FIVE IVCH CLINICS EXPAND OFFICE HOURS

Starting in January, five medical offices belonging to the IVCH Medical Group will significantly expand the hours they are open. Late afternoon and evening appointments will be available to provide greater access to primary care. The biggest change will be at the IVCH Oglesby Medical Clinic, which will be taking appointments until 8 p.m. four of the five days it is open each week.

Here are the specific days and times for each office:

**Peru Medical Clinic** (Dr. Mario Cote and Todd Kuzma, physician assistant) Phone: 815-223-3500
- Monday ........... 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Tuesday ........... 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday ..... 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Thursday ......... 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Friday .............. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**LaSalle Medical Clinic** (Dr. Ricardo Calderon and Melissa Fitzpatrick, nurse practitioner) Phone: 815-220-7170
- Monday ........... 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday ........... 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Wednesday ..... 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Thursday ......... 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- Friday .............. 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Women’s Health Care Center** (Dr. Shyrlena Bogard, Dr. Jeffrey Edwards, Dr. Mitchell Khan, Pam Koehler, CNM; Angela Reidner, CNM; and Dana Hoffmann, CNM) Phone: 815-223-2944
- Monday ........... 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday ........... 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday ..... 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday ......... 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Friday .............. 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Oglesby Medical Clinic** (Dr. Kelly DeBoer, Dr. David O’Donnell, and Patricia Orozco, physician assistant) Phone: 815-883-3588
- Monday .......... 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday .......... 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Wednesday ..... 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Thursday ......... 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Friday .............. 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Peru Primary Care Clinic** (Dr. Mark Fernandez, Dr. Michelle Vasquez and Elizabeth Birkey, nurse practitioner/certified nurse midwife) Phone: 815-223-9214
- Monday .......... 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Tuesday .......... 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday ..... 9:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Thursday ......... 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Friday .............. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Todd Kuzma** (left) is the new physician assistant working with Dr. Mario Cote at the Peru Medical Clinic.

**Dana Hoffmann** is the newest certified nurse midwife at the Women’s Health Care Center.
EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AWARDS

IV Healthcorp employees and volunteers who received WOW! Service Excellence Awards in November include:

Anaalicia Arteaga  
Melissa Balma  
Katie Baumgartner  
Heather Becker  
Nicole Beuster  
Dana Bickett  
Barbara Boehm  
Bonnie Bottenberg  
Catie Bunzell  
Debra Caresio  
Deanna Chase  
Kathryn Corrigan  
Dr. Steven Coventry  
Michael Credi  
Charlene Dean-Jones  
Donna M. Donna  
Carina Esquivel  
Patricia Esquivel  
Deb Feller  
Brenda Ferguson  
Joan Fernandez  
Debra Fewell

Ashley Freitag  
Cynthia Grabow  
Brooke Gramer  
Sylvia Guerrero  
Casey Harmon  
Alyssa Heider  
Sally Jenkins  
Noah Kellen  
Lee Kirby  
Jaimie Kurth  
Amanda Lester  
Bridget Malone  
Elizabeth Martin  
Kris Martin  
Jennifer Mayer  
Kayla Mayszak  
Michele McGuire  
Colleen McKenna  
Laura McNally  
Linda Parsons  
Annabelle Perez  
Thomas Petersen  
Angela Pikula  
Debra K. Pyszka  
Maureen Rebholz  
Janet Redshaw  
Karen Rossman  
Cindy Schlesinger  
Terry Sparling  
Brittany Stewart  
Sue Tadych  
Janet Vaughn  
Dawn Verucchi  
Susan Wagner  
Mary Warnell  
Jennifer Washelesky  
Paula Widolff  
Denise Wilcox  
Tara Wozniak  
Janessa Wyatt  
Michelle Zuniga

COMMENTS RECEIVED IN NOVEMBER ABOUT IVCH PHYSICIANS AND MID-LEVEL PROVIDERS

“Dr. Cote was excellent! No praise is enough!”

“Angie Reidner was amazing! She is such a great midwife, and I really hope she can deliver all my children.”

“Dr. K. (loved him).”

