



Happenings

Spring 2016

Laney and Lu Meis,

2015 Chapman S. Root Award Recipients

As the 26th recipient of the annual Chapman S. Root Award, Lu Meis and his wife of 50 years, Laney Meis were honored at the Hospice Holiday Celebration at Hulman Center on December 3, 2015. The Chapman S. Root Award has been presented each year by Hospice of the Wabash Valley since 1990. It is awarded to a citizen(s) whose generosity and leadership have enhanced the quality of life intellectually, educationally, culturally, physically, and spiritually in the Wabash Valley.

Lu and Laney Meis have been part of this community for a long time. Lu Meis is a Haitian by birth, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Miami. Laney grew up in St. Louis, graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, and obtained her master's degree in Special Education from Indiana State University.

Lu was owner of Meis Department Stores and many other clothing stores, including Bottom Half Specialty Stores, Peck's Men's Wear Centers, and Man-to-Man stores. Currently, Lu is president of Meis Ventures Inc. He is also a partner in Culligan Water, and Menchie's Frozen Yogurt. In addition, Lu is extremely involved with Indiana State University and the Terre Haute Boys and Girls Club. Laney has been very involved with the arts in our community. She is one of the founders of Arts Illiana and Arts Spaces and she is also an Emeritus Trustee of the Rose Hulman Institute of Technology. Laney had the honor of being appointed by Governor Orr, and then Governor Bayh, to the Indiana Arts Commission; she served for eight years, including a term as Chairperson. Laney received a Sagamore of Wabash Award from each Governor.



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VNA Homecare Receives a **Five-Star** Rating in Patient Satisfaction

The goal of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is to provide consumers with tools to help make the best decisions about health care. CMS has established two types of star ratings based on the Quality of Care delivered and on Patient Satisfaction Survey Results for home health care providers like Visiting Nurse Association (VNA). The "Patient Survey Star Rating" began in January 2016 and is based on patient responses to the Home Health Care Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HHCAHPS) Survey. Data was collected from patients served between July 2014 and June 2015. The following 4 HHCAHPS measures receive a star rating:

1. Care of patients
2. Communication between providers and patients
3. Specific care issues
4. Overall rating of care provided by the home health agency

The "Quality of Patient Care Star Rating" methodology encompasses 9 of the 27 process and outcome quality measures reported to CMS at the time of patient admission and discharge from homecare services. **VNA received a 4 out of 5 Star rating in Quality of Patient Care.**

The 9 measures are:

1. Timely initiation of care
2. Drug education on all medications provided to patient/caregiver
3. Influenza immunization received for current flu season
4. Improvement in ambulation
5. Improvement in bed transferring
6. Improvement in bathing
7. Improvement in pain interfering with activity
8. Improvement in shortness of breath
9. Acute care hospitalization

For more information or to see the results of any homecare agency go to www.medicare.gov/healthcarecompare.gov. The results are updated on a quarterly basis.



"I am very proud to work with the caliber of clinicians we have at VNA. These ratings demonstrate the care and expertise our clinical staff provide every day to make a positive difference in the lives of the patients we serve."
Trudy Rupska, RN, CEO of VNA Homecare and Hospice of the Wabash Valley.

The following is printed with permission of the writer Margie Anshutz, daughter of Lu and Laney Meis:

People often ask me what it was like growing up in Terre Haute and in the Meis household.

Their demeanors implied a tough, impatient, strict dad, and a stay-at-home mom who was social, indulgent, and loved to shop for the finest clothes. Both are the farthest from the truth.

My dad, to us, was **always there without being always there**. To say he worked a lot is an understatement -especially around this time of the year. But we never felt his absence. He was really a "softy" around us...loved to cuddle (I know that's hard for some to believe) and I really only remember him disciplining us a few times around us messing with his toupee. As many of you know, he is not a man of moderation shown by his unbelievable work ethic and (just as strong), his love of having a good time – a really good time! One of the many stories made famous was his eating my sister's school project, the State of IN, made of flour, salt and water after a very late night. Needless to say there were a few tears in the morning at home and a few laughs at school from the teachers!

