

In brief

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

Convicted man accused of DUI again

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — A man convicted over a fatal drunken-driving crash in Wyoming in 2004 has been arrested in a suspected drunken-driving case in Colorado.

Police in Evans, Colo., arrested 52-year-old Ron Holland of Greeley, Colo., in November on suspicion of driving under the influence, menacing and violating parole.

Holland had been sentenced to seven to 12 years in the Wyoming prison system after a crash in Cheyenne in 2004 that killed Janna Klussmann and permanently disabled Andy Klussman. Andy Klussmann was the assistant volleyball coach for Colorado State University at the time.

Program inspects 43,000 boats in 2011

CHEYENNE — A program to keep disruptive nonnative species out of Wyoming's waterways inspected nearly 43,000 boats at 32 different water areas in the state last year.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department finished its second year with the Aquatic Invasive Species Program in 2011.

In addition to checking boats, crews monitor waters throughout the year to see if any invasive species are present.

In 2011, Game and Fish crews sampled 52 waters and found no signs of the larval form of zebra and quagga mussels.

But an invasive species, the Asian clam, was detected in the Laramie River, and the nonnative curly pondweed plant was detected in Lake DeSmet.

County mulls student alcohol screenings

JACKSON — Teton County school officials are considering screening students for alcohol before letting them in to dances and sporting events.

The proposal calls for waving an alcohol wand around students at voluntary after-school events. The wands can detect if someone has been drinking but not how much.

About 30 people attended a workshop on the proposal last week. Seven parents spoke in favor of it.

Under the proposal before the school board, students who test positive for alcohol would be warned again after 15 minutes. If they test positive again, they would be detained and could face criminal charges. Administrators would call their parents to come pick them up.

Administrators would also call the parents of any student who refused to be tested.

Cheyenne viaduct repairs half done

CHEYENNE — Work is half done on a major project to repair the viaduct over the Union Pacific railroad tracks in downtown Cheyenne.

The Wyoming Department of Transportation says work is essentially done on the southbound lanes of Central Avenue.

Attention will turn to the northbound lanes starting Monday.

The bridges are the main corridor linking north and south Cheyenne. The project involves replacing damaged concrete.

The bridges are about a third of a mile long and among the longest in Wyoming.

Work on the project is scheduled to wrap up in May.

State seeks input on health care

By MARTIN KIDSTON
The Billings Gazette

CODY — Gov. Matt Mead's top health care policy adviser will launch a seven-city tour here this week, looking to identify the state's leading health care issues and ways to resolve them.

Elizabeth Hoy said that while the state is awaiting a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on the constitutionality of the Patient Accountability and Affordable Care Act, it must also look at future health care needs in Wyoming.

"The governor opposes the

Affordable Care Act, and we've joined the lawsuit against it, but it doesn't do us any good if we don't have an alternative to the challenges of accessing and paying for health care in the state," Hoy said.

"We need to really understand what our consumers are experiencing, as far as their health care concerns and ideas for solutions, as we look to craft our own solutions moving forward."

Among other things, Hoy said, the state is seeking input on a possible health benefit exchange. Such an exchange would serve as a Web-based

IF YOU GO ...

■ The Cody health care town hall meeting is set for 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Park County Library.

market where individuals and small businesses could explore their health insurance needs.

Such an exchange could also allow comparison of health care plans, their costs and benefits. Hoy said it would allow consumers to select the plan that fits

Please see **HEALTH**, A4

Afghan explosion kills Wyo airman

The Associated Press

CHEYENNE — An airman killed in a roadside attack in Afghanistan knew the dangers involved but accepted them as "just part of the job," his brother-in-law said.

Tech. Sgt. Matthew Schwartz, 34, of Cheyenne, was among three servicemen killed Thursday when their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device in Helmand Province's Shir Ghazi, the Defense Department said Saturday in a news release.

Please see **AIRMAN**, A4



A herd of antelope anticipate another cold, windy night in the Laramie Basin recently.
KEN DRIESE | STAR-TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

Researchers study wind farms' effect on antelope and elk

By CHRISTINE PETERSON
Star-Tribune staff writer

For the first time in Wyoming, scientists are studying the effect of wind farms on wintering antelope and elk.

Researchers with the University of Wyoming collared 35 antelope in 2010 and another 17 in December to monitor their behavior on their winter range in the high desert near Medicine Bow. Scientists will collect their collars, load-

ed with data, in the spring.

