

# Lukan's Farm Resort: A Story of Love, Work & Sacrifice

Alois and Olga Lukan



Below: 1990 photo celebrating Olga and Alois' 50th wedding anniversary. Standing Henry, John and Robert Hochreither; Stephen, Michael and Ron Lukan. Seated: Lisa and Eleanor Hochreither; Alois, Olga, Ingrid and Christine Lukan.

# Life at Lukan's

By G. Richard Garman
Executive Director,
Wayne Memorial Health Foundation

Y FIRST EXPERIENCE with the outstanding home cooking and warm hospitality offered by Lukan's Farm Resort was in May of 1975, when then Wayne Memorial Hospital Administrator, E. Richard Moore, organized the first Employee Recognition dinner. That evening, the only member of the family that I met was Henry Hochreither, Eleanor Lukan's husband. Henry was alone behind the bar, as other family members were preparing the feast for the Wayne Memorial contingent. I often heard former Chief of Staff Dr. Harry Propst speak of the "hard working Lukans family" and my own impression is the same. Unfortunately, I never engaged the founders, Alois (Opa) or Olga (Oma), in conversation, only a brief hello or wave as they hurried about serving their guests. Opa passed away in 1994. Oma remained busy in the kitchen past her 92nd birthday.

By the time of my first visit to Lukan's, they had been operating the former Gruber's Boarding Home on Long Ridge Road between Honesdale and Hawley for 24 years. They purchased the property in June of 1951, the same year that Wayne Memorial Hospital relocated from Court Street to the corner of Park and West Streets, Honesdale. Wayne County Courthouse records indicate that between 1869 and 1951, there were seven different owners of the property. The land has been in the Lukan-Hochreither family now for 62 years.

Over the past year, subsequent to Oma's passing in early 2012, through conversations with Eleanor and Henry, and reading the history of their family and thank you letters from their guests, I realized that the history of the resort and their families is every bit as full as the history of Wayne Memorial Hospital. Theirs is a story of love, work and sacrifice. Recently, Eleanor and her brother, Ron, and their families acquired a Leaf on the Hospital's Giving Tree in memory and celebration of the lives of Alois and Olga. It is my privilege to share some of their history with the readers of *Insight*.

Olga Meditz and Alois Lukan knew each other as children, growing up in the region of Gottchee, a rural mountainous area of Austria, now present day Yugoslavia. Both families owned farms with vineyards and made their own wine. Alois often helped the Meditz family. In 1927, he emigrated to British Columbia, Canada and started working for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. With the rise of Nazism in the 1930s and the uncertainty of the future, Olga, along with many other immigrants,

left that part of Europe and arrived in New York City in 1937. She found work cooking and cleaning for a gentleman who facilitated the immigration of Europeans to America.

In 1938, learning that Olga was in New York, Alois used his free railroad pass and went to visit her. He asked Olga to marry him, but she said she was not ready yet. She wanted to pay off her debts first, including those owed her uncle for her passage fee to the U.S. and some land in Austria that he had sold her. A year later, Alois returned and asked Olga once again



to marry him. This time she said yes and in February of 1940, they married in St. Matthias Church in Ridgewood, New York. Olga borrowed a wedding dress and her half brother

provided them with a nice wedding reception. They had little money because they had sent their last dollars home to their parents but Alois did have a travel pass on the railroad. The couple settled in Canada, where Alois continued to work for the railroad for another year and then bought a lumber mill with several partners. Olga gave birth to Alois Reinhold (Ron) in 1942 and then Eleanor Louise, in 1944. After 11 years in Canada, they returned to the Ridgewood, New York area; and after some time, decided that the country would be the best place for their family. Nothing caught their eye in rural New York, but upon seeing the Gruber boarding house, with the flowers and trees in full bloom, they fell in love with the property.

In our conversations, Eleanor described how hard her parents worked; and that she and her brother, Ron, helped early on in their lives. They each had their daily chores.