My mom picked up the slack of running us and the household and providing an unbelievable nurturing home. She is the most giving person I know and my sister and I often laugh that if we compliment her on something - even just once - she always tries to give it to us – hence the earrings I'm wearing (I'm no dummy). In some ways she too was **always there without being always there**. I never thought of her as not working. She assimilated and integrated herself in this community. She clearly represents the trite saying "grow where you are planted. Those early years were tough for her. She missed her home in St. Louis; my dad and his friends were 10 years her senior; and she hated to shop and could care less about fine clothes (which was hard as the wife of Mr. Meis). It was left to her to make her own life here - and that she did.



My parents never sat us down and told us life lessons. They lived those lessons and we were watching. There are a couple of exceptions to that...the day Cathy and I were hurrying to clean out our drawers and threw away some change...we heard about that.

And the many times I heard my dad talk with us and others about business and negotiations...He would always point out the need for honesty, fairness, and giving the other side a generous/fair deal.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not mention that in addition to the wonderful times, my parents provide continuous and loving support to me and my sister during the hardest of times. This year specifically, they were there every moment and in every way for me and my kids...and for that I will always be profoundly grateful. They are incredible parents, awesome grandparents and tremendous human beings. I'm grateful to Hospice for its life changing work and for honoring them tonight, and I'm grateful to this community, for the love and support it has always provided to them and my family.

2015 Dr. William Bannon Award Recipient Mrs. Nancy Farr



This award was established to recognize an employee or volunteer for our agency. The person who receives this award exemplifies the spirit of care and compassion for helping others as Dr. Bannon did throughout his medical career. Dr. Bannon was a physician who spent endless hours responding to the physical and emotional well-being of his patients, their families, and loved ones.



During Dr. Bannon's tenure as a practicing physician, he served numerous years as the volunteer medical director for Hospice of the Wabash Valley, and in 1997, received the prestigious Chapman S. Root Award.

Nancy Farr joined the VNA/Hospice Board of Directors in 2006 and immediately made an impact as an engaged and active member of our board. She reviewed staff policies and procedures, helped write grants, and served as the board representative on our Professional Advisory Committee, a Department of Health mandated committee. In addition, she has served as the Chair of our Hospice Holiday Celebration since 2011. In this position, she volunteers numerous hours in coordinating all the details to make this event such a success. She is an individual who leads with a Hospice Heart.

Top: (Left to Right) Mr. Greg Gibson, Mrs. Nancy Farr, and Mr. Tom Miller
Bottom: Mr. Greg Gibson and Mrs. Nancy Farr

Her extraordinary commitment and contributions as a member of the Board of Directors has truly made a difference in the quality of life of those we serve throughout Hospice care.

Hospice of the Wabash Valley

29th Annual Tulip Bouquet Sale



Celebrate Administrative Professional's Day on

April 27, 2016

Share a sign of life and the hope of spring with someone special:

A friend, a co-worker, or a "Thinking of You" bouquet

\$10 per 10 stem bouquet

All Proceeds
Benefit the
Inpatient Hospice
Center
Campaign

Delivery Options Within City Limits (Please check location):

Brazil Clinton Sullivan Terre Haute

- Bouquets delivered between 9:00 am and 12 Noon on Wednesday, April 27
- If possible provide a business address if you are ordering for someone working during the a.m. hours

Pick-up Options (Please check location):

<input type="checkbox"/> Hospice of the Wabash Valley, 400 8 th Ave, Terre Haute, IN	<input type="checkbox"/> Edward Jones, 22 N. Meridian, Brazil, IN	<input type="checkbox"/> Union Hospital Clinton, 801 S. Main Street, Clinton, IN	<input type="checkbox"/> Baesler's Sullivan, 277 S. Section St., Sullivan, IN
*Available at this location from 10:00 am – 5:00pm	*Available at this location from 10:00 am – 12 Noon	*Available at this location from 10:00 am – 12 Noon	*Available at this location from 10:00 am – 12 Noon

We will be offering preprinted cards with the following four choices:

1. Happy Spring! 2. Thinking of you 3. Love 4. Happy Administrative Professional Day

Name of Purchaser: _____ Daytime phone _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Deliver to:	Detailed Address Directions	Zip Code:	Daytime Phone:	# of Bouquets	Choice of Card from Above

Make checks payable to:
Hospice of the Wabash Valley
400 8th Avenue
Terre Haute, IN 47804

Credit Card Info: Type of Card _____ Visa _____ MasterCard
Number _____ Expiration: ____/____
Name on Card _____

You may call (812) 234-2515 to place your order Monday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm, credit card only.
Or you can go to www.myhospicevna.org to download an order form.

Orders must be received by Monday, April 18 to guarantee delivery.
Orders received after April 18 will not be delivered but will be available for pickup.

Donations for Hospice Inpatient Center at Union Hospital Reach \$1.1 M

Union Hospital Foundation and Hospice of the Wabash Valley (HWV) invited members of the local media and our supporters to a press conference and community update on the “Legacy Lives Here. Expanding the Vision” capital campaign to build a Hospice Center at Union Hospital on Thursday, February 18, 2016. Greg Gibson, President of the Board of Directors of Hospice of the Wabash Valley announced that \$1.1 million has been raised by 187 donors since the launch of the campaign in late December of 2014. The Board of Directors hope to have the campaign completed by the fall of 2016, with construction beginning soon after. Dr. John Bolinger, Chief Medical Officer at Union Hospital, spoke about the importance of this specialized unit from a medical perspective. Pat Board, CEO of the Union Health System, shared the significance of the partnership and the impact the Hospice Center will have on the Community. Lastly, the Vice President of the Board of Directors for HWV and Chairman of the Inpatient Hospice Committee, Don Ireland, concluded the conference with thanking the donors, including this generous community and the staff and volunteers of Hospice of the Wabash Valley. He also requested public support to help in raising the remaining \$1 M to finish our campaign.

For more information, contact: Joel Harbaugh, Executive Director of Union Hospital Foundation, at 812.238.7534 or email at jharbaugh@uhhg.org



Veterans Day Program

On November 11, 2015 at Harrison’s Crossings Health Campus, Hospice of the Wabash Valley conducted a distinguished pinning ceremony for the residents who are veterans. There were 15 veterans who we honored, all ranging from World War II to Korea and Vietnam Veterans. We were fortunate to have been able to listen to each veteran’s story. Most of the veterans had a romantic love story of how they had met their spouses, while others shared with us stories of how they had earned their valiant medals.

After we announced the veteran’s name, we shared a brief summary of the story the veteran had expressed to us. While the veteran’s stories were being told, we performed the pinning of each veteran. The veterans all received a pin from their branch of service, as well as a framed certificate showing our gratitude for their service.

It was a memorable ceremony of appreciation and we are so proud to have been able to share this experience with the veterans and their families.



2015 Employee of the Year - Tina McElroy



This year's Employee of the Year goes to Tina McElroy! To say Tina is a hard worker is an understatement. Tina always goes above and beyond, holds a positive attitude, motivates fellow co-workers, and is an exceptional role model! Tina has transitioned into her new role as Education Coordinator flawlessly. She has been able to keep her cool during the implementation of new software. She is always extremely helpful and handles all problems with a smile, and she always does an outstanding job working with new people and making them feel welcome. Not only that, but Tina has gotten students back involved with our agency. She always has time for encouragement and has a grand sense of humor that makes a stressful situation much easier to handle! Tina is extremely important to our agency.



2015 Volunteer of the Year - Suzi Unger



What does a volunteer for Hospice of the Wabash Valley look like? Well, they look just like you and me; however, they do not receive a paycheck for the services they contribute and are known as the "heart" of Hospice. Our 2015 volunteer of the year has offered her services to Hospice of the Wabash Valley for almost three years! When you ask her what made her decide to become a Hospice of the Wabash Valley volunteer, she admits that when we first talked about her becoming a volunteer, she hesitated. She came back a few days later and said, "Judi, I do want to become a volunteer for Hospice of the Wabash Valley. God prodded me that I may become the last best friend to a Hospice patient," and I want to be obedient. This volunteer has been the last best friend to 14 patients since 2012. This volunteer is one of the most positive people you would ever meet. She exudes warmth, energy and compassion tenfold. Words cannot adequately express our gratitude to Suzi for all that she gives to us. Thank you Suzi for your dedication of service to Hospice of the Wabash Valley!

