One Fateful Day
Dear Friends,

It is often said that it takes a village to raise a child. At Emanate Health, we like to think of all of our health care partners — the doctors and nurses, paramedics and firemen, volunteers and donors — as that “village.” A team that collectively comes together to provide care to our community members in times of need.

The articles featured within this issue all tell stories of our health care village, a community of individuals standing ready to breathe life into a child in a time of crisis, to lift someone up in their darkest hour and to give of oneself to those less fortunate.

The pages to follow tell stories of the fateful April Fool’s Day that 11-year-old Adam had no reason to ever expect; of a beloved community hero who selflessly gives his time and energy to serve those less fortunate; and of the brief two-week timespan that so greatly impacted a widow’s final moments with her husband. Each of these instances is another example of the generosity of heart, spirit and resources that our Emanate Health village demonstrates daily.

Being in the position to oversee the impact of those resources, we in Emanate Health Foundation know that proper stewardship is paramount. While we continue to focus on the expansion of our Emergency Department at Queen of the Valley Hospital (QVH), we are acutely aware of the many priorities throughout the Emanate Health system and are always reevaluating where the need is greatest at any given time.

Whether it be in support of a new emergency department at QVH, ease of accessibility at Inter-Community Hospital, Women’s Health at Foothill Presbyterian Hospital or growth at Emanate Health Hospice, each extension of Emanate Health village, we would not be the community-focused, mission-driven organization we have come to be. For these gifts and more, we are incredibly grateful.

An active, healthy 11-year-old, Adam was walking from the school cafeteria to the basketball courts after lunch with his friends when he suddenly fell face first onto the blacktop — breaking some of his top front teeth. Adam tried to catch himself, but his arms went limp.

Known for his sense of humor, Adam could have easily been playing a practical joke that April Fool’s Day at Monte Vista Elementary School. But when they saw the blood, his friends knew this was no joke — Adam was in trouble.

One friend ran to get help while the other stayed by Adam’s side. After a recess aide called 9-1-1, the paramedics arrived within minutes. Thankfully the fire station is across the street from the school — Adam’s pulse had...
slowed to a stop just as the ambulance pulled up.

RESCUERS IN ACTION
Joseph Silguero, fireman/paramedic for the City of West Covina, arrived first with his captain and his partner. Adam was in full cardi-ac arrest, meaning his heart and breathing had stopped. “When we first arrived on scene, we found Adam lifeless — he was clinically dead,” Joseph explained.

Joseph and his team immediately began giving Adam CPR. After about three minutes, he miraculously began to breathe. “The feeling that I felt — his chest rising underneath my right hand — was the most amazing feeling,” Joseph recalled. “I saw both my kids being born. [As firemen] we see death every day — we don’t always see this.”

Once Adam’s breathing and pulse had returned, they loaded him onto the ambulance and headed to Queen of the Valley Hospital (QVH).

Yadi is grateful to everyone who was present that fateful day to help save Adam’s life, and has since explained to him the significance of sharing his story:

“If it wasn’t for them, you wouldn’t be here.”

– YADI ARAMBULA, ADAM’S MOM

A PARENT’S NIGHTMARE
Meanwhile, the school called to notify Adam’s mom, Yadi, who was at work an hour away. They explained that Adam had fallen and been taken by ambulance to QVH.

“It was the longest trip ever,” she recalled. “On my way, I got another two phone calls from the school, asking if I was there yet.” Adam’s father, José, had just arrived at work when Yadi called to notify him, and he also headed to the hospital.

“I finally get there and I see his principal walking out of the Emergency Room,” Yadi recalled. “She said, ‘You need to get in there now.’”

AN EXEMPLARY TEAM
Doctors then explained that Adam had gone into V-fib, or ventricular fibrillation, a problem with the heart’s rhythm where the heart beats erratically, causing the ventricles to quiver instead of pump blood — cutting off blood supply to vital organs. V-fib is the most common cause of sudden cardiac death. “In a case like Adam’s, time is of the essence,” explained QVH Staff Emergency Physician Brenda Hayakawa, MD. “Fortunately, I work with an exemplary staff here at Queen of the Valley — the teamwork here is phenomenal. When there’s a patient who really needs help, everybody just jumps in, no questions asked.”

When Adam arrived, the QVH clinical team jumped into action. Dr. Hayakawa intubated him to protect his airway and ordered blood work, a CT scan and chest X-ray to assess his condition. Adam was later transferred to the pediatric intensive care unit where he remained for nearly a week before undergoing surgery.