“Dr. Peter Meier and his team are exceptional!”

“Dr. Curry is a great doctor.”

“Dr. Siddiqi’s care has been impressive.”

“Dr. Becker is outstanding.”

“Dr. Millington was terrific.”

“Dr. Ritz is professional, yet down to earth.”

“Dr. Chinn was amazing!”

“Dr. Brackett was very attentive.”

Illinois Valley Community Hospital’s Community Outreach Department, along with the American Heart Association, provided soon-to-be parents at IVCH’s November Baby Talk class with free Infant CPR Anytime kits. IVCH’s Baby Talk class teaches parents how to perform infant CPR but the kits allow parents to review and practice these skills again at home. The kit comes with an infant manikin, instruction booklet, and video to watch. Parents can share the teaching kits with grandparents, other family members, and friends. IVCH is dedicated to providing a healthy and safe environment for families. Pictured with their kits and Baby Talk class leader Amy Stone are Audrey Jamison (left) and Kristen King, both of Manlius.

IV Healthcorp employees and physicians who were mentioned by name in a positive manner on patient surveys returned in November include:

Rosanne Abbott (2) • Traci Aimone • Jessica Allen • John Apilado (2) • Mary Armata • Debbie Baker • Melissa Balma • Dasia Beals • Dr. Eugene Becker (4) • Liz Birkey • Susie Bogaert (3) • Catie Bunzell • Cindy Cade • Lorin Casey • Dr. Mary Chinn • Dr. Mario Cote (2) • Darla Crane (2) • Dr. Tom Curry • Jane Curry • Connie Dyer • Deb Fewell • Kayliegh Flanagan (2) • Mike Frank • Ashley Freitag (2) • Nancy Gilmore • Michelle Glancy (2) • Dr. Serg Golber (4) • Stacey Hassler (2) • Alyssa Heider • Marissa Henry • Megan Hochstatter (3) • Alyssa Holmes (2) • Barb Hopf • Mary Jaegel • Mary Jauch (3) • Jen Jenner • Dr. Othman Jibril • Patti Kannikar (4) • Dr. David Kelton (2) • Pam Koehler • Lori Komater (2) • Dawn Krolak (4) • Wendy Lamboley (3) • Christine Layhew • Melina Loukas • Cathy Lenski • Brittne Lewis • Sonya Marquez • Jacqui Marshall • Kris Martin • Mary Sue Mark • Melissa Mata (2) • Adam Maubach • Lorin Maxman • Kim McTee (2) • Becky Meyer • Dr. Peter Meier • Amy Mertes (3) • Heather Miller • Dr. Scott Millington • Dr. Mauro Montefuschi • Renee Olsen (2) • Mary Petre (2) • Kendra Polo • Deb Pyszka, PA • Deb Pyszka, RN (2) • Briana Rebholz • Tina Reel • Angie Reidner (2) • Dr. Elizabeth Ritz • Erica Rohwer • Sandra Roseberg • Dr. Muhammad Sabir (4) • Teresa Skoflanc • Veronica Spangler (3) • Janelle Stegman (2) • Amy Stone • Lori Sudaj • Joannie Templeton • Heather Tipton • Hope Turigliatti • Sue Tutko (2) • Joanna Urzua • Shelbi Vanderpool • Sue Wagner • Lon Way • Stacey Wertz • Sue Wozniak • Amy Wujek • Wendy Zimmerman
COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our thanks to the IVCH Holiday Party Committee for staging a wonderful event. Our department had a great time! The day after the party we were in the Peru Christmas Parade with the “blinged out” IVCH Transport van and some loyal employees who always pass out candy to the community. Happy birthday to Joan Fernandez who attended her first Bears game at Soldier Field December 13th (burr!).

PATIENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

Our deepest sympathies to Diana Lyons on the loss of her husband, Jim. We wish Terri the best of luck as she leaves us to pursue a new position in Patient Access. The last 16 years have been an adventure – we will miss you in our department, but will still be able to see you here at the hospital! Welcome to our new employee, Gina Wolf, who will be in the cashier’s office. Everyone had a great time at the department Christmas party. Thanks to administration and board for our Christmas gift – it is greatly appreciated. December was a busy month here between vacations and bills dropping.

