Emergency Surgery for a Brave Little Boy

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Welcome

Welcome to this issue of Health Connections. As we prepare for what 2018 has in store for Good Samaritan and our patients, I would first like to take this time to thank you for your dedication to our organization. Our focus on patient safety and experience remain the driving force behind our work each and every day. New ideas and improvements are planned for the next year and we are excited to see what the future has in store for Good Samaritan.

In this edition you will meet an amazing little boy who had a memorable experience at our hospital. You will also meet our newest physicians and advanced practice providers joining us in 2018; all of whom we are excited to welcome to our Good Samaritan family and our community.

In 2018 we will also continue to make strides with our employees and physicians and their engagement in this organization. We are fortunate to have more than 1,900 employees working to better the lives and wellbeing of our community. In a world where the future of health care is unknown, you can rest assured that Good Samaritan will remain a strong, positive force dedicated to you.

Sincerely,

Rob McLin
President & CEO

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Meet Our Newest Providers
Dr. William Allred wanted to help others ever since he was a child. After joining the Army, he obtained his nursing degree and worked overseas. When he returned to the United States, Dr. Allred decided to go back to school to get his medical degree. Previously working as an electronic specialist in the Army, neurology seemed to be his calling. Dr. Allred chose to also work in sleep medicine because there is a significant overlap of sleep disorders with neurological disorders, which allows for better treatment of the patient. “There is a local need for the care of patients with neurological and sleep disorders,” said Dr. Allred. “I wanted to help treat these patients and fill that need.” Dr. Allred is married with five kids and two dogs. When he is not working, he enjoys reading, fishing, camping and golf.

Lindsey Fleshman, DO, specializes in general surgery and breast surgery with special interest in advanced laparoscopic procedures and endoscopy such as colonoscopies and EGDs. Dr. Fleshman has always dreamed of becoming a physician because of the positive impact they could have on the lives of their patients. “I want to relieve pain and suffering and eventually improve my patient’s overall health,” said Dr. Fleshman. She chose to work at Good Samaritan because of the smaller community and closeness to her hometown and family. She and her husband, Tyler, reside in Vincennes and are expecting their first child in January. In her free time, Dr. Fleshman enjoys reading novels, recreational trap shooting and spending time with her family.

Dr. Hermansen not only has a medical degree, but also has a Doctorate in Pharmacy. His career accomplishments vary from publications, to multiple presentations to his vast experience in leadership roles. During his time as an anesthesia resident in San Antonio, Texas, he developed skills working in a Level 1 adult and pediatric trauma center. He also is experienced in patient counseling, medication management, assessment of drug interactions and pharmacologic safety. Hermansen and his wife have three children. He enjoys spending time with his family, watching and playing sports; particularly basketball and football.

Steven Maynard, MD, is one of Good Samaritan’s newest anesthesiologists. He decided to become a physician so he could help make others feel better. “Anesthesiology is fun and fast-paced at the same time,” said Dr. Maynard. He and his wife, Lindsey, are both from the area, and knew that Good Samaritan would be the perfect fit. In his free time, Dr. Maynard enjoys spending time with his family, especially with his son, Steven, who will turn two in January.
Little Guy Braves Emergency Surgery

Bryn Duckworth is not your average eight-year-old boy. He keeps busy with his multiple interests such as reading, playing Minecraft, riding his bike, writing stories and other activities that children his age do. He is also very involved with his Boy Scouts troop and was the second top popcorn seller this year for his pack; an achievement he is very proud of. But what sets Bryn apart from all other children is his inquisitive mind. “Bryn has always been very quiet and reserved,” said his father Zane. “Him and his brother are like night and day.”

As he sits quietly by his father and speaking up in a soft voice when asked a question, one can easily tell that Bryn is a very smart, special boy. His hectic schedule consists of soccer practices, piano lessons, swimming and playing with his younger brother, Caleb; leaving no time to be sick. But in the middle of the night this past November, Bryn started to show signs of something more than your average tummy ache. What started out like any other Sunday afternoon soon became a parent’s worst nightmare.

“We got home from church and grocery shopping and were watching a football game when Bryn started to complain that his stomach hurt,” said Zane. “He had a little bit of a fever and went to bed early that night. When he woke up, he was still in pain, but it had gotten a lot worse.”