CareLink Medical Alert



Stay at home with confidence.
FREE for 60 Days for ALL VNA patients



Call **SHERRY RADER 812-232-7611**

CHRISTMAS AT THE PARK

Every year organizations from the community participate in Christmas decorations at Deming Park. With the newly updated Hospice Garden, Hospice of the Wabash Valley was able to join in the fun and decorate our garden! We look forward to participating each year!



In Honor Of

Starting October 1, 2015
Through January 31, 2016

In Honor of Elsie L Adler

Bedford/St. Martin's Church
Barbara Flanagan

In Honor of Debbie Ault

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of James Buechler

Margaret Sue Snedeker

In Honor of Bob & Julie Baesler

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of Greg & Amy Gibson

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of Mark & Sarah Mullican

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of Steve & Carole Williams

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of Lu & Laney Meis

Jo Einsteadig
Joseph & Merrylee Kandel
Richard & Lorraine Kostyra
Susan S Matlof
Ellen & Lee Metzendorf
John & Marilyn E. Napier
Marian (And Richard F. Knox) Steen

In Honor of Jack Simpson

Brian & Jane Miller

In Honor of Ray & Debbie Summerlot

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of the Honorable PJ Pierson & wife Karen

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of Mark & Cyndi Roman

Tom & Laurice Newlin

In Honor of Dr. Richard Watson's 80th Birthday

Mary Alice & Christopher Mulvihill



Memorials

Starting October 1, 2015
Through January 31, 2016

In Memory of Wilma Louise Albright

Richard & Treva Gallagher

In Memory of George Barden

Muriel LaVanne
In Memory of Ursula Erika Avellina
Theresa DeBaun
Brigette Kingery
Sherry Rader
Becky Ring
Melissa & Michael Shacklee

In Memory of Fred Bauer

Dorothy & William Bauer

In Memory of Bernard G. Cochran

Robert M Kelley
Melvin & Ruth Staten
Wabash Valley Central Labor Council

In Memory of Robert Lee DeBard

David R Doerr

In Memory of Rita Depasse

Ronald Depasse

In Memory of Florence Eveland

Marion M. Eveland

In Memory of Jack Richard Fox

Norman & Sally Lowery
Jim & Trudy Rupska

In Memory of Nancy Frisz

Greg Gibson

In Memory of Robert Gallian

Frances G. Hancher

In Memory of Bernice Gehring

Margaret C. Gehring

In Memory of Carl Gregory

Greg Gibson

In Memory of Deborah L Gurgel

Gregory D. Gurgel
Amy & Gregg Halaburt

In Memory of Jackie E. Hall

Jerry & Susie Buck

In Memory of Charlotte Lula Kurtzrock

Naomi Greggs

In Memory of Vona Louise Hedge

Madeline Craycraft
Charles & Gwendolyn Hinshaw

In Memory of Clarence M Hood

Renee & Niles Newton
Ruth A Plumb
Jim & Trudy Rupska

In Memory of Vic Fields

Yvonne Achterberg
Anonymous
Jennifer & Sean Barrie
Peggy & Robert Bohde
Beverly J Brown
Glen & Linda Cole
Freda Collings
Columbus East High School
Sally Curley
Div. of Family & Children, Tangier, IN
Kevin & Linda Darr
Joseph & Nancy Dutton
Don & Jean Gardner
Joe & Sandra Giovanini
John Hochhalter
Phil & Joan Houston
Mary Ann & Randy Keko
Chong & Bong Kim
Jamie & Terry Lewis
Ronald D Matthews
Peggy W. McCoy
Carl & Karen Miller
Irida Miller
Montezuma High School Class of 1962
Jody & Bruce Nelson
Scott & Dianne Powell
Dr. Cleve & Jane Scott
Janna D Scott
Janice A Tempest
Dave & Sandra Watts
George & Wilma Wooten
Cheryl Zuckschwerdt-Ellsbury