The man who would eventually become Eleanor's husband, Henry Hochreither, emigrated from the Pfalz region of Germany in 1960. He lived with his uncle in Ridgewood and intended to stay in the United States for only five years. In 1963, however, Henry spent a week's vacation at Lukan's and fell in love with Eleanor. Around the same time, her brother Ron was becoming interested in Ingrid Metz, a waitress at Lukan's whose family had immigrated from Germany and owned a summer home in Equinunk, Wayne County. Both couples married in 1967. Ron and Ingrid also own a farm in Damascus, where he raises Polled Herefords.

Eleanor and Henry have three children: John Hochreither and his wife, Page, who have a 14 year old son, Kelby, who represents the fourth generation helping out at the resort. Robert Hochreither and his wife, Gretchen, and Lisa and her husband, Jack Fives, all reside in the Hawley area.

Ron and Ingrid also have three children—Michael, who lives in Damascus with his wife Stephanie and three sons; Christine, who makes her home in Indiana with her husband Shawn and their three children; and Stephen, who lives in Ohio with his wife Alison.

Growing up, all the Lukans and Hochreither children helped out at the resort while attending high school and college. Five graduated from Penn State University. Lisa received her degree from Princeton University.

Lukan's Farm Resort remains a family business and their customers are considered family. Their guests hail from all over the local region as well as the United States. Many are from the Ridgewood and Glendale areas of New York, where a large number of people from Gottchee settled after coming to the United States.

The resort offers an abundance of nature, from well-manicured flower gardens and rolling fields to sumptuous meals that include home-grown fresh fruits and vegetables. Guests can "catch and release" fish from the large on-site pond and swim in an Olympic-size pool. There are also tennis and basketball courts, a children's playground, miniature golf and a host of farm animals. Currently, John and Robert, with the assistance of longtime staffer Jared, are renovating the main house to air condition the dining room and incorporate a wine cellar in the basement.

The Lukans and Hochreithers are grateful to their loyal customers, friends and neighbors, for their support through all the years and look forward to serving them for many years into the future. The Wayne Memorial Health Foundation also thanks the Lukans and Hochreithers for their generous donation—and all those great Employee Recognition dinners! Keep 'em coming!

Cover photo: Robert Hochreither, Ingrid Lukan, Ron Lukan, Eleanor Hochreither, Henry Hochreither, John Hochreither.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS January 31 – February 28, 2013

Wayne Memorial Health Foundation accepts tax-deductible gifts throughout the year from individuals, corporations, organizations and foundations for the benefit of the Wayne Memorial Health System, Wayne Memorial Hospital and Wayne Memorial Long-Term Care.

Contributions from a generous and caring community are vital to sustaining well trained personnel and modern equipment and facilities. Memorials and gifts in honor of a family member or friend, and gifts recognizing an anniversary or other occasion, are ideal ways to express love, respect and honor for those special people in our lives. Such gifts also demonstrate your spirit of community. You are invited to direct your questions about special occasion gifts and other contributions to G. Richard Garman, Executive Director, Wayne Memorial Health Foundation, at (570) 253-8272.

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# Wayne Memorial Co-Founds ACO with Geisinger, Evangelical



T'S NOW OFFICIAL: Wayne Memorial Hospital is a partner in a new federally-approved Accountable Care Organization (ACO) called Keystone LLC, along with Geisinger Health System, Danville and Evangelical Community Hospital in Lewisburg. Participants include Wayne Memorial Community Health Centers (WMCHC), Highland Physicians, Community Medical Care and Geisinger hospitals in Danville, Scranton, Wilkes Barre and Bloomsburg.

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS), an ACO is an initiative where "groups of doctors, hospitals and other healthcare providers come together voluntarily to give coordinated high quality care to their Medicare patients." The new Keystone ACO is expected to provide care to more than 7,500 Medicare

recipients in the region. Across the country, more than 4 million Medicare beneficiaries are now receiving care from some 250 ACOs.

