At Catholic Health Services we always strive to improve our patient and visitor experience and do so by continuous upgrades of our facilities and services. It is, therefore, our great pleasure to share that we have completed the main entrance – the *Mary Mapp Lobby*, rehabilitation gym and rehab patient floor renovation project. These upgrades have completely transformed our work and public spaces, bringing our flagship facility, Villa Maria Nursing Center and St. Catherine’s Rehabilitation Hospital in North Miami to an improved state of modern yet subdued comfort and elegance.
We welcome Mr. Thomas J. Piszczatoski, SPHR, as the new Vice President of Human Resources and Corporate Compliance Officer, effective July 2, 2018.

Tom comes to CHS with almost 30 years of innovative human resources experience, mostly in healthcare, including key leadership positions with Tenet and Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare systems.

He is a native of New Jersey and earned his BBA at William Patterson University in Wayne, NJ. Tom is a highly skilled strategic business executive who has helped lead several organizations through significant growth and expansion. Certified as a Senior Professional in Human Resources, he is a Lean Practitioner and Associated Safety Professional, in addition to his affiliations with the American Society for Healthcare HR Administration and the Society of HR Management. During Tom’s career he has designed and implemented numerous programs that have resulted in significant cultural change, established processes for identifying high performance, increased effectiveness in organizational structure and process, improved retention and turnover while also improving employee engagement.

“In addition to his impressive background and expertise, Tom brings strong organizational, analytical and interpersonal skills to his new role,” said Joe Catania, president and Chief Executive Officer of CHS. “We are very pleased to have him join our team.”
Joining the global movement to help end Alzheimer’s disease, to increase funding for research and provide care and support, TEAM CHS participated in The Longest Day. On the summer solstice, Thursday, June 21st, the longest day of the year, we teamed up with our partner, the local chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association to raise awareness for care and support while advancing research toward reaching the maximum goal - the first survivor of Alzheimer’s!

This event lovingly symbolizes the difficult journey of those living with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers. Many of our facilities throughout CHS showed their support by wearing purple, the Alzheimer’s signature color. Many special activities were planned to continue our fundraising efforts.

“In keeping with The Longest Day we wanted a project that would incorporate members of our community ie: our patients and their caregivers. We chose a quilt so that each person could share their perspective and show how they cope with the challenges associated with a debilitating disease. Each square was colored by a patient or caregiver and included a motivational quote or saying in either Spanish or English. As a whole it speaks to staying positive, strong and to always enjoy the little pleasures in life!!” - Shaleen Chin, OT Manager.
Gabino Fernandez knows how important a care taker, a priest, or a counselor can be for a child. Fernandez came from Cuba in the early 60’s, alone, as a Pedro Pan child. Operation ‘Pedro Pan’ or Peter Pan was the largest recorded exodus of unaccompanied minors in the Western Hemisphere. More than 14,000 Cuban youths arrived alone in the United States from Cuban parents fearing indoctrination and that the Cuban government would take away their parental authority. Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh of the Catholic Welfare Service, created the program to provide air transportation to the United States for Cuban children. It operated without publicity out of fear that it would be viewed as an anti-Castro political enterprise.

Fernandez volunteered his services this year to Camp Erin run by the Moyer Foundation and Catholic Hospice. Camp Erin is the largest national bereavement program for youth grieving the death of a significant person in their lives. Children and teens ages 6-17 attend a transformational weekend camp that combines traditional, fun camp activities with grief education and emotional support, free of charge for all families. Led by grief professionals and trained volunteers, Camp Erin provides a unique opportunity for youth to increase levels of hope, enhance self-esteem, and especially to learn that they are not alone.

“I’d like to express my appreciation to be part of that awesome experience at Camp Erin. The good people from Catholic Hospice along with the volunteers and everyone else involved will not be a forgotten experience” states Fernandez.

Fernandez lost his beloved dad at age 10, a year and half later he became a ‘Pedro Pan’ child. “I must tell you I felt very much like the campers in many instances. The program gave me the opportunity to be among those who shared the same experience I lived through and made it! This weekend was my opportunity to give back, in memory of those, who gave me so much when I needed it most. It was my time to pay a little of it forward”.

To learn more about Camp Erin and Catholic Hospice, please visit our website at: https://www.catholichealthservices.org/catholic-hospice/programs/
Kicking off the summer, representatives of Catholic Health Services and Catholic Hospice spent the afternoon connecting with the community at the WPLG Local 10 Health & Lifestyle Expo. Held at the Westfield Broward Mall, The Health & Lifestyle Expo was an opportunity for patrons to participate in health conscious activities, be educated on health and wellness topics, win giveaways and interact with various health industry leaders in the community. Our liaisons spent time interacting with the community and sharing information about our services.

Thank you to the WPLG Team, community organizers and sponsors for the platform! We look forward to our next community event.
Independence Day - The 4th of July! Not only does this day involve fun celebration, but it symbolizes deep significance in our nation’s story. On July 2, the Continental Congress voted in favor of the colonies forming an independent nation. Two days later the Continental Congress adopted and signed the Declaration of Independence which had been drafted by Thomas Jefferson.
National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale’s birthday. From the moment a patient walks into a healthcare facility to the moment they leave, nurses are on call, tending to every need, comforting and healing to the best of their abilities and delivering compassionate care.

From June 13-20, The National CNA Nursing Assistant Week was celebrated. It recognizes nursing assistants, who help the elderly in nursing homes, assisted living centers, and in their own home. CNA’s at St. Anne’s Nursing Center & Residence play a major role in helping the elderly and sick live a quality life. They perform many different tasks from meal preparation, assisting with dressing and showers, and with medications. We are thankful for the hard work and dedication they provide daily.

St. Anne’s celebrates CNA week
Father’s Day is celebrated on the third Sunday of June. It celebrates the contribution that fathers and father figures make for their children’s lives. At St. Anne’s Nursing Center and Residence, they celebrated Father’s Day in grand maritime style!

Customers are more likely to engage with merchandise and staff when a store smells like chocolate.

More US mothers breastfed their babies during 2000 to 2010 - a trend that if continued, could save more than $2 billion in yearly health care cost.


Most women spend approximately $15,000 on beauty products in her lifetime.

13% of American adults do not use internet. Despite a government push to increase broadband internet users, almost 40 million Americans, still don’t go online, according to a recent Pew Research Center analysis.

Eating fruits and vegetables has many health benefits. People who eat a healthy, balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables can help lower their risk of heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, some types of cancer, obesity, and high blood pressure.