It is part of a three-year study paid for by PacifiCorp as part of the permitting agreement specifically for the Dunlap Ranch.

Please see **WIND**, A4

IF YOU FIND A COLLAR

■ Researchers from the University of Wyoming collared 30 elk and 35 antelope to study how the animals react to wind turbines. The collars will drop from their necks in late April. If you find one of the collars, use the information on the GPS device to contact Jeff Beck, researcher and assistant professor of wildlife habitat restoration ecology with the University of Wyoming.



Campbell County Memorial Hospital medical librarian Michlene Mankin pores over books in the hospital's library in Gillette last month.

Librarian's research keeps doctors and patients clued in

By GABRIELLE PORTER
Gillette News Record

GILLETTE — Michlene Mankin does more than put away books.

The medical librarian at Campbell County Memorial Hospital wears many hats: researcher, grant-writer, interface with the outside world.

With the breakneck pace of medical change, doctors in a small to mid-sized hospitals in an isolated area, like CCMH, can quickly lose touch with trends and practices. For the past 12 years, Mankin has helped CCMH doctors stay connected to the medical community across the country and across the world.

"In large hospital settings, there are lots and lots of doctors, and they can talk to each other about things," CCMH spokeswoman Karen Clarke said. "Here, we don't have lots and lots of doctors. ... She acts as that community. She can get all the latest and greatest discussions about whatever's going on."

"This is a luxury for a hospital this size to have somebody that's actually here."

Being the interface between Gillette's doctors and the rest of the world takes some time. While doctors, nurses and other medical staff will call Mankin anywhere from 30 to 90 times monthly to ask for information on various topics, she doesn't sit around waiting for the phone

to ring. She keeps her finger on the pulse of the medical field by monitoring websites, journals and research.

When the bulk of the Affordable Care Act comes into play in 2014, hospitals like CCMH will be paid based on the quality of care they provide.

"If we can provide the highest quality of care, our reimbursement for our hospital will be better," Mankin said. "That's really what it boils down to."

With the continuing medical educational sessions she helps organize and the grants she writes, Mankin does everything she can to help the hospital prepare for the 2014 reckoning.

Please see **LIBRARIAN**, A4

Are beetles taking a bite out of hunting?

By KELSEY DAYTON
Star-Tribune staff writer

LANDER — There's research on how mountain pine beetles affect grizzly bears by taking away a food source while killing whitebark pine trees.

There's information on how the beetles change the landscape, turning once-green forests to a rust color of death.

What Wyoming Game and Fish Department wildlife biologist Tony Mong is interested in is how the beetles affect hunters.

Last fall Mong started a long-term study looking at how beetle-killed forests in the Sierra Madres of Wyoming are changing the movements of elk and hunters.

Mong handed out about 10 GPS units — less than he had planned — to hunters in order to collect data on their movements. Mong hopes to eventually deliver up to 100 units each fall.

The data will be collected and mapped to see how hunter movements change over the years, he said.

Mong also plans to put GPS collars on elk this winter in order to track the animals' movements.

Data from this study year will provide a baseline, Mong said. He wants to know if the movements by the animals and the hunters change and see if it correlates with forests killed by beetles.

While beetles kill trees quickly, it can take years before the dead trees fall, creating obstacles in the woods,

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HEALTH

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them best. “The problem with the Affordable Care Act is that it imposes a top-down solution,” Hoy said. “We really want to craft a bottom-up solution that looks at our consumers, their real concerns and how to address those.”

If the Affordable Care Act survives the U.S. Supreme Court ruling expected in June, Hoy said, the state should be prepared to challenge aspects of the plan as it affects Wyoming.

She said the state may be faced with the choice of running a health benefit exchange of its own or allowing the federal government to run one for it.

“We’re developing a health care strategy and policy at this point,” Hoy said. “We understand that there are problems and concerns with the affordability and access to health care.

“The question is, what’s the best way to approach that in our state? Is it a lack

of providers? How do we build up our health care infrastructure? Is the issue affordability of insurance? Do we need to take a different approach to regulating the insurance market?”

Hoy will be looking for input from Wyoming residents as she sets out on a seven-city tour that includes Cody, Gillette, Casper, Rock Springs, Jackson, Riverton and Cheyenne.