"The Affordable Care Act and CMS have incentivized doctors and healthcare providers to establish ACOs in order to work together to give people with Medicare the high-quality care they expect and deserve.," said Thomas Graf, MD, chief medical officer for Population Health at Geisinger Health System and chief executive officer of Keystone ACO, who added, "Improving quality while reducing cost has been Geisinger's driving organizational strategy for more than a decade."

Wayne Memorial's Chief Executive Officer David Hoff (pictured) said "Keystone ACO offers us a new avenue to enhance the quality, efficiency and affordability of healthcare for our Medicare patients, and we anticipate that the coordination between members will result in an exceptional patient experience. We look forward to working with Geisinger, Evangelical, participating physicians and all other members of this new partnership."

ACOs are a unique opportunity for financially strong, independent, healthcare facilities and their patients. Providers must meet certain quality standards while hopefully lowering the growth in healthcare costs. Savings are shared by the ACO and Medicare and re-invested into additional services. ACO beneficiaries always have the freedom to choose doctors inside or outside of the ACO.

CMS has established 33 quality measures on care coordination and patient safety, appropriate use of preventive health services, improved care for at-risk populations and patient and caregiver experience of care. Federal savings from this initiative are expected to reach \$940 million over four years.

Hoff said the ACO does not mean Wayne Memorial is being taken over by Geisinger; it's a new partnership for service opportunities. "Wayne Memorial remains under local control. This ACO is not a required program. It's voluntary. We are being progressive and implementing new programs to enhance services for our patients and community."



# Patton Scholarships Awarded

Tigue as she was awarded one of two nursing scholarships from Judith Gustin in honor of Gustin's parents Dr. Howard R. and Marian C. Patton. Tigue and the other recipient, Rachel Kominiski, are both students in the Class of 2014 at the Luzerne County Community College Nursing Program at Wayne Memorial Hospital. The Patton Memorial Nursing Scholarship was established in 2010 by the couple's four children to help offset expenses for nursing students in the two-year program.

Mrs. Gustin expressed great pleasure that she and her siblings could assist students participating in the Hospital's Nursing Program, noting that her father was one of the physician instructors for the Nurse Aide Training Program at the Hospital in the 1960s. She also commented that her mother, a Registered Dietitian at Wayne Memorial for a number of years, and her father were both lifelong learners who appreciated the importance of education. Dr. Patton first practiced medicine in the area in Damascus in 1937. Later he set up an office in Honesdale, provided coverage for the Hospital's Emergency Room, and from 1957 until his retirement in 1976, served as the Hospital's Chief Pathologist and Director of the Medical Laboratory. The Patton children—Howard J. Patton, Los Alamos, New Mexico; Patricia P. Robison, Manchester, New Jersey; Joanne Patton, North Palm Beach, Florida; and Judith, who resides in Prompton with her husband Daryll—created the endowment to enhance their father's legacy through the professional development "of future, quality healthcare professionals for the people of Wayne County."

Both scholarship recipients thanked Ms. Gustin, with Ms. Tigue, the daughter of Tom and Janet Tigue of Hawley, adding, "I'm most appreciative for this award." Ms. Kominski is a Honesdale resident and the daughter of Dawn Miller. Their scholarships will pay for one half of a semester's tuition, books and supply costs. Both students, if they maintain a B average, will also be eligible for similar scholarships in their second year of study.

The Patton Memorial Nursing Scholarship, created in collaboration with the Wayne Memorial Health Foundation, permits the endowed fund to receive additional contributions from the Patton family, as well as the community at large.

The LCCC Nursing Program at WMH graduated its first class in 2012. All 14 graduates passed their state licensure exams on their first attempt to become registered nurses, and most were employed almost immediately as RNs by Wayne Memorial Hospital.

Photo, left to right: Wayne Memorial CEO David Hoff; Sarah Tigue; G. Richard Garman, executive director Wayne Memorial Health Foundation; Rachel Kominski; Judith Gustin; James Pettinato, RN, director Patient Care Services. Heather Holmes-Komar, a WMH employee and Wayne Memorial Hospital Auxilian helped select the Patton Scholarship award winners from among the applicants. Not pictured: Heather Holmes Komar, a WMH employee and Wayne Memorial Hospital Auxilian who led the selection effort for the Patton Scholarship.