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

The Diagnostic Imaging holiday party was held at the Uptown restaurant, Sunday, December 6th. There was great conversation, appetizers, dinner, drinks, and a gift exchange. As always, a great time was had by all. The Diagnostic Imaging Department would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

2 SOUTH

Thanks to the board of directors for the holiday bonus. The 2 South staff wishes everyone a happy 2016. The IVCH Christmas party committee did a wonderful job! Congratulations to: Liz King, who recently gave birth to a son; Ashley Giusti, who gave birth to a baby girl; and the recently-married Catie Curry, who is now Catie Bunzell.

3 SOUTH

Congratulations to Paula and Rip Widolff on the birth of their son, A.J. The 3 South gang had a great time at the Christmas party. Thank you to the committee. And thank you to the board for our Christmas bonus and our pay raise. Deb P. is going to be a grandma again — two of her sons’ wives are expecting next year! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from 3 South. Here’s to a great 2016!

ADULT DAY CENTER

Merry Christmas from everyone at ADC!! The clients enjoyed our music entertainment with Scott Hawton singing and playing his guitar. Thank you, Home Instead, for all of the wonderful gifts donated to our clients. We really appreciate it. Thank you, Marta, for the delicious meal – it was yummy!

OB

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone! Good-bye and good luck to Heather Miller, CNM, who is leaving us to go to Ottawa. Welcome to Dana Hoffman, our new midwife. Everyone had a good time at the Christmas Party. A big thank you to the Hospital Christmas Committee for the fantastic party – the committee always does a great job! Thank you to the Board for our Christmas bonus – it comes in handy at this time of year!

BLOOD DRIVE

A huge thank you to our fellow staff members and volunteers who donated blood November 19 in order to help save lives!

American Red Cross

Elizabeth Michael
Lindsey Passanisi
Erika Pierski
Nancy Porter
Allison Rooney
Terri Terzick
Lori Tomlinson
Gene Vogelgesang
Brandy Wehr

The next IVCH blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, in the 5th Street office building. Call Danielle Bourell at 815-780-3387 for more information.

IVCH IN PERU

CHRISTMAS PARADE

The annual Peru Christmas Parade took a new route this year that included passing under the IVCH skybridge. Joan Fernandez, community outreach coordinator, drove a decorated IVCH van in the December 5th parade and a number of hospital employees – along with their children and grandchildren – walked alongside passing out candy to spectators.
The Auxiliary will take a break from regularly scheduled meetings and a bake sale for the month of January. The next meeting will be held on February 2, 2016.

BIRTHDAYS
Happy January birthdays to Mary Kaye Sadnick (1/7), Carole Potthoff (1/15), and Sarah Cudlip (1/29).

IVCH AUXILIARY CHRISTMAS CHECK TO HELP PROVIDE TRANSLATORS
The Illinois Valley Community Hospital Auxiliary gave a $15,000 check to the hospital at its annual Christmas luncheon December 1 at Mario’s Maples in Peru. Part of the money will be used to purchase two iPads so IVCH staff can make use of a service that provides translators to talk to non-English-speaking patients “face to face” through the computer screen to help the hospital’s nurses and technicians deliver care. Tommy Hobbs, IVCH chief executive officer, is pictured accepting the check from (l-r) Mary Beth Brantner, auxiliary president; Joan Rundle, secretary; Jan Vogelgesang, vice president; and Pat Smorkel, treasurer.

WORLD AIDS DAY OBSERVED
World AIDS Day was observed December 1. It’s an event to draw attention to the current status of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS).

The first cases of AIDS were reported more than 30 years ago in 1981. At the end of 2014, approximately 36.9 million persons worldwide were living with HIV infection. Although AIDS-related deaths have decreased by 42% since 2004, an estimated 1.2 million persons still died from AIDS in 2014.

Locally, there were two newly-identified HIV positive cases in LaSalle County in 2014 and one new case in 2015.

The LaSalle County Health Department (815-433-3366 or 800-247-5243) offers free HIV swab testing – no blood is drawn and no physician order accepted.