The results will be reviewed by the Wyoming Health Benefits Exchange Steering Committee. The committee, which has recommended that Mead use an executive order to advance the state’s intention of establishing an exchange, is expected to meet in Casper in March.

“We want citizens to come out and give us their input about health care in Wyoming and any ideas, concerns or comments they have about possible solutions, including concepts of a health benefit exchange,” Hoy said. “If we choose to move forward with an exchange, we can create one that makes sense for our consumers and our state.”

AIRMAN

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Schwartz was an explosive ordnance disposal specialist assigned to the 90th Civil Engineer Squadron at F.E. Warren Air Force Base. He grew up in Michigan, graduated from Traverse City Central High School in 1996 and served 12 years in the Air Force, according to the Traverse City Record-Eagle.

He left for his sixth overseas deployment in October and would have been due home in March. He had served previous tours in Afghanistan and Iraq.

“He knew the dangers; he talked about it,” Schwartz’ brother-in-law Jeff O’Brien told the newspaper. “He said it was just part of the job.”

Schwartz moved to

Cheyenne in 2006, when he was transferred to F.E. Warren after a stint at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico.

He and his wife, Jennifer, had three daughters, ages 11, 8 and 6.

“I can’t remember a time without him,” Jennifer Schwartz told the Michigan newspaper. “We had an understanding ... we needed each other. He loved life, and he loved his kids. He was just wonderful.”

The explosion also killed Senior Airman Bryan Bell, 23, of Pennsylvania, who was assigned to the 2nd Civil Engineer Squadron at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana, and Airman 1st Class Matthew Seidler, 24, of Maryland, who was assigned to the 21st Civil Engineer Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado.

WIND

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“We want to know, did they lose some habitat? Do they still go there or do they avoid it?” said Jeff Beck, researcher and assistant professor of wildlife habitat restoration ecology at the University of Wyoming.

A similar study is being conducted on elk.

Hard winters usually limit animals to certain areas where wind blows snow away and food is available. If those are the same places where turbines exist, and elk or antelope avoid turbines, it could hurt the winter survival rate of the herds, Beck said.

“It is an area of research that we don’t have a lot of information on. These two studies are pioneering in terms of studying the potential effects.”

PacifiCorp contracted the study in mid-2009 as part of an agreement with the state to build 74 wind turbines in the first phase of the two-part project.

Officials at PacifiCorp worked with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the state and the university to design the study, said Travis Brown, an environmental compliance officer for wind energy for PacifiCorp Energy.

“There are lots of things asked for in the [permitting] process. We looked at this and knew this was something we needed to focus on,” he said.

Beck began trapping antelope in January 2010. The study didn’t start until after the first phase of wind turbine construction had begun, which means Beck also trapped antelope in a nearby study area that doesn’t have turbines. With the comparison, he can see about how antelope respond in relation to existing barriers such as roads, fences and deep snow and if or how wind turbines change antelope behavior.

The collars record and save GPS positions for each animal and are programmed to fall off antelope necks in late April. The collars will be collected, the data analyzed and final study results should be ready in mid-2013.

For elk, the study will take

at least six years.

Elk winter range is in a slightly different place and won’t be affected by wind turbines until the second phase of Pacificorps’ project, which is not yet scheduled for construction.

Beck collared 30 elk in 2010 and the collars will drop in April. Researchers will then collect the data, refurbish the collars and put them on another 30 elk in December. The study will continue through and after construction.

Researchers collared only females in both of the studies because they have the most influence on population growth, Beck said.

The data could be particularly useful if a future project plans turbines in critical winter range and results shows that elk and antelope avoid turbines, Beck said.

The results from both studies will be used by PacifiCorp in future projects and possibly by other developers in and outside of Wyoming, Brown said.

WYOMING CALENDAR

Today

Campbell County Recreation ■ 250 W. Shoshone Ave., Gillette. Info: (307) 682-8527 or www.ccrpd.com. ■ The Campbell County Recreation Center will be offering winter swimming lessons in January. Registrations will be held. Swimming lessons begin Jan. 9. **Cam-Plex** ■ 1635 Reata Drive, Gillette. Info: (307) 682-0552, (877) 4CAMPLEX, www.cam-plex.com. ■ From 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Top Guns Team Roping at East Pavilion. ■ From 1-4 p.m., NE WY Bridal Show & Expo at Wyo Center, Frontier Hall. **Campbell County Library** ■ CCPL is open from 1-5 p.m. **Laramie County Library** ■ These events are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, events take place in the Laramie County Library’s meeting rooms at 2200 Pioneer Ave. Info: (307) 634-3561 or www.LCLSonline.org. ■ At 2 p.m., Get Ready for the Science Fair with Tom Farrell for grades 4-6 and parents in the Storytime Room.