“Over the course of 12 hours, he went from his normal self to screaming out in pain,” added Bryn’s mom Rebecca. “He was complaining of a terrible stomach ache and we knew something was really wrong.” After calling his pediatrician, Dr. Noel Suanes, he recommended they take Bryn to the Emergency Room.

Once in the ER, it was determined that Bryn was suffering from acute appendicitis and he needed to be taken to surgery for a laparoscopic appendectomy. “It was like every scary movie scene I’ve ever seen in a hospital. He was hooked up to different monitors and tests were being run to figure out what was going on,” said Zane. “But I was never nervous for Bryn. Once we were there and saw the way the doctors were going through the tests, I knew that we made the right choice because it was something serious with his appendix. I felt like he was in good hands at all times.”

“Our family has a strong faith in God,” added Rebecca. “There was never a sense of fear. We were close to home and in good care with people that we knew and that knew us. I was so thankful that the team was on-call and ready to save my son.”

Rebecca and Zane continued to pray with their scared little boy and assured him that everything would be OK. “I reminded him that I had to have emergency surgery once and also felt scared,” said Rebecca. “I was pre-eclamptic and Bryn was born at 35 weeks here at Good Samaritan with the help of Dr. [Thomas] O’Rourke. Bryn and I knew that God had us in his hands and we prayed for him to guard and protect him.”

The staff that was taking care of Bryn in the ER gathered around the door as they wheeled him down to surgery. They each smiled, waved and wished him well on his way to surgery with General Surgeon, Dr. Rong Yang. “Dr. Yang was very nice and had great bedside manner with each one of us,” said Rebecca. “He made sure to explain things to us in a simplified way that we could understand. He was very considerate of Bryn’s health.”

Dr. Yang successfully performed Bryn’s surgery, even though appendicitis in children his age is not common at Good Samaritan. “We usually see appendicitis in teenagers or people in their 20s,” said Dr. Yang. “It was great that we had the team and equipment available to help Bryn. We were able to take care of Bryn and keep him and his family close to home. He was a great kid to take care of and I appreciate his family’s kind positive comments. That is why we do what we do.”

Bryn and his parents are extremely thankful for Dr. Yang and the care he provided.
A long hour later, Bryn was out of surgery and moved from recovery to the Pediatric unit on the third floor of Gibault Memorial. There, his parents were able to be with him once again. “When I woke up I was sleepy and felt like a piece of cheese because I had a hole in my stomach,” described Bryn. “I had all of these plugs in me so I was like a robot.”

Bryn had to stay in the hospital for two more days to ensure everything was healing properly. While at Good Samaritan, he made friends with some of the nurses and even had a special connection with a nurse named Jordan. “She even brought me a chocolate milkshake for a treat,” said Bryn excitedly.

Nurse Jordan felt the same special connection as well. “Caring for kids can be intimidating, but I love when I get to be their nurse,” said Bryn’s nurse Jordan Stagner. “Being Bryn’s nurse and caring for him after his surgery was such a joy and an experience I will never forget. He was so sweet and soaked in everything I told him like a sponge, which made some moments laughable and even more memorable. The trust that both Bryn and his family had in my ability as a nurse reminds me of why I chose this profession. The smile on Bryn’s face when he got to go home is one that sticks with me.”

“The nurses went out of their way to make Bryn feel that he was their only patient. At one point, he trusted the nurse more than me to change his dressing because he said nurse Jordan would not make it hurt,” said Rebecca with a smile. “Her extreme attention to detail on his reactions made Bryn feel at ease with her.”

“I was so thankful that the team was on-call and ready to save my son.”
- Rebecca Duckworth, Bryn’s mom

From the moment Bryn and his family entered the ER to the time they were discharged, they felt they were in the best of care. So much so, that Bryn may have gotten a little used to being waited on all the time. “When we came home, he was very sad that he couldn’t push a button and have someone rush in and tend to his every need,” laughed Rebecca. “He felt pretty special at Good Samaritan.”

Bryn has recovered nicely from his surgery and is back to his normal, curious self. His parents would like to stay out of hospitals for a while, but are extremely thankful that they have a place with such high level of care close to home at Good Samaritan. “It’s great,” said Zane. “It’s comforting to know that when you really need it, there is qualified help nearby.”