To continue monitoring Adam’s heartbeat, surgeons placed an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) in his chest to detect any abnormal heartbeats and use electrical pulses to restore a normal rhythm.

ONE IN A MILLION
It is exceedingly rare for a pediatric patient like Adam to experience V-fib. The cause of ventricular fibrillation is not always known, and not all patient stories end happily like Adam’s.

One of the community's health care systems

EMANATE HEALTH
— THE COMMUNITY’S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

“The feeling that I felt — his chest rising underneath my right hand — was the most amazing feeling. I saw both my kids being born. [As firemen] we see death every day — we don’t always see this.”

– JOSEPH SILGUERO,
CITY OF WEST COVINA
FIREMAN/PARAMEDIC

THANKS TO EMANATE
HEALTH DONORS
AND WITHOUT YOU, OUR GENEROUS DONORS, EMANATE HEALTH WOULDN’T BE HERE. THE QVH EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) WAS BUILT YEARS AGO TO SERVE 30,000 PATIENTS. IN 2018, THERE WERE NEARLY 80,000 PATIENT VISITS TO THE ED — MORE THAN DOUBLE THE CURRENT CAPACITY.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE ED IS AT CAPACITY AND A NEW PATIENT ARRIVES?
THEY WAIT — WHILE OTHERS WITH LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCIES HANG ON FOR PARAMEDIC ASSISTANCE.

WE PROJECT A 30% INCREASE IN PATIENT VISITS OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS. WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE CAN TRANSFORM OUR 24-BED ED INTO 36,000 SQUARE FEET OF SPACE WITH 60 PATIENT BEDS.

WE NEED YOU TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. TOGETHER, LET’S GIVE MORE KIDS LIKE ADAM A HAPPY ENDING.
It’s easy to see why Dr. J. Kenneth Lund was recently honored as a West Covina Citizen of the Year and received the Outstanding Older American Award from the City of West Covina. His real-life stories could compare to the adventures of Indiana Jones. From serving as a U.S. Army combat engineer in Germany to volunteering in support of the needs of people locally and in destitute areas of Mexico, Dr. Lund is undeniably a hero. Thankfully, he opts to use his powers for good on the Emanate Health Foundation Board of Trustees.

GROWING UP
Growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., Dr. Lund learned a strong work ethic and the value of giving back. He began working for his father’s business at the age of five and remained there until college graduation. “I am a proud son of immigrant parents,” he shared. “Helping out in my father’s business I was exposed to how other people felt about him. He was a really outstanding person, just so highly regarded — that influenced me.”

FORMATIVE YEARS
Starting as a student at NYU Polytechnic Institute, Dr. Lund earned a degree in Chemical Engineering before joining the U.S. Army where he served for eight years on active duty and in the reserves, including a deployment to Germany. He then returned home to attend graduate school at Princeton University, earning a master’s degree in Plastics Engineering and then a PhD in Chemical Engineering. After graduating and getting married, Dr. Lund worked in Research & Development management for several large chemical companies before moving into the field of energy research.

A SUDDEN SHIFT
His career all but came to a halt when he experienced a major heart attack while traveling. Dr. Lund returned home to have an angioplasty at Emanate Health Inter-Community Hospital. “It was time to focus on how I was going to live longer and live in good health,” he explained. After building the success of his family business, he and his family partners began considering charitable organizations to which the business could contribute. “It doesn’t take long before you’re looking at ‘how can this be put to good use?’”

Over time, Dr. Lund has had multiple hip operations at Emanate Health Queen of the Valley Hospital (QVH). “As a result of being a patient — and being very impressed with the care — I joined the Foundation Board,” recalled Dr. Lund. He is also part of the Finance committee of the Board. “I would like to see the organization run as effectively as possible — and it is,” explained Dr. Lund. “I am very pleased with the leadership of the Foundation and am more than pleased with Emanate Health through [the leadership of] the CEO. Rob Curry and his team have done an absolutely outstanding job.”

LEADERSHIP
“I AM VERY PLEASED WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE FOUNDATION AND AM MORE THAN PLEASED WITH EMANATE HEALTH THROUGH [THE LEADERSHIP OF] THE CEO. ROB CURRY AND HIS TEAM HAVE DONE AN ABSOLUTELY OUTSTANDING JOB.”
– J. KENNETH LUND, PHD

GIVING BACK
Both Dr. Lund and his family business, the Cloos Family Partnership, have since generously donated to Emanate Health Foundation in support of QVH’s new Emergency Department and at last year’s annual gala. “I had reached a point in my life where I was thinking more about the idea of giving back to the community and to the world around me,” Dr. Lund relayed.