#### Nursing Students Hands-on Training

Nineteen students enrolled in the Luzerne County Community College Nursing Program at Wayne Memorial Hospital are well into the second half of their first year in the two-year program. In addition to working with Medi-Man/Woman, they are receiving some first-hand training from WMH staff. Sharon Watson, BSN, RN, CWCN, COCN/Home Health (above) visited to talk about stoma care. Pictured (below) is Patton Scholarship Winner Sarah Tigue ausculating or listening for the apical heart rate on the simulator "patient."



# Wayne Memorial Health Foundation "In the Swim" of Community Life

THIS PAST WINTER, a community mini grant from the Wayne Memorial Health Foundation helped fund swimming lessons at the Greater Carbondale YMCA for youngsters in the Honesdale Communities That Care (CTC) program. We decided to have CTC's Executive Director tell our readers about the swim program, swim instructor Beth Wiggins and those 38 wonderful children:



CTC youngsters pose with adults Beth Wiggins, left; Richard Garman, executive director Wayne Memorial Health Foundation; Foundation Mini-Grant committee chair Martha Sader and members David Murray and Nancy Propst and CTC's Kathy Grandjean.

#### From the desk of Kathy Grandjean, executive director CTC

All levels of swimmers have been given quality swim instructions and safety lessons for the past 5 weeks. Our beginners have improved, our mid level swimmers have learned many activities that they can practice to improve their strokes and breathing techniques. If I heard Ms. Wiggins and her instructors once, I heard them 1,000 times reminding the children to breathe and to kick and to pull the water with their arms. Important life-saving techniques were incorporated, which is so important in this rural area where we are surrounded by rivers, lakes and streams. Our biggest challenge was wiping the tears from Nathan Leffert a fourth grader as he was quite afraid of deep water. I was amazed at the patience and skill Ms. Wiggins used to instruct Nathan. She validated his respect for the water all the while encouraging him to handle the situation. Last week when he jumped in the pool his smile lit up the room and the lifeguards high-fived him like he had just set a world record. Life is good especially when we have moments like this!

I feel lucky to be a part of this community and love being with these kids as they grow and learn new skills. It is with the Foundation's generous mini-grant and the help of this community that we were able to provide this very beneficial program and for this I thank you.

#### Kathy Grandjean-CTC Executive Director

CTC provides after school care for children who need it in the Wayne Highlands School District.







# What's New at WMH



#### HOSPITALIST JOINS WMH TEAM

Our Hospitalist team is one man stronger! Dan Nam, MD, joined the medical staff in January. Dr. Nam, an internal medicine physician, last worked as a staff hospitalist at Newton Memorial in Newton, New Jersey, along with St. Luke's in Warren, New Jersey and St. Vincent's Health Center in Erie, PA. He completed

undergraduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania, medical school at New York University School of Medicine and his residency at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, New York. Louis O'Boyle, DO, chief hospitalist and head of the hospitalist group, Advanced Inpatient Medicine, says Dr. Nam rounds out his staff to seven, including himself: Drs. Jason Zielinski, William Speicher and Mark Radziewicz, along with nurse practitioners Katrina Maurer and Melissa Diehl Weidner (who is on maternity leave). Welcome aboard, Dr. Nam!

#### WMCHC WELCOMES DR. DAVID YATSONSKY

The Carbondale Family Health Center, part of Wayne Memorial Community Health Centers (WMCHC), has extended its primary care physician services to include Wednesday evenings and select Saturdays with the addition of Board Certified Internist David Yatsonsky, M.D.



Dr. Yatsonsky, a longtime resident of Northeast PA with roots in neighboring Wayne County is "happy to be helping out" the multi-specialty practice which opened its new office this past November at the Marian Community Professional Building located in Carbondale.