“Good Samaritan is a gem in our community,” added Rebecca. “We are so fortunate that we have highly trained medical professionals close to home. From the initial text that I sent to Bryn’s physician who inquired about his well being right away to seeing familiar faces throughout the facility, we were very pleased with the level of care offered at Good Samaritan right here close to home.”

“I’m happy that I don’t hurt anymore,” added Bryn. “I give this place a thumbs up.”
Our Newest Providers

**Evelyn Blanchard, PA**  
*Occupational Health*  
**Bachelor’s Degree:** Southern Illinois University  
**Master’s Degree:** Southern Illinois University  
**Toyoda Boshoku America, Inc.** 618.943.5300  
102 Trim Masters Drive  
Lawrenceville, IL 62439

Always passionate about caring for others, it was not until after taking care of her son that Evelyn Blanchard began her journey to become a Physician Assistant. After earning her Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology at Southern Illinois University, she decided to further her education at the university and acquired two Master’s degrees. Evelyn worked in the United States Army both as a soldier at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas and a research technician in Silver Spring, Maryland at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. Evelyn resides in Robinson, Illinois and enjoys spending time with her family and friends, being outdoors, traveling and exercising. Evelyn’s love of science and health care have made her a great addition to Toyoda Boshoku America, Inc.

**Alexia Brower, PA**  
*Emergency Medicine*  
**Bachelor’s Degree:** Indiana State University  
**Master’s Degree:** Indiana State University  
**Good Samaritan** 812.882.5220  
520 S. Seventh Street  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Alexia Brower grew up in a family dedicated to health care and realized at a young age that she had found her calling. She decided to become a Physician Assistant so she could start her medical career and have opportunities available to grow and continue learning. When it came time to decide where she would practice, Good Samaritan was the first place on her list. “When I interviewed with Good Samaritan and Midwest Emergency Medicine, I was impressed with how kind, intelligent and willing the staff was to help train a new graduate.” Brower and her boyfriend live in Vincennes with their Scottish Terrier, Winston. In her free time, she enjoys walking at Quabache Trails, and hiking and backpacking at the Great Smoky Mountains. She also likes to sing and occasionally perform with her dad's band, Guys and Rosie.

**Allison Holt, FNP-C**  
*Vascular / Thoracic*  
**Bachelor’s Degree:** Vincennes University  
**Master’s Degree:** Indiana Purdue University  
**Good Samaritan** 812.885.3243  
520 S. Seventh Street  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Allison Holt began her nursing career caring for surgical and ICU patients. Wanting to further her education and ensure she was providing the best care for her patients, she decided to obtain her degree as a nurse practitioner. Holt specializes in vascular/thoracic medicine and is excited to grow professionally in the field. She has worked at Good Samaritan for more than 11 years and wanted to stay here as a nurse practitioner. “I love knowing everyone and working somewhere that a sense of community and family truly radiates throughout,” said Holt. “I was born and raised in Knox County and love taking care of the people in my community.” In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, her dog and her husband, Zach.

**Linda Linneweber, NP-C**  
*Occupational Health*  
**Bachelor’s Degree:** University of Southern Indiana  
**Master’s Degree:** University of Southern Indiana  
**Toyoda Boshoku America, Inc** 812.491.9100  
1698 S. 100 W  
Princeton, IN 47670

Linda Linneweber graduated with an Associate’s degree in nursing from Vincennes University in 1993. She then went on to pursue both her Bachelor’s degree in 2011 and her Master’s degree in 2014 from the University of Southern Indiana. Originally wanting to pursue a Master’s degree in education, she decided that becoming a Family Nurse Practitioner would allow her more opportunities to help others. Linda resides outside of Vincennes with her husband. In her free time, she enjoys riding ATVs, reading, playing cards, traveling and spending time with her family. With more than 21 years of practical experience in the hospital and home health setting, Linda is a great addition to the Toyota Boshoku America, Inc family.

