

# Health News

## Highland Hospital programs recognized nationally

Three of Highland Hospital's programs have received Joint Commission disease-specific recertification by demonstrating continued compliance with patient safety and quality standards. The Evarts Joint Center, Geriatric Fracture Center and Gynecologic Oncology Program have all been recognized by the nation's main accrediting body in health care.

The Joint Commission visits Highland Hospital every two years to review these programs. This year, the surveys were completed in July. The certifications are awarded based on compliance with national standards, effective use of evidence-based practices and an organized approach to measure performance and improvement.

Highland Gynecologic Oncology first earned the two-year certification in May 2012. Highland's gynecologic oncologists treat patients with cervical, ovarian, uterine, vaginal and vulvar cancers. The team specializes in robotic surgery and performs the most gynecologic oncology procedures in the region.

The Evarts Joint Center first earned Joint Commission certification for hip and knee joint replacement in 2008. The joint team includes a network of orthopedists, geriatricians, nurse practitioners, physical therapists, social workers and occupational therapists.

The Geriatric Fracture Center first received certification in 2011. The Geriatric Fracture Center is dedicated to the care of elderly patients who suffer hip fractures. Since the program started at Highland in 2004, it has improved patient outcomes and become a model for other hospitals across the country and around the world.

## Jane B. DeMeis promoted at Visiting Nurse

Visiting Nurse Service promoted Jane B. DeMeis to director of education and organizational development. Previously the manager of education and organizational development, DeMeis oversees many of the agency's educational endeavors, and will now add all other education initiatives — including training for Finger Lakes Visiting Nurse Service employees and home health aides — to her repertoire.



DeMeis

The Fairport resident has worked in education for more than 30 years and is New York state certified in media communications education and vocational counseling. DeMeis is also certified in organizational development.

"Jane has a wealth of knowledge and a kind demeanor that promotes

participation and learning," said Sherri Tanner, vice president of human resources. "She is a true asset to Visiting Nurse Service, and we look forward to her leadership with these other programs."

DeMeis has worked for Visiting Nurse Service for four years, and was previously employed by CDS Monarch as the director of staff development.

## Jewish Senior Life elects new directors

Jewish Senior Life recently announced the election of the following directors to its board: Al Kinel, founder and president of Strategic Interests, LLC; Irena Pesis-Katz, senior director for population health management informatics and payment innovation at the University of Rochester Medical Center; physician Margot Weinberg, president of Pediatric Integrative Medicine, LLC, and Jeffrey Wexler, CPA, partner at Bonadio Group.

Serving people of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds, Jewish Senior Life is guided by the values of honoring family; emphasizing aging in place; allowing people to remain in the place of their choice longer; and is the only local senior care provider to offer life care, a program which eliminates worries about unforeseen medical expenses throughout the full continuum of care.

## Jewish Senior Life earns CARF accreditation

Jewish Senior Life (JSL) has earned its second consecutive five-year CARF-CCAC accreditation from CARF International, an independent, nonprofit accrediting body of continuing care retirement communities and similar human services organizations. CARF International consists of the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission.

Approximately 12 percent of long term care facilities in the nation are accredited as continuing care retirement communities by CARF International.

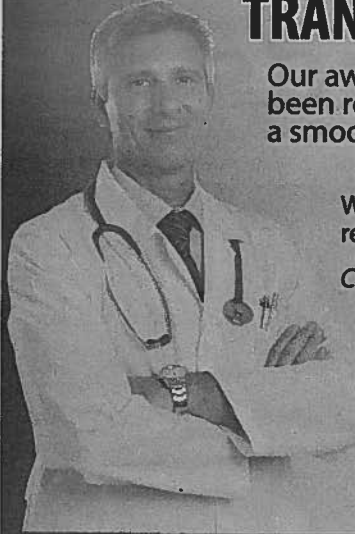
"This achievement is an indication of dedication and commitment to improving the quality of lives of persons served," noted CARF International President and CEO Brian Boon. "Services, personnel and documentation clearly indicate an established pattern of practice excellence."

Jewish Senior Life successfully renewed its certification as a continuing care retirement community as well as adult day health care, assisted living, person-centered long-term care and person-centered dementia care.

Jewish Senior Life also received three-year certifications for its Weinberg Manson Transitional Care and Atkin Center Outpatient Rehabilitation programs.

"We're very proud to be recognized by CARF for high quality medical care and for our commitment to person-centered care, for those of all faiths," said Jewish Senior Life President and CEO Michael King.

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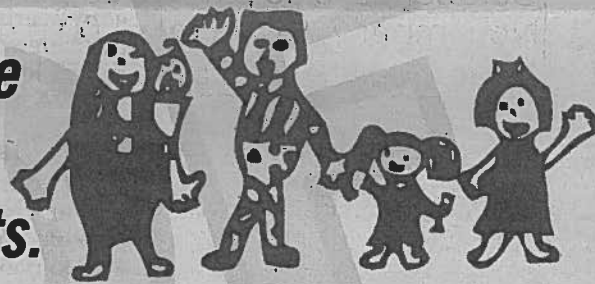
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