A statement from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases reads: “When the first cases of AIDS were reported in 1981, scientists and physicians did not know the cause and had no therapies to treat those who were infected. Times have changed, and today we can now speak credibly about having an end to the HIV/AIDS pandemic within our sights”
A patient recently sent two vases of long-stemmed pink roses to the diagnostic imaging department in appreciation of the care she received a year ago.

“She came for a mammogram which lead to additional testing and cancer was found,” said mammography tech Donna M. Donna. “She wrote a note saying that every single person in our department that she had contact with were awesome at their job. She even said she ‘enjoyed’ her few hours of testing. She felt we were knowledgeable and kind and she will never forget that day.”

The evening of December 15 found the LaSalle-Peru High School Chamber Singers walking the halls of IVCH singing Christmas carols. The choral group performed on the 2 South and 3 South nursing units as well as in the obstetrics unit and in the East Addition lobby. Pictured in the first row, from left, are Abby Steinberg, Maggie McKinney, Maggie Braun and Emilee Kupperschmid. In the second row, from left, are Ethan Walter, Kevin Nowakowski, and T.R. Miller. Aimee Taylor is the Chamber Singers director.

Beginning January 1, there will be a new phone number to call to schedule an NCAT ride.

The City of Ottawa, which is responsible for the administration of North Central Area Transit (NCAT), has entered into a new partnership with Bureau and Putnam Area Rural Transit (BPART), ending a two-and-a-half year relationship with Lee/Ogle County Public Transportation.

The most immediate change will be the new telephone number used for scheduling rides. It’s 877-874-8813, and it goes into effect January 1. Another change involved NCAT’s hours of operation, which are expanding from the current 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. until 6 p.m.
WEIGHT LOSS THE HEALTHY WAY – JANUARY 7
If one of your new year’s resolutions is to lose weight, get some sound medical advice about the best way to do it by coming to a free IVCH public program at 6 p.m. Thursday, January 7, in the hospital’s room at Peru Mall. Dr. Elizabeth Ritz, an internal medicine physician who is part of the hospital’s Adult Medicine Clinic, will talk about “Weight Loss the Healthy Way.” There’s no charge to attend but please pre-register by calling ext. 3337 or register online at www.ivch.org. Fruit and vegetable snacks will be served.

IVCH FOUNDATION BALL – JANUARY 16
The 28th edition of one of the Illinois Valley’s longest-running fundraisers is set for January 16 when the IVCH Foundation hosts its annual benefit ball at Celebrations 150, LaSalle. The event, begins with cocktails at 6 p.m. and includes a Grand Buffet dinner (prime rib, ham and fish), dancing to In Style Entertainment and Vince Gelsomino and Phaze, and the opportunity to win prizes by playing various games of chance. Reservations are $47.50 per person and can be made by calling Jheri Emmerling at 815-780-4642, or by registering and making payment online at www.ivch.org.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE – FEBRUARY 24
The next IVCH Red Cross blood drive is set for Wednesday, February 24, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the 6th Street office building. Call Danielle Bourell at ext. 3387 to make an appointment to give blood.

IN SYMPATHY
The entire IVCH family wishes sincere sympathy to:
- Diana Lyons, Patient Financial Services, on the loss of her husband, James Lyons;
- Lynn Manriquez, Peru Medical Clinic, on the loss of her mother, Janet Stiles;
- Kris Matson, Administration, on the loss of her son, Matt Marusich;
- Shelley Gorecz, Social Services, on the loss of her mother-in-law, Bertha Gorecz;
- Dawn Coble, CPRA, on the loss of her mother, Irene Miskowiec;
- Cathy Green, Human Resources, on the loss of her mother, Helen Duttlinger;
- Dale Swiskoski, Maintenance, on the loss of his mother, Anna Lou Swiskoski.

NEW EMPLOYEES
New members of the IVCH family welcomed at the December 14th new employee orientation session include, from left, Karen Redman, HIM; Vanessa Puga, Nursing Services; Ashley Wallin, Family Home Medical Equipment; and Ashley Saylor, Nursing Services.