In Memory of Ernie R Lane

Kathleen & Scott Arnold

In Memory of Frieda M Lessing

Susan E Adams
Charles E. Albrecht
Jack & Nancy Crumrin
Elvin Elder
Eric & Candace Murphy
Rita Murphy
Mike & Sue Warner

Memorials

Continued

In Memory of Margaret & Warren Liffick

Marcella L. Stevens

In Memory of Paul Marietta

Mark Marietta

In Memory of Rose Mary Marietta

Mark Marietta

In Memory of Donald Ray Mars

Luke & Brenda Anderson

In Memory of Travis G. McDonald

Greg Gibson

In Memory of Bobby Nance

Greg Gibson

In Memory of Robert "Bob" L Norris

Pauline Cuvelier

Charles A Hutchinson

In Memory of Elaine M Ooms

Sherry Rader

In Memory of Elizabeth F Parks

Herb & Barb Cain

Bruce & Connie McLaren

Jim Parks

Denis & Suzanne Radecki

The Volkers Group, LLC

John R. & Jane White

In Memory of Roxie S. Price

Dave and Janet Friedrich

Leann Malone

In Memory of Herman Henry Rassel

Sackrider & Co., Inc.

Greg Gibson

In Memory of Lucille Rhoades

John & Susan Rhoades

In Memory of Michael Craig Roberts

Gregory & Pamela Baugh

Rose Hulman Institute Of Technology

Jimmy Saliju

In Memory of Larry Schopmeyer

Donna Schopmeyer

In Memory of Elizabeth M. Scott

Donald William and Susan Scott

In Memory of Robert S. Scott

Donald William and Susan Scott

In Memory of Betty Slack

Harold & Ruth Ann Neal

In Memory of Robert Snyder

Industrial Supply Company

In Memory of James L. Supp

Carole J. Supp

In Memory of Hershel Thurmond

Charles & Polly Jones

Lynda Strange

In Memory of Norma Jean Parker Whitford

Maryella M Fox

Jan Oglesby

Jeanette & Dick Stultz

In Memory of Loyal Wilbur Wilson

Peg & John Royse

In Memory of Laura Belle Winning

Industrial Supply Company

We are grateful for these gifts as they enable us to fulfill our mission to improve the quality of living for our patients. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. If you wish to report an error or omission, please call our office at 812-234-2515. Any corrections will be made in the next issue of our newsletter.

Your Donation is of vital significance to the financial support of Hospice of the Wabash Valley and Visiting Nurse Association.

It is helpful to us at this time of year if you would consider sending your 2016 Donation in response to this newsletter. Your support is very much appreciated.

Please Check:

- PARTNER (\$1,000 or more) Name: _____
- ASSOCIATE (\$500 - \$999) Address: _____
- PATRON (\$100 - \$499) _____
- FRIEND (\$25 - \$99) _____
- Phone: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

You may designate your donation to one of the following programs:

- Hospice Bereavement Program Hospice Memorial Garden at Deming Park
- Indigent Program - Hospice & VNA
- Hospice Inpatient Center

You may also designate your donation in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one. Please be specific.

_____ In honor of _____

_____ In memory of _____

You are cordially invited to:

**Hospice of the Wabash Valley's
Spring Memorial Service**

“Forget me Not”

Please join us as we set aside a special time and place to pay tribute to those who have died during the past year.

**Sunday, May 15th
2:00 PM**

Light Refreshments Provided

Located at the Lion's Shelter at Deming
Park

Please RSVP to
Neva McFarland,
Bereavement
Coordinator
at 812-232-7611



What's Inside

- 1...Chapman S. Root Award/5 Star
- 2...Cont. Root Award & Bannon Award
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- 5...Employee/Volunteer of the Year
- 6...Memorials
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SPRING 2016

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