Dr. Yatsonsky received a Doctor of Medicine Degree from the State University of New York at Syracuse. He completed an internal medicine residency at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA where he also served as an internal medicine/family practice physician for 12 years. Dr. Yatsonsky has been board-certified in Internal Medicine for 19 years. He is an associate clinical professor at The Commonwealth Medical College and a graduate of the University of Scranton. Dr. Yatsonsky resides in Jefferson Township, PA with his wife Linda and three children.

The Carbondale Family Health Center offers adult primary, pediatric, infant and women's health services. Dr. Yatsonksy joins providers Alexander Pinsky, MD, board certified pediatrician, and Certified Physician Assistants Kenneth Bannon and Sharon Savakinas.

#### HOSPITAL LAB PASSES STRINGENT ACCREDITATION TEST

Wayne Memorial Hospital is proud to announce that its Laboratory Services, which processed 314,906 specimens in 2012 from more than 30 different facilities, has once again been accredited by the American College of Pathologists (CAP). After a rigorous unannounced inspection by CAP inspectors, the hospital's lab received the full two-year certification.

"We are proud of our lab team and the hard work that goes into meeting the very highest standards of our profession," said Laboratory Services Manager John Romano. He added that the "surprise nature of the visit by CAP inspectors is more evidence of our outstanding achievements in our field."

Wayne Memorial Hospital's Lab is one of more than 7,000 CAP-accredited facilities worldwide. CAP inspection teams, all professionals in laboratory work, examine the laboratory's records and quality control for all procedures for the preceding two years, as well as staff qualifications and equipment facilities.

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Together for Health Dental Center Dr. Vance Jones

Wayne Memorial Hospital Michael and Janice Clifford Joyce Malicky Patricia Steiner

#### GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Anonymous Alexander and Betty Swetz

#### H.U.S.H. Campaign

"Help Us Silence Our Hallways" is a brand new campaign at WMH aimed at reducing noise, especially during "quiet time," 9pm to 5am. Tips include "Walk to Talk—Don't Shout" and "Wear Soft-soled Shoes." Quiet helps our patients rest and heal!





#### Governor Proclaims Cardio/Pulmonary Rehab Weeks

WAYNE MEMORIAL Cardiac Rehabilitation Coordinator Nadine Greco, MS, and colleagues in the rehabilitation profession were recognized by Governor Thomas Corbett (R) in Harrisburg on March 11, when the Governor proclaimed the week of March 10-16 Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week in Pennsylvania. The governor also proclaimed retroactively the week of February 10-16 Cardiac Rehabilitation Week.

"It was exciting and an honor to our profession to be recognized at the highest level of state government," said Greco. "It shed a light on the role we play in making people aware of their own health and the importance of our skills in helping patients resume a normal life after a cardiac or pulmonary event."

Greco is the vice president for the Pennsylvania region of the Tri-State Society for Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation. The group sponsored the trip to the state capital, where they were also recognized on the Senate floor by State Senator Lisa Baker (R). Senator Baker, along with Representative Mike Peifer (R) also helped facilitate similar proclamations in the State Senate and House.

Photo, seated: Nadine Greco; Governor Corbett; Cheryl Walter, president Tri-State Society/Evangelical Hospital. Standing: Sandy Gates, Hanover Hospital; Sue Acri, Pinnacle Health/Harrisburg; William Simpson, Lebanon VA Medical Center; Kent Bradford, Ephrata Community Hospital; Joy Reardon, Pinnacle Health; Ann Newman, Hanover Hospital.



#### Hyperbaric Center Holds Open House for Hospital Workers

The hyperbaric unit at Wayne Memorial Hospital, part of the Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center, was open to Wayne Memorial Hospital staff on Wednesday, March 27th. The unit encompasses two hyperbaric or "pure oxygen" chambers that are used primarily to help wounds heal. A partnership with Candescent Healing, the unit is staffed by LPN Shawn Chapman and Hyperbaric Technologist Michele Weber. Michele is seen here in the foreground explaining how hyperbaric treatment technology works to Acute and Cardiac Rehab staff. The open house was organized by LPNs Sue Miller and Becky Mickel with help from Chapman and Weber.



