk and receive their medals.

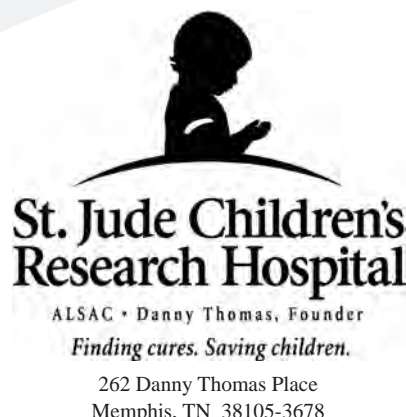
If you have questions about this event, talk to a Child Life specialist.



Kay Kafe hours extended to 9 p.m.

Last month, the Kay Kafe extended its hours. It is now open until 9 p.m. every day. Evening offerings include the daily Gil’s Station selections, pizza, made-to-order grill items and new Grab-n-Go options, such as signature sandwiches, wraps and premium salads. In addition, more than 100 new retail items were added for purchase during the past month.

If you have questions about hours of operation or items offered, talk to the Kay Kafe staff.



St. Jude Parents is published on the first of each month by Family-Centered Care Services and Biomedical Communications. Your questions and comments are important to us. **We want to print advice and tips from St. Jude parents to other St. Jude parents.**

To share your ideas or to receive this newsletter by email, please call or email Alicia Huettel, RN, MSN, at 901-595-5453 (parents_newsletter@stjude.org) or Lois Young (lois.young@stjude.org). To subscribe to an online version of this newsletter or to learn more about *St. Jude Parents*, visit www.stjude.org/parents-newsletter. St. Jude is an Equal Opportunity Employer.