

A SURGEON'S EFFORT FOR A BREAST HEALTH PROGRAM IS PAYING OFF



PHOTOS BY BILL FRASER / PHOTOJOURNALIST

Nuclear medicine technologist Danielle Wagner and Dr. David Levin prep Clara Weikel, 44, of Souderton, for an imaging procedure at Grand View Health on Friday in West Rockhill.

Having a Grand View into cancer care's future

By JENNY WAGNER STAFF WRITER

Dr. Monique Gary can identify with many of her patients.

The fellowship-trained breast surgical oncologist has a family history of breast and ovarian cancer. Her mother died of ovarian



Fundraiser puts antidote into hands that can help

The price of naloxone prevents many addicts' families from having it available.

By ANTHONY DIMATTIA STAFF WRITER

Cathy Messina doesn't want anyone feeling as helpless as she did when her son David died of an overdose in the

bathroom of their Warminster home at age 21. So she has been working to get the opiate antidote naloxone into the hands of others who might need it to save a loved one's life. But the drug costs money,

money that

she doesn't

have.

Opiate-related deaths in Bucks and Montgomerv counties

In 2014, 113 drug-related overdose deaths occurred in Bucks County and 158 in Montgomery County. Heroin was the most common drug identified in the cases, followed by other opioids, including oxycodone, a prescription painkiller.

Source: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

The nonprofit she cofounded, D.A.V.E. — Drug Addiction oVerdose Education - hopes to get the money by way of a crowd-funding website, gofundme. com/NaloxoneSaves. As of Sunday afternoon, \$1,223 of the \$3,520 goal had been raised.

The goal should be enough to buy about 40 kits, at about \$88 a pop for two

See NARCAN, Page A2

Wolf to hike minimum

cancer at age 29, when Gary was 7, and her grandmother had breast cancer twice.

Gary has received the callbacks after annual mammograms because her breast tissue is considered dense, which can make scans harder to read. And she waited weeks for the results of genetic testing to find out that she did not carry uncommon mutations of the BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 genes, which raise the risk for breast cancer and some other types of the disease, including ovarian cancer.

"I know what these women are going through," said Gary, a Philadelphia native. "I know they're waiting, they're anxious, they're trying to figure out how to live their lives and what all of this means.'

For Gary, that means she feels uniquely qualified to help her patients.

And that's why she signed on last fall to help build the breast health program at Grand View Health in West Rockhill, near Sellersville.

The components already were there, Gary said, but since then the hospital implemented several programs and, in January was granted a three-year accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. It also has been named a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology.

"This is, I think, what the women in our area really deserve," Gary said. "I know that as a patient, as a family member, as an

"We just need to ... let these women know that the C-word is not as scary as you think it is. It's scarier not to know. It's less scary to know and be able to do something about it." — Dr. Monique Gary

advocate, I would look for a program that is accredited."

The accreditation program, which is administered by the American College of Surgeons, is focused on creating a comprehensive approach to cancer care, Gary explained. The process for a facility to become accredited involves a rigorous evaluation of its performance in several areas, including research and community outreach.

It also means patients have access to

state-of-the-art care that is close to home and doctors working together to coordinate the best treatment for each patient, she added. Grand View has a tumor board made up of breast surgeons, general surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists and psycho-social support services that meets weekly. Patients at Grand View also have access to a nurse navigator who guides them through the process and provides information and answers to their questions, Gary explained.

See **GRAND VIEW**, Page A2

pay for state employees

By MARC LEVY ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARRISBURG - Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf is expected to sign an executive order Monday ensuring a minimum wage of \$10.15 an hour for all employees under his jurisdictions and employees of Penn-



Gov. Tom Wolf

sylvania state government contractors.

An administration official would not give any other details about the order Wolf is set to sign Monday. The official spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to publicly discuss the subject before Wolf's announcement.

In any case, the Republican-controlled Legislature has shown no inclination to raise the state's minimum wage above the federal minimum of \$7.25, one of the lowest levels in the

See WAGE, Page A2



58° Mostly sunny, not as cool. A9 47°

Index







(File) First lady Nancy Reagan carries her dog, Rex, as she and President Reagan walk across the South Lawn of the White House in 1986.

As first lady, Reagan made it her mission to back 'Ronnie'

The former movie actress who was credited with bringing glamour back to the White House died Sunday at age 94.

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER and CONNIE CASS ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — First lady Nancy Reagan swept into the White House in 1981, a swirl of designer gowns and pricey china, and was quickly dismissed as a prefeminist throwback concerned only with fashion, decorating and entertaining. She needed a less frivolous image. And she got it.

By the time she packed up eight years later, the former movie actress was fending off accusations that she'd become a

"dragon lady," wielding secret, unchecked power within Ronald Reagan's administration — and doing it based on astrology to boot.

All along she maintained that her only mission was to back her "Ronnie" and strengthen his presidency.

"I'm a woman who loves her husband," she said, "and I make no apologies for looking out for his personal and political welfare."