**Melissa Lough, FNP-C**  
*General Surgery*  
**Bachelor’s Degree:** Vincennes University  
**Master’s Degree:** University of Southern Indiana  
**Good Samaritan** 812.885.3280  
520 S. Seventh Street  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Melissa Lough fell in love with the world of nursing and decided to advance her skills and provide a higher level of care by becoming a nurse practitioner. Melissa began her career at Good Samaritan 11 years ago as a psychiatric nurse technician and pays tribute to her hospital family for her educational success. “I have been surrounded by supportive staff who have helped and encouraged me along,” said Melissa. “I cannot imagine leaving and working for any other hospital.” Melissa and her husband, Ryan, have four children; Kayla, Trevor, Savannah and Paxton. As a family, they enjoy spending time together and relaxing at the lake.

**Meaghan Meeks, PNP-C**  
*Pediatric Hospitalist*  
**Bachelor’s Degree:** Indiana University  
**Master’s Degree:** Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis  
**Good Samaritan** 812.882.5220  
520 S. Seventh Street  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Meaghan Meeks began her career as a pediatric nurse, but wanted to continue her education and grow as a provider, so she became a Nurse Practitioner. She chose to specialize in pediatrics so she could become an expert and focus her attention on the pediatric population. The decision to practice at Good Samaritan was an easy one. “I tell people all the time, ‘Good Samaritan is my hospital,’” said Meeks. “I want to be a part of a hospital that has provided excellent care to the people who are the closest to me; and I want to be a part of that excellent care to others. Meaghan and her husband, Cody, reside in Oaktown, Indiana with their three children. In between her kids’ sports and gymnastics activities, she and her family enjoy spending time outside, camping and swimming. Meaghan also likes reading and crafting in her spare time as well.

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**Linda Linneweber**  
University of Southern Indiana  
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Alexia Brower grew up in a family dedicated to health care and realized at a young age that she had found her calling. She decided to become a Physician Assistant so she could start her medical career and have opportunities available to grow and continue learning. When it came time to decide where she would practice, Good Samaritan was the first place on her list. “When I interviewed with Good Samaritan and Midwest Emergency Medicine, I was impressed with how kind, intelligent and willing the staff was to help train a new graduate.” Brower and her boyfriend live in Vincennes with their Scottish Terrier, Winston. In her free time, she enjoys walking at Quabache Trails, and her friends, being outdoors, traveling and exercising. Evelyn’s love of science and health care have made her a great addition to Toyota Boshoku America, Inc.

Our Hospitalists

If you or a family member are a patient at Good Samaritan, you may be cared for by a hospitalist. A hospitalist is a physician who cares for patients in the hospital and does not have an outpatient practice. Seeing a hospitalist during your stay means that you have access to 24-hour care, 365 days a year. Good Samaritan recently partnered with Apogee Physicians, a hospitalist physician group that provides a medical team who are dedicated to our patients and becoming a vital part of our organization. Hospitalists, typically board certified in Internal Medicine, will communicate with your primary care provider, but will make all final decisions regarding your care while at Good Samaritan. Below are the three full time members of our hospitalist team. The Apogee team also consists of many other skilled, visiting physicians to meet the needs of our patients.

**Kelly Sparks, PA-C**  
**Orthopedics**

- **Associate’s Degree:** Pima Community College
- **Bachelor’s Degree:** Des Moines University - College of Health Sciences

**Quest Orthopedics**  
2121 Willow Street  
Vincennes, IN 47591  
812.882.6637

Kelly Sparks wanted to become a Physician Assistant to help others in their time of need. “My Papaw, Kelly Carter, was a Baptist Minister. Of all the sermons he preached, I remember one vividly. It was titled “God’s Full Salvation: Body, Soul, and Spirit.” I became a Physician Assistant to help people with their problems in body, soul, and spirit,” said Sparks. He started out in orthopedics, then transitioned to emergency medicine, and now nine years later, is back working in orthopedics with Dr. Terry Fenwick at Quest Orthopedics. “It’s more than treating bones and joints,” said Sparks. “It is helping people through a difficult time of life and providing comfort to their mind and emotions.” When he is not treating patients, Sparks enjoys carpentry, bicycling, hiking and spending time with his wife, Damien, and his five children.