Ongoing Events

Laramie County Library ■ These events are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, events take place in the Laramie County Library’s meeting rooms at 2200 Pioneer Ave. Info: (307) 634-3561 or www.LCLSonline.org. ■ Through Jan. 24, Boys & Girls Club of Cheyenne, 4th annual Multimedia Art Exhibition on the 2nd Floor. **Cam-Plex** ■ 1635 Reata Drive, Gillette. Info: (307) 682-0552, (877) 4CAMPLEX, www.cam-plex.com. ■ Through Jan. 28 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. AVA Auction Items on Display at Heritage Center Gallery Monday-Friday. ■ Jan. 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Stock Dog Trials at Barn 3. ■ Jan. 14, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., RCM Barrel Race at East Pavilion. **Laramie County Library** ■ These events are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, events take place in the Laramie County Library’s meeting rooms at 2200 Pioneer Ave. Info: (307) 634-3561 or www.LCLSonline.org. ■ Jan. 9, 12 p.m., Noon Music at the Library with Sonoma Trio in the Cottonwood Room. ■ Jan. 9, 2 p.m., Skill Builders for homeschooled kids ages 5-8 in the Storytime Room. Registration required. ■ Jan. 10-11, 10:15 a.m., Tales Together in the Storytime Room; Stories on My Own in the Sage Room. ■ Jan. 10, 4:15 p.m., Chess Club for grades 3-6 on the 2nd Floor. ■ Jan. 10, 6 p.m., FAFSA Information Session for ages 16-25 and adults in the Cottonwood Room. ■ Jan. 11, 2 p.m., Computer Training: Basics of E-mailing in the Computer Classroom. Registration required. **UW Events** ■ For tickets and information, call (307) 766-6666 or go online at www.uwo.edu/finearts. ■ Jan. 9, 7 p.m., Men’s basketball vs. Idaho State, Arena-Auditorium. \$16 for adults, \$8 youths. ■ Jan. 11, 7 p.m., Women’s basketball vs. UNLV, Arena-Auditorium. \$12 for adults, \$6 youths. ■ Jan. 11, 8 p.m., Wyoming musicians The Patti Fiasco perform in the Wyoming Union Ballroom. Free. ■ Jan. 12, 1:30 p.m., Men’s basketball vs. New Mexico, Arena-Auditorium. \$16 for adults, \$8 youths. **Sheridan County Library** ■ Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m., Adult Reading and Discussion of “Cannery Row” by John Steinbeck at Story Library. ■ Jan. 10, Feb. 14, 4:30 p.m., Adult Reading and Discussion series at Clearmont Library. ■ Jan. 11, Story Times start up again. ■ Wednesdays, 10 & 10:30 a.m., PreSchool Story Time at Fulmer Library. ■ Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m., Pre-School Story Time at Story Library. ■ Thursdays, 10 & 10:30 a.m., Toddler Story Time at Fulmer Library. ■ Thursdays, 2 p.m., Mystery Fun for all ages at Fulmer Library. ■ Jan. 12, 10 a.m., Computer Classes

at Fulmer Library: Introduction to Computer Basics. ■ Jan. 16, closed for Martin Luther King/Equality Day. ■ Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, 10 a.m., Story Hour at the Owl’s Nest at Tongue River Library. ■ Jan. 17, 7 p.m., Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War discussion of “March” by Geraldine Brooks at Fulmer Library in the Inner Circle. ■ Jan. 18, 4:30 p.m., board meeting at Fulmer Library. ■ Jan. 19, 10 a.m., Computer Classes at Fulmer Library: Working with Microsoft Word 2007. ■ Jan. 19, Thursdays, 4:30 p.m., Story Time at Clearmont Library. ■ Jan. 19, 7 p.m., showing and discussion of the film “Cold Mountain” in the Inner Circle at Fulmer Library. ■ Jan. 23, 4:30 p.m., Adult Reading and Discussion of “A River Runs Through It” by Norman Maclean at Tongue River Library. ■ Jan. 24, 7 p.m., Places in the Heart reading and discussion series of “Gilead” by Marilynne Robinson at Fulmer Library. ■ Jan. 26, 10 a.m., Computer Classes at Fulmer Library: More on Microsoft Word 2007. ■ Jan. 27, Feb. 24, 12:30 p.m., Story Time and Library Skills at Story Library. ■ Feb. 10, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Story Time and Craft Activity for school and homeschool children at Story Library.

