

Local caregiver wins state honor from long-term care association



Tim Copeland with sponsor HPSI presents the Health Care Partner Award to Cathy Cooper, center, at the KAHCF annual awards banquet for providing quality care every day to residents of Irvine Health and Rehab. At right is 2017 Miss Kentucky Molly Matney.

An Occupational Therapist with Irvine Nursing and Rehabilitation Center was honored at the Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities' Annual Quality Awards Banquet recently at the Galt House.

Cathy Cooper was named a Health Care Partner recipient for her work and devotion to the residents.

"It is an honor to recognize Cathy for providing quality care every day to her residents. She is just one of the many facilities and caregivers in our state that stand as an example of delivering quality care," said KAHCF

Board Chair Terry Skaggs. "This award is a testament to her dedication to her residents."

"I am excited to see Cathy recognized for her work and dedication to providing quality care to our residents," said Administrator David Miller.

More than 700 long-term care providers met during the meeting, attending educational sessions on vital issues they are facing, such as staffing and emergency preparedness and other regulatory issues. Also, more than 100 vendors exhibited during the Expo as well showcasing the latest innovations

to providing quality care.

The week was capped off with the Quality Awards Banquet with 75 awards handed out. The Association unveiled its new Best of Kentucky - Nursing and Rehabilitation Award honoring 21 Kentucky providers for outstanding care. The Top 10 Caregivers, Nurses and Supportive Care staff were also named with the Overall Winners as follows: Nursing: Adrene Commodore from Grand Haven Nursing and Rehab, Cynthia; and Supportive Care: Dee Metcalfe, Superior Care Home, Paducah.

Marcum & Wallace Hospital - Project HOME Network Completes Integrated Behavioral Health Care Training



Left to right: Morgan Fowler (Marcum & Wallace Hospital), Scotty Combs (Juniper Healthcare Inc.), Donna Isfort (Estill Medical Clinic), John Isfort (Marcum & Wallace Hospital), Jessica Cox (Marcum & Wallace Hospital), Eric Cummings (White House Clinics), Missy Snowden (Marcum & Wallace Hospital), and Rhonda Ballard (Estill Medical Clinic).

Administrative and clinical leadership from Marcum & Wallace Hospital Project HOME Network recently completed training with Cherokee Health Systems in Knoxville, Tenn., in order to improve services and help clients achieve improved health outcomes. The instruction was an intensive two-day experience in Cherokee's Primary Care/Behavioral Health Integrated Care Training Academy.

"We were very pleased to work with the staff from the Project HOME Network, and were very impressed with the group's commitment to its community and desire to help its clients improve their overall quality of life," said Dennis Freeman, Ph.D., Cherokee Health Systems chief executive officer. "The importance of treating the whole person in an integrated, blended approach cannot be understated in terms of improved health outcomes, provider satisfaction and financial efficiencies," said Dr. Freeman.

Cherokee Health Systems is recognized as a national leader in the delivery of integrated care services, having practiced the model for over 30 years in east Tennessee. Cherokee's Primary Care/

Behavioral Health Integrated Care Academy has trained hundreds of providers over the last several years. As a provider in Tennessee, the organization treats over 60,000 people annually, and adds over 16,000 new patients annually.

In 2018, Marcum & Wallace Hospital Project HOME Network will begin providing behavioral health care in the emergency department and primary care clinics in Estill, Lee and Powell Counties. A behavioral health consultant (BHC) will be placed in the Emergency Department and will provide care to patients that present to the Emergency Department with behavioral health and/or substance use disorder (SUD). In addition, the BHC will provide services to area primary care clinics via telehealth.

The Project HOME Network is a Rural Health Network established in 2004. There are 18 agencies in the Network. Marcum & Wallace Hospital is the sponsoring agency and grantee. Other members include: Mercy Health Clinics, White House Clinics, Juniper Healthcare, Inc., Foothills Clinic, US Acute Care Solutions, Kentucky Homeplace, Estill

Medical Clinic, Westcare, Estill Development Alliance, Lee Health Department, Estill Health Department, Bluegrass.org, Hospice Care Plus, Estill County EMS, NeKY RHIO, Estill County Board of Education and Children's Clinic. The Network spans three counties with a service population of 34,000. Most recently, Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) awarded Marcum & Wallace Hospital - Project HOME Network with a Rural Health Network Development Grant. The focus of this grant is to integrate behavioral health into the Emergency Department (Marcum & Wallace Hospital) and primary care utilizing behavioral health clinicians and telehealth.

For more information on Cherokee Health Systems visit www.cherokeehealth.com. For more information about Project HOME Network contact John Isfort at jisfort@mercy.com

Note: Funding for the Project HOME Network is provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP)

Lazy husbands can see more clearly after the swelling goes down



America's Heartland
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I've never forgotten the tale my pastor friend David "Milkweed" Wotier told years ago about the three friends who married women from different parts of the world.

The first married an Asian woman. He told her that in American culture, it was her job to do the dishes and house cleaning.

It took a couple of days, but on the third day, he came home to see a clean house and dishes washed and put away.

The second man married an Australian woman. He told her that in American culture she was to do all the cleaning, dishes and

the cooking.

The first day he didn't see any results, but the next day he saw it was better. By the third day, he saw his house was clean, the dishes were done, and there was a huge dinner on the table.

The third man married an American woman. He told her that in American culture her job was to keep the house cleaned, dishes washed, laundry washed, and hot meals on the table for every meal.

He said the first day he didn't see anything; the second day he didn't see anything either; but by the third day, the swelling had gone down enough that he could see a little out of his left eye, and, his arm had healed enough that he could fix himself a sandwich and load the dishwasher.

Brother Milkweed, which is the name everyone knows him by in the town where he ministers, is a man of wit, and he must have a thousand such tales. But it would be hard to top that one. It makes an important point that ought to be heeded by men who are prone to laziness, especially in the home.

It's not the woman's

job to do every little chore around the house. She shouldn't be the only one who knows how to run the vacuum, load the washer, turn on the dryer, push the lawnmower, start the chainsaw, or sharpen the ax to chop a winter's worth of firewood.

This goes without saying, dear friends, but wives are not slaves. The Bible says they are to be loved. In fact, it says: "Husbands love your wives, just as Christ loved the church" (Ephesians 5:25). You realize how Christ loved the church, right? He gave His very life for her on that cross all those years ago.

As we approach the start of 2018, I have a suggested New Year's resolution for menfolk: Resolve to get off your overstuffed easy chair and do your part around the house.

And do it as soon as the swelling has gone down enough in your eyes that you can see and as soon as your arm has healed enough to run the vacuum cleaner.

Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rogeralford1@gmail.com.

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