



## Summer 2019 Picnic Brings Fun In The Sun To Families

It was a day to be remembered as hundreds of Associates, their families and guests took part in the 2019 UMC Summer Family Picnic at Memorial Park Sept. 7.

More than 1,400 tickets were distributed to Associates and their families who showed up ready for fun on a warm and humid September Saturday. Watermelon eating contests, races, barbecue, and a badly pulverized bumble bee piñata will all be part of the memories that bring a close to this year's summer season.



Where they put all that watermelon is anyone's guess but they plowed through each slice.



When they busted the bumble bee piñata, the scramble was on for all of the goodies.

The picnic was another event sponsored by the UMC Fungineers, a group of volunteer Associates from throughout the El Paso County Hospital District. More events are planned for 2019 with the next fun and exciting events being the 2019 Costume Contest, Pumpkin Carving Contest and dance and entertainment-filled End of Year Celebration.



The water sponge race was another way to cool off during the day.



Limbo tested flexibility and ligaments.

# Third Quarter Brings New STARS To UMC's Constellation

Five UMC Associates were recognized during ceremonies Aug. 29 in the UMC Cafeteria. Winners are selected after being nominated by other Associates or managers or virtually anyone in our hospital who recognizes exceptional dedication that calls for recognition. A committee goes through all nominees and selects the Associates whose performance best exemplifies the values of UMC's STARS (Service, Teamwork, Accountability, Respect, and Safety). This quarter's winners are:



**Nancy Castaneda** -- Congratulations to our 2019 3rd Quarter STARS Award Winner Nancy Castaneda from our Outpatient Pharmacy Department!

Nancy was nominated for “frequently helping to train new associates, re-train existing associates, and to help with special projects that require a high degree of attention to detail, technical knowledge and good judgement.”



**Guadalupe Vargas** -- Congratulations to our 2019 3rd Quarter STARS Award Winner Guadalupe Vargas from our East Clinic Imaging Department!

Guadalupe's peers nominated her for “taking on several extra roles such as taking charge of the Clinic Sonographers' schedule and ensuring that each clinic will have coverage that is needed. She is always professional and has a smile on her face”



**Katia Paredes** -- Congratulations to our 2019 3rd Quarter STARS Award Winner Katia Paredes from our Care Management Department!

Katia was nominated for her “incredible teamwork and helping to cover shifts and weekends while always having a positive attitude”



**Mary Licon** -- Congratulations to our 2019 3rd Quarter STARS Award Winner Mary Licon from our Care Management Department! Mary was nominated for “impacting thousands of cancer patients who were at risk of failing to adhere to their treatment plan because of financial difficulty. She ensures they get the treatment and resources they need.”



**Nancy Carrillo** -- Congratulations to our 2019 3rd Quarter STARS Award Winner Nancy Carrillo from our Crimes Victims Program! Nancy was nominated for “working with a patient population that is not for the weak of heart. Her kind nature, compassion, empathy, and resilience is what has made her successful in being a pillar of support for our victims of crime”

# DAISY Winners Bloom During Quarterly Awards Ceremony

Congratulations to this quarter's DAISY Award winners! The DAISY Award is given to extraordinary nurses in honor of the outstanding work they do. They are nominated by patients who received care at our hospital. UMC is honored to have these exceptional nurses as part of our organization. DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System, and it was established by the DAISY Foundation in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at 33 of an auto-immune disease.



**Congratulations to DAISY Award winner Alma Acosta**, RN from UMC's Intensive Care Unit.

Comments from Alma's patient: "I saw something that you don't see too often. Alma, the nurse was hugging the tearful spouse of a patient in the hallway. The patient's wife and daughter had just received news of his poor prognosis and were now faced with making choices for care possibly involving hospice. Facing this alone can be overwhelming, but seeing this beautiful extension of compassion was sincere and heartwarming. She collaborated with the Medical ICU team to help inform the patient and his spouse of comfort measure options. She is a prime example of the empathy that circulates here at UMC."



**Congratulations to DAISY Award winner Lydia Camacho**, RN from UMC's Neuro Intensive Care Unit.

Comments from Lydia's patient: "As we were faced with uncertainty about my father's condition, an angel came to comfort us and clear our doubts. With her expertise, she told us what were the steps that we would encounter as we begin this difficult journey. She calmed us and guided us all through the way. She demonstrated empathy and compassion and made my mom and I as comfortable as possible in our situation."



**Congratulations to DAISY Award winner Maria Perez**, RN from UMC's Women's Surgical Department!

Comments from Maria's patient: "My wife just went through a surgical procedure. The following day some issues arose and Maria reacted without hesitation. She had my wife's vital signs taken for the second time and discovered that her blood pressure dropped severely low and called a Code yet for the second time. They sent her back to surgery and resolved the problem. So, as far as I know, whether it was life threatening or not, it is thanks to Maria that my children still have their mother and I have the love of my life."

# *Save The Date!*

**Thursday, Sept. 12, at 1:30 p.m.**

You are invited to a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
to usher in El Paso's most  
advanced system in cardiac care.

Ceremony will take place at:

University Medical Center of El Paso  
First Floor, across from the Imaging Waiting Area.

*Look for the big Texas, the big  
red ribbon and the big scissors!*



## *Please join us!*

*About The Pulse: The Pulse newsletter, is a product of the UMC Public Affairs office and features news briefs and updates from around our campus. It is distributed to our El Paso community. If you have an item that you would like to have considered for The Pulse, email it to [Public Affairs](#).*