**Lindsey VanSchoyck, FNP-C**  
**Family Practice / Convenient Care Clinic**

- **Bachelor’s Degree:** Eastern Illinois University  
- **Master’s:** Chamberlain College of Nursing

**Convenient Care Clinic**  
812.885.8941  
1813 Willow Street, Suite A  
Vincennes, IN 47591

Wanting to fulfill her desire to help people, Lindsey VanSchoyck, became a nurse and quickly fell in love with the profession. Looking to do more for her patients, she decided to get her Nurse Practitioner degree. She chose to specialize in family practice so she could work with patients of all ages in and outside the hospital. “I also like being able to impact the whole family, not just one person or aspect of their lives,” said VanSchoyck. Originally graduating with her degree in psychology and social work, she began her career at Good Samaritan. “Good Samaritan cares about their patients and their community; and that is important to me.” VanSchoyck and her husband, Matt, reside in Robinson, Illinois with their three children. Owning a CrossFit business in Robinson keeps her pretty busy when she is not seeing patients. She also loves to run and is training for the Boston Marathon in April. Her favorite pastime however, is snuggling with her kids and watching them grow up.

**Stephanie Lowrance, NP**  
**Family Medicine**

- **Bachelor’s Degree:** Chamberlain College of Nursing  
- **Master’s Degree:** Chamberlain College of Nursing

**Kristian VanSchoyck, MD**  
**Family Medicine**

- **Doctorate of Medicine:** University of Health Sciences  
- **Residency:** University of Alabama Birmingham  
- **Subspecialty:** Family Medicine

**Julie Owen, ACNP-BC**  
**Hospitalist**

- **Master’s Degree:** University of Southern Indiana  
- **Doctorate of Nursing:** Indiana State University

**Vinil Bhuma, MD**  
**Hospitalist - Medical Director**

- **Medical School:** Kurnool Medical College, NTR  
- **University of Health Sciences**  
- **Residency:** University of Alabama Birmingham  
- **Specialty:** Family Medicine
Errin Weisman, DO
Emergency Medicine
Medical Degree: Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
Residency: Deaconess Family Medicine
Good Samaritan 812.882.5220
520 S. Seventh Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

Emergency Medicine physician, Errin Weisman, DO, has always enjoyed helping others. She decided to come to Good Samaritan because of the small community atmosphere. "When I was introduced to the Emergency Department nurses at Good Samaritan, they made me feel like a part of the family immediately," said Dr. Weisman. Her professional interests include advocating for better wellness, burnout prevention and burnout management among health care professionals and working mothers through writing, speaking and training as a professional coach. Dr. Weisman and her husband, Craig, reside in Pike County, Indiana with their three children. In her free time, she enjoys volleyball, yoga, trail running, CrossFit, obstacle course races, reading, browsing Pinterest and crocheting. Dr. Weisman was also recently awarded the "2017 Outstanding Young DO Award" from The Indiana Osteopathic Association.

Nadir Ishag Osman, MD
Neurology / Sleep Medicine
Medical Degree: Kharkov State Medical University
Residency: University of Michigan
Good Samaritan 812.885.6850
520 S. Seventh Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Nadir Ishag Osman wanted to become a physician so he could help heal and save people’s lives. "I chose neurology as my specialty because the brain is a fascinating organ," he said. "I love to know the unknown." He is a member of the American Board of Medical Specialties and has professional interests in narcolepsy, as well as international medicine. Dr. Osman also has a diploma from the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc. His area of practice is adult neurology and adult/pediatrics sleep medicine. He is also a research scientist, with several publications in peer reviewed journals in the fields of neurology, neuroscience and sleep medicine, and is an Affiliate Assistant Professor at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine in Florida. In his free time, Dr. Osman enjoys spending time with his family, including his wife and two children, playing soccer, hiking and traveling.

Sugata Sensarma, MD
Pulmonology / Critical Care
Medical Degree: Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine
Residency: Creighton University School of Medicine
Good Samaritan 812.885.3243
520 S. Seventh Street
Vincennes, IN 47591

Dr. Sugata Sensarma specializes in internal medicine and pulmonary disease. He was born in Calcutta, India where he received his medical degree. Throughout his education and medical career, Dr. Sensarma has had a goal to “become a more knowledgeable physician in my specialty and to serve people in need.” He is a member of multiple associations including, American Medical Association (AMA) and the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM). In his free time, he enjoys football, basketball and golf. Dr. Sensarma also enjoys reading and traveling to different places and learning about different cultures.