LOOKING BACK
Looking back on his upbringing, life’s adventures and charity work, Dr. Lund took time to reflect. “I don’t get involved in these things to get recognition. I’m doing it because I’m paying back.”
The evening of March 21, 2019, began much like any other for Stuart and Jeanne Courtice. Stu went to take his usual evening shower as Jeanne went about her regular evening routine. But as soon as Stu turned on the water, he felt an excruciating headache. He returned to the bedroom and Jeanne could see that something was wrong — this was not a regular headache.

When they arrived at the hospital 20 minutes later, the Courtices learned that Stu’s headache had been caused by a stroke on the left side of his brain. He saw a neurologist and a neurosurgeon who explained that, due to the severity of his condition, the situation was grave. He had lost the ability to speak and much of the movement on his right side.

**ANGELS AMONG US**

Just when it seemed like things couldn’t get any worse, some might say an angel stepped in. Their daughter-in-law had been familiar with Emanate Health Hospice (formerly Citrus Valley Hospice), so Jeanne mentioned it to the doctor. An hour later, she was meeting Dawn, the Hospice intake coordinator.

“Dawn made all the arrangements,” explained Jeanne. “It seemed like an answer to a prayer.”

Once Stu was transferred to Emanate Health Hospice, it was obvious that they had made the right decision. “It was just a lovely facility,” relayed Jeanne. “Once we arrived, the care started immediately, making Stu...”
comfortable and settling him in.”

CARING FOR THE WHOLE PERSON — AND THE WHOLE FAMILY
At Emanate Health, we know that patients are also people. So when it comes to caring for patients, we care for each individual — individually. That means not only providing personalized care, but also being respectful of each person’s culture, personal beliefs and human dignity. It means tending to the family, as well.

“The care Stu got was phenomenal,” Jeanne recalled. “They cared as much about our family as they did about him. “The night nurse was just so caring and loving, and took such good care of him,” she went on to say. “Everybody was fantastic. Even the custodian, he was just so warm and welcoming every time we saw him. The whole staff was just marvelous.”

But the person who stood out most to Jeanne was the Emanate Health Hospice Chaplain. The chaplain’s role is to provide culturally respectful care, which can include anything that brings the individual family meaning, comfort or a sense of dignity, according to Rev. Dr. Leslie Beckhart Jenal. For Mr. and Mrs. Courtice, it meant honoring their Christian values. Both Stu and Jeanne had been active in their local church for years. Rev. Dr. Beckhart Jenal encouraged the family to talk to Stu, to thank him, tell him they love him and release him to his eternal rest.

“Chaplain Leslie was just wonderful — she brought us such peace,” Jeanne said. “She was so comforting, with a sweet sense of humor … and let us lead the way in conversations.”

Mr. and Mrs. Courtice were at Emanate Health Hospice for only a short time. But the compassion with which they were treated made a lasting impact. “I felt so close to everyone even though it was only two weeks,” Jeanne said.

THE COURTICES
Mr. and Mrs. Courtice were married for nearly 62 years. They lived in San Gabriel for 54 years before moving to La Verne not long before Stu fell ill. They had moved across the street from their daughter and son-in-law. They also have a son and daughter-in-law who live on the Hawaiian island of Kauai, as well as four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A proud alumnus of the USC School of Architecture, Stu worked as an architect, for Sears and May Co. in Development and Planning, and then for Verizon before retiring. He also served on the Board of Trustees at San Gabriel Methodist Church and the Temple City Board of Education, and volunteered for the Boy Scouts when his son was a Scout.

PAYING IT FORWARD
Stu was a true gentleman. This was the sentiment shared repeatedly by friends and family on the day of his memorial service.

In gratitude for the compassion with which they were treated, Jeanne gave a generous gift to Emanate Health Hospice and requested contributions from friends and family in lieu of flowers. The Hospice has since received 17 donations in Stu’s honor.

When it comes to caring for patients, we care for each individual — individually.
Save the Dates

This year’s Autumn Nocturne event raised $345,000 due to the overwhelming generosity of donors like you. We appreciate your ongoing support of Emanate Health.

Light Up a Life
Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019
Emanate Health Hospice
West Covina

46th Annual Capitano Golf Classic
Monday, June 8, 2020
South Hills Country Club
West Covina

31st Annual Autumn Nocturne
Saturday, October 17, 2020
Pacific Palms Resort
City of Industry

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