

JGH Jazz celebrates 14 years of music's healing power



Bryan Highbloom performs for patients, visitors and staff.

Music filled the air at the Côte-des-Neiges picnic area once again this summer as JGH Jazz returned for its 14th harmonious edition. From June 10 to 21, patients, families, staff, volunteers and the public were treated to pleasant and uplifting summer entertainment through daily performances of musicians, vocalists, and dancers.

"The musical artists featured in this year's festival celebrate the idea that art and music play a major healing role in all societies and cultures," explains **Bryan Highbloom**, JGH music therapist, and the quarterback behind JGH Jazz.

This year's edition marked the beginning of a new and expanded festival, which partnered with Suoni per il Popolo (Italian for "sounds of the people"), a non-profit organization committed to presenting diverse artistic groups and showcasing Canada's thriving independent music scene across the country. "This partnership

speaks to the desire of both festivals to reach out in an effort to promote the shared idea that music is healing," says Mr. Highbloom.

Festival-goers were treated to a wide range of styles, with performances by PYM, the Stephen Berry Blues Band, Henri Oppenheim, WDJ, Nouveau Jazz Libre du Québec, Ian Ferrier with Body and Light, Mexican dance troupe X-Caret, Dakkan, rapper Young Mtl, and many more.

"Every year, when I hear the notes and the laughter from my office window in Pavilion A, I go outside to join patients, families, and my colleagues in enjoying this wonderful summer celebration," says **Chantal Bellerose**, JGH Accreditation Coordinator and Quality Improvement Advisor. "We are so lucky to benefit from such a program that provides us with an energizing musical experience—a real testament to the quality of our work life at the JGH."

Shift in payday

The hospital would like to introduce a more efficient payroll process to improve the distribution of pay and minimize errors. This Payday Shift is commonly known as Paie décalée. To transition to this system, employees will receive a one-time advance equal to one week's pay, enabling the hospital to push the payday forward by one week. This advance is interest-free and will be gradually repaid by employees over one year. This will not cost employees anything.

Information sessions will follow, and staff members can direct questions to **Samuel Dergel**, Chief of Payroll, at extension 5412 or to **Sherri Steckler**, Labour Relations Consultant, at extension 6807.

For more information please consult Payroll's webpage: jgh.ca/Payroll

An open letter from Mary E. Cooper

Dear Colleagues,

I have been part of the JGH Family for 13 years now. For almost a decade, I was privileged to work in the Oncology Pharmacy. I've always felt a sense of pride and good fortune to be part of this community that does so much to help others.

In November of 2011, my husband, Bill Brumbach, was diagnosed with lung cancer. We were frightened and overwhelmed, of course.

Although we both accepted that there would be challenges ahead, we could never have known the amount of effort and dedication that would be extended to us; always with the goal of bringing Bill to a stable state of health.

During Bill's many months of treatments I never wavered in my confidence that he was receiving the best possible clinical care. And, beyond this, was the ever-present support we both felt from 'our' hospital.

I will be forever grateful to Bill's medical team: Doctors **Victor Cohen, Marcia Gillman, Andrew Hirsch, Michelle Elizov, Annie Carbonneau, Khalil Sultanem, Tamim Niazi, Janice Cohen, Nicole Baird, Judith Therrien**, Nurses **Lucie Lajeunesse, Sharon Neault, Francine Venne**, and Oncology Pharmacist **Marie-Pascale Guay**.

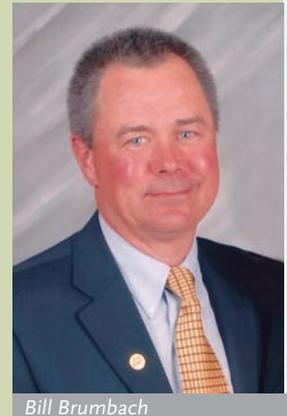
There are others, of course, too many to mention by name. But, please know that you all made a profound difference in our lives.

Bill passed away peacefully at home, where he wanted to be, in January of this year. Again, the efforts and planning by Bill's medical team helped bring his final wishes to fruition.

Now, as I slowly and cautiously learn to live my life without my beloved Bill, I have been supported by your caring gestures, kind words and compassion. This has never been more evident than during the past two months, as I progressively return to work.

For so many years I had been on the 'giving end' of care for our JGH patients. Then, during Bill's illness, I truly felt the unique and moving impact of being on the 'receiving end' ... I am both humbled and grateful.

Mary E. Cooper



Bill Brumbach