Campbell County Library ■ Tues. & Weds., 10:30 a.m., Children Storytime for ages 3-5 years at CCPL. ■ Tuesdays, 4 p.m., Teen Card Club at CCPL. ■ Thursdays, 9:30 a.m., Toddler Time at CCPL. ■ Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Families & Jammies at CCPL. ■ Thursdays, 7 p.m., Teen Anime Club at CCPL. ■ Thursdays, 7 p.m., Adult Anime Club at CCPL. ■ Saturdays, 10 a.m., Dungeons & Dragons Club at CCPL. ■ Saturdays, 1 p.m., WiiPlay for grades 4-6 at CCPL: Open-Play Gaming at CCPL. ■ Sundays, CCPL is open from 1-5 p.m. **AVA Community Art Center** ■ 509 W. Second St., Gillette. Info:

(307) 682-9133. ■ Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2-3 p.m., Pre-School art. Cost is \$5. ■ Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 4-5 p.m., Grade School Pottery. Cost is \$12.50 per session, \$10 for members. ■ Jan. 12, 19, 26, 2-3:30 p.m., Home-school Kids. Cost is \$12.50. ■ Jan. 12, 19, 26, 4-5 p.m., Grade School Kids Club. Cost is \$12.50 or \$10 for members. ■ Jan. 13, 20, 27, 10-11 a.m., Little Tikes. Cost is \$5. ■ Jan. 17, 6-7:30 p.m., Loom Scarf Making. Bring your own yarn! Cost is \$15 or \$12.50 for members. ■ Jan. 18, 6-8 p.m., Ceramic Henrietta Hens. Glaze a hen and salt-n-pepper eggs. Cost is \$25, or \$20 for members. ■ Jan. 20, 7-9 p.m., Uncorked! For 21 years and older. Bring your own cocktail. Cost is \$35. ■ Jan. 28, 6 p.m., A Night at the Louvre, Black Tie Dinner and juried fine art auction at the Cam-Plex Energy Hall. Tickets available at AVA. **Cheyenne Events** ■ Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Jamm Sessions at the Drunken Skunk. Info: (307) 778-3134. ■ Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Wyoming National Guard Museum is open. Located at 624 E. Pershing Blvd. Free admission. Info: (307) 638-9481. ■ Wednesdays, 9 p.m., Karaoke at Drunken Skunk. Info: (307) 778-3134. ■ Thursdays, 5-8 p.m., Family Night at Country Buffet. Mascot C. Bee will entertain the guests. Info: (307) 637-5906. ■ Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Teen Night Youth Activity at the South Cheyenne Community Park, 1317 Parsley Blvd. Cost is \$2 with student ID. Info: (307) 637-6423. ■ Thursdays, 9 p.m., Karaoke at Old Chicago. Info: (307) 643-3400. ■ Fridays, 7 p.m., Storytime for Children at Barnes & Noble, 1851 Dell Range Blvd. Info: (307) 632-3000. ■ Fridays, 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m., Karaoke at Jacksons. Info: (307) 637-9101. ■ Saturdays, 9 p.m., Comedy Club at Tuskers Bar, 3310 Ridge Rd. Cost is \$5. ■ Saturdays, 9 p.m., Karaoke at Two Bar Bowl. Info: (307) 634-7918. ■ 1st Saturday, 10:30 a.m., Jewelry Making Workshop at the YMCA, 1426 E. Lincolnway. Info: (307) 634-9622.

BEETLES

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which is why the study needs to run long-term to find any conclusive results, Mong said.

Anecdotally, Mong said hunters talked about noticing more logs on the ground and many said it could be an issue in the future.

Mong’s research is unique in that few, if any, studies exist looking at the impact of beetles on hunters or looking at the impact on ungulates, said Tracey Johnson, a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Wyoming.

Johnson invited Mong to share his research this spring at a UW beetle

symposium. The symposium is still in the planning stages, Johnson said. The goal is to bring together researchers and land managers to exchange information about studies on and the impact of beetles.