# Endowing Values

G. Richard Garman, Executive Director Wayne Memorial Health Foundation

YOUR PERSONAL VALUES are literally endowed when you create and fund a named endowment with Wayne Memorial Health Foundation for the benefit of Wayne Memorial Hospital. This is so much more than endowing a program, facilities, or even part of the Hospital's operating budget. Your commitment to Wayne Memorial Hospital's mission of service and ideals will be carried into the future by Wayne Memorial Health Foundation, for future generations through your endowment fund.

Consider for a moment your grandchildren and their children. Family members in distant, future generations will not have known you, though they will know something important about you through the endowment you create. Imagine the effect this will have on your family. They will have a new and enlightened insight into your generosity, and your values, which could influence them to add to your endowment or perhaps create one of their own. Yes, endowments convey values in very powerful ways. An endowment does not necessarily require a lump sum gift, or even a large sum of money. Some may be surprised to learn that an endowment may be started right away, built up over time, or even received as your ultimate gift through your estate. We, at Wayne Memorial Health Foundation, work to help you set reasonable objectives for your endowment; and to make it convenient, always.

Many generous donors use endowments as tools to pass their values on to future generations. Would you like to find out more about Wayne Memorial Health Foundation's Endowment Program? To request additional information and/or to arrange for a personal conversation, contact me, G. Richard Garman, at (570) 253-8272, by mail at 601 Park Street, Honesdale PA 18431, or by e-mail at garman@wmh.org. You may learn more about Wayne Memorial Health Foundation at its website, www.wmh.org. Click on "Wayne Memorial Health Foundation" in the upper right hand corner of the webpage.

### Regional State Health Rep Comes to WMH

N FEBRUARY 22ND, Donna Decker, RN/Manager Community Health held an informal meetand-greet for the new executive director of the Northeast Pennsylvania region of the PA Department of Health. More than a dozen community groups and several WMH staffers gathered to welcome Amy Szydlowski, MSW, MPA. Szydlowski, who also has a certification in Gerontology, previously worked for both Janssen Pharmaceutical and Pfizer as a Professional Health Care Representative and is an Adjunct Faculty member at the University of Scranton in the fields of Gerontology, Sociology and Health Administration. The Department of Health works with the hospital and many local agencies on flu vaccine availability, emergency preparedness, education and other various health initiatives. Decker and Szydlowski both said they were pleased with the turnout and look forward to working together. They are pictured below right. At left are Lori Wood, RDH, CDHC and Susan Granquist, DMD from WMCHC Together for Health Dental Center.









## Most Successful Mistletoe EVER!

THE WAYNE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY'S 72nd Annual Mistletoe Ball, held at Ehrhardt's on Lake Wallenpaupack on January 19, broke a record, raising \$22,222 from sponsors, guests and the silent auction. Auxilians were thrilled! "We can't thank our supporters enough," said Shauna Ridd, event chairperson. The theme this year, Masquerade, inspired many of the almost 200 guests to wear colorful masks or costumes. After dining on a delicious meal, guests danced to the live music of Ronnie and the Riff Kings. Proceeds this year benefited Wayne Memorial Hospital's New Beginnings Maternity unit. Wayne Memorial's long-term care facility, Wayne Woodlands Manor, also benefited from a monthslong raffle that ended at the Mistletoe with a drawing. William Penwarden of Honesdale won a 40" flat screen TV and \$2,157 was raised for Wayne Woodlands.

Group photo, left to right, members of Wayne Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's Mistletoe Ball committee: Cathy Howell, Janet Lienert, Priscilla Krum, Mary Radell, Shauna Ridd (chair), Helen Beck, Katy Wood, Martha Wilson, Sandra Meagher and Janice Pettinato. Also serving on the committee: Joan Buehl, Alison Cosham, Sandy Kline, Ann Morgan, Kay Reynolds and Ingrid Warshaw.



# SAVE THE DATES!



Monday, August 19
7th Annual
Harry Kiesendahl
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at Woodloch Springs



Saturday, September 21
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