



Su Casa

May 2015

Employee of the Quarter- Melanie Lane



Melanie has been a Casa Colina team member for nearly seven years. In that time she has fully embraced the spirit of *Casa Culture*, taking on leadership roles in our Outpatient Speech Therapy department.

In her daily duties she demonstrates foresight, compassion and creativity with the care of her team members and most importantly the care of Casa Colina's patients.



Not only is she is admired and respected by her colleagues and the volunteers that she mentors, she has played a pivotal role in the promotion and development Casa Colina's Parkinson's program through campus-wide and community relationships. She is an example of how Casa Colina is able to maintain our standards for the way we provide care to our patients. Melanie Lane is a great example of what this award is all about.

Summertime Fun

When deciding what to do this summer remember we have tickets to the following Southern California parks at discounted prices!



Movies:

Edwards: \$8.50

AMC: \$8.00

AMC Bundle: \$25

2 tickets, 2 small drinks and small popcorn

AMC silver tickets have been discontinued

Amusement Parks:

Disneyland

SeaWorld

Six Flags

Universal Studios

Legoland/ Legoland Hotel

Knott's Berry Farm

Raging Waters

Aquarium of the Pacific



Please Contact HR for prices as there are multiple options for each x2154

Have Student Loan Debt or Going Back to School?

If you're looking to lower monthly payments on existing school loans or make additional degrees more affordable, the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program may be an option for you. ANY full-time employee may be eligible for this program and there is no cap in the amount of student loan forgiveness with the PSLF Program.

To find out if your eligible complete the following steps!

1. Visit <http://CasaColina.myisls.com>
2. Enter Registration Code: CasaI
3. Answer 5 simple questions about eligibility and schedule a no obligation phone consultation.

Benefits of this program:

- Immediately lower monthly student loans by 88%
- Eliminate student loan debt
- Significantly reduce the cost of earning advanced degree including BA, MS or PHD

Who Said There is No Free Lunch

Positive Force is an employee based committee responsible for planning and hosting fun events for our employees. They meet the first Tuesday of every month during the lunch period. The committee is looking for new members to join this dynamic group and help us plan some new and exciting events. Pick up a free lunch and join us for our next meeting!

If you are interested in joining please call or email Karli Tanner x2223 or ktanner@casacolina.org



Priti Vaidya, Karli Tanner, Sise Fuentes, Jessica Burchett, Teri Andres, Lisa McKay, Anthony Sathienkijwanit

Ask Bugsy: CDC outlines four core actions to halt antibiotic resistance

1 PREVENTING INFECTIONS, PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF RESISTANCE

Avoiding infections in the first place reduces the amount of antibiotics that have to be used and reduces the likelihood that resistance will develop during therapy. There are many ways that drug-resistant infections can be prevented: immunization, safe food preparation, hand washing, and using antibiotics as directed and only when necessary. In addition, preventing infections also prevents the spread of resistant bacteria.

2 TRACKING

CDC gathers data on antibiotic-resistant infections, causes of infections and whether there are particular reasons (risk factors) that caused some people to get a resistant infection. With that information, experts can develop specific strategies to prevent those infections and prevent the resistant bacteria from spreading.

3 IMPROVING ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING/STEWARDSHIP

Perhaps the single most important action needed to greatly slow down the development and spread of antibiotic-resistant infections is to change the way antibiotics are used. Up to half of antibiotic use in humans and much of antibiotic use in animals is unnecessary and inappropriate and makes everyone less safe. Stopping even some of the inappropriate and unnecessary use of antibiotics in people and animals would help greatly in slowing down the spread of resistant bacteria. This commitment to always use antibiotics appropriately and safely—only when they are needed to treat disease, and to choose the right antibiotics and to administer them in the right way in every case—is known as antibiotic stewardship.

4 DEVELOPING NEW DRUGS AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

Because antibiotic resistance occurs as part of a natural process in which bacteria evolve, it can be slowed but not stopped. Therefore, we will always need new antibiotics to keep up with resistant bacteria as well as new diagnostic tests to track the development of resistance.

How can you help?

- **Do not request antibiotics for viral infections**
- **Take all antibiotics as prescribed and finish all the antibiotics in the prescription**
- **Don't keep a few of the pills for "just in case" self prescribing**
- **Don't let someone else use antibiotics prescribed for you or take someone else's antibiotics**

If you are concerned that the antibiotic isn't working, discuss this with your doctor

Have a question for Bugsy? You may contact her via e-mail (infectioncontrol@casacolina.org) or at extension 3207.



May Accomplishments!

Congratulations to the following Casa Colina staff members:

Cheryl Addington, from Patient Accounting accepted an Accounting position with greater responsibility within the same department.

Loretta Beavis, Residential Aide, Casa Colina Lucerne Valley, received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

Christi Ewing, PT was promoted to Director of Rehabilitation for the Azusa satellite.

Linda Leyva finally accepted the position of Director of Licensing and Accreditation (following several months working in an "acting" capacity and leading Casa Colina through another successful joint commission survey).

Spencer LaPlaca was promoted to Director, Plant Operations and Facilities.

Rhonda Palomares, LVN was promoted to Case Manager in the Transitional Living Center.

Manuela Smith, LVN, transferred from TLC to Casa Colina Hospital.

Trevor Stegen received his COTA licensure and will be working part-time in Casa Colina Hospital.

Employee Advancements in Adult Day Healthcare include:

- **Rebecca Blunt** transferred from Padua as a LVN
- **Crystal Bortoluzzi** was promoted to Lead Nursing Program Assistant
- **Carol Scaffidi** was promoted to Activities Director.

Outpatient Admissions/Clinics changes include:

- **Ady Flores** transferred from HIM as an Admissions Coordinator,
- **Cinnamon SanMiguel** transferred to Admissions Coordinator from her position as Physical Therapy Aide.
- **Marisol Hernandez**, transferred to Clinics from Admissions

Congratulations to **Tanya Evans**, RN, **Jackie Ortega**, RN and **Alexandra Oh**, RN for completing Casa Colina's new RN graduate program and advancing to the nursing floor as Registered Nurses.

Under the educational guidance of **Antoinette Culver**, Director of Med-Surg/ICU, and working with a Casa Colina RN preceptor, these employees were able to work and learn in a program that was tailored to their specific needs to fully prepare them for the extensive responsibilities of a Registered Nurse. We are proud of their accomplishment and for the program that Antoinette developed

Laura Espinoza, Patient Navigator, recently presented our research on "*Patient Navigation for Traumatic Brain Injury*" at the 2015 American Case Management Association National Conference in Arizona.

Susie Wong-Okamoto, OT and **Deb Ouellette**, OT, presented a three hour seminar on the "*Development and Implementation of an Innovative Vision Program in Acute Rehabilitation*" to over 300 Occupational Therapists at the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) national conference in Tennessee in April. The insightful seminar generated a buzz of excitement and discussion on the potential for future research collaborations.

Sean Gateley, Coordinator of Sports Medicine, presented "*How to Treat the Weekend Warrior*" at the San Gabriel Valley Chapter of the California Physical Therapy Association (CPTA) meeting on April 27th.