■ Contact Kelsey Dayton at 307-335-8151 or kelsey.dayton@trib.com.

LIBRARIAN

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She finds articles for doctors taking their tests to qualify for board exams. She works with nursing students from Gillette College, teaching them research techniques and finding articles for them. She’s had patients come to her, asking to know more about a recent diagnosis they’ve been handed. She’ll do research for doctors who don’t even work at the hospital.

“That patient, that person they’re dealing with is a community member,” Mankin said. “And we are a tax-supported institution. So I would do that.”

Mankin also performs medical research for doctors of nonhuman patients.

Dr. Darren Lynde, a veterinarian from the Animal Medical Center, said he asks Mankin for help several times each year, usually for help with cancer-related research. Human medical literature has much more information about certain drugs and treatments than animal literature, because humans live longer, Lynde said. When he

needs information on side effects of a certain kind of therapy, for example, he’ll turn to human medicine — and Mankin — for answers.

“(Mankin) could totally say, ‘Um, no, sorry, we’re a medical library, have a nice day,’” Lynde said. “(But) she absolutely is always responsible, always happy and provides wonderful information for us.”

Of course, doctors can all find their own research, Mankin said. The journals and online resources are there for them to peruse, but “there’s only so many hours in the day where you can read journals,” Mankin said.

“We have evolved as a hospital to an extremely busy place,” she said. “And I always say, my time is far less valuable than theirs.”

But her speed and regard for doctors’ time are exactly what makes her valuable.

Dr. Sara Hartsaw, a surgeon in private practice, said she was out of town at an American College of Surgeons conference in October. One of Hartsaw’s patients was in unusual circumstances, and she wanted some feedback as to what she would do. She

asked around at the conference — surgeons from across the nation — and put in a call asking Mankin to do some research.

“She was able to get me the information before they were,” Hartsaw said. “She’s terrific about that.”

Mankin is “very, very competent,” said Dr. Daniela Gerard, CCMH medical director of emergency medicine. “She always finds exactly what we need, and she does it very quickly.

“I think we’re very spoiled.” CCMH is “spoiled,” Mankin is a “luxury.” Does it worry Mankin that if the hospital ever gets in a tight financial bind, her position may be eliminated?

“Sure it does,” she said. “Because I produce no revenue. I have to be value-added.”

Mankin knows a squeeze could push her out. But she’s a lifelong learner, a voracious reader. She knows she does her job well, and that other people can do their jobs well because of her. For now, she’s not going anywhere.

“It’s the best job in the hospital,” she said. “It is. I love it.”

IMPROVE YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE
THERE ARE ANSWERS TO THE CHRONIC PAIN



Neuropathy is a problem that affects **millions of Americans**. It commonly affects those with diabetes, but there can be many causes and sometimes it is difficult to determine the exact cause. Imagine **constant pain and/or numbness** that affects the feet and toes, but can also affect the hands, everyday of your life, and it **progressively gets worse**. It has long been thought that there were no treatment options to address this difficult problem and patients are told they must simply “learn to adapt and live with it”.

Treatment options have included medications, including **Neurontin, Cymbalta** and various pain pills and patches. This does not resolve the problem, but can take the edge off and make life more tolerable. Recently a therapy based on increasing circulation has emerged and has become more readily available. This physical therapy modality, Anodyne, has several pitfalls; first, it is necessary for multiple treatments each week on an ongoing basis to achieve any relief. Second, there is no consensus or known data of how long the relief may last, therefore continued

and ongoing treatments are needed and even the purchase of a home unit may be required.

Johns Hopkins University has **tackled the problem of neuropathy** with ongoing studies, research, and surgical intervention for the last twenty years. The nerves of the lower extremity in neuropathy become swollen as they pass through restrictive canals and become compressed giving the symptoms of pain and/or numbness. The nerves have the **ability to repair themselves** once the pressure has been relieved and this is the principle method by which **neuropathy can be resolved**. Statistically, there is a **ninety percent success rate** with this surgical intervention. This is a **permanent procedure** with no need to repeat the procedure or to have ongoing treatments.

There are answers to the problem of neuropathy, which greatly **improve the quality of life**, prevent needless amputations and allow **continued independence and mobility**. Let us help you with this difficult problem.

There are answers to the problem of neuropathy, which greatly improve the quality of life, prevent needless amputations and allow continued independence and mobility. Let us help you with this difficult problem.



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