

# A Silver Sensation

## Appreciation Meals Will Share Spirit of Parade

What do you get when you combine NorthBay Healthcare's 2012 Fiesta Days Parade theme with our employee appreciation meals theme?

A big serving of patriotism.

That's on the menu for this year's Employee Appreciation Meals, which will take place May 22-25 at hospital campuses in Fairfield and Vacaville and at Green Valley Administration Center. The theme is "All-American NorthBay State Fair," and you can expect plenty of red, white and blue adornment.

There will be barbecued steak and chicken on the menu, along with potato salad, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, rolls, ice cream and drinks, all free for NorthBay Healthcare employees, physicians and volunteers. A blue ribbon design contest invites employees to devise a special blue ribbon for their manager to wear, broadcasting why their department is a Great Place to Work.

Patriotism is also the name of the game for our parade entry

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A jubilant crowd at the silver jubilee celebration filled the vendor tent with ease.

## Sold-Out Crowd Enjoys Food, Wine, Music



Jacoby Shaddix of Papa Roach.

The 25th Annual Solano Wine & Food Jubilee's silver celebration was a rocking, sold-out success, thanks to thousands of supporters, a tent full of fabulous food, wine and brewery vendors, and special musical performances, including a surprise appearance by international rock star Jacoby Shaddix.

Shaddix, lead singer of the Vacaville-rooted band Papa Roach, sang a number of

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**9** Physician of the Year is Pediatrician Dr. Matt Heeren

# Powerful New CT Scanner at NorthBay

A powerful new Phillips 256-slice CT Scanner is now in clinical use at NorthBay Medical Center. Installed last week at a total cost of \$2,300,000, the Brilliance iCT computed tomography (CT) scanner combines power, speed and coverage to produce extremely high-resolution images with reduced radiation exposure.

"This is an important addition to our diagnostic imaging department," says Jerry Wilcox, director of diagnostic imaging and radiation therapy. "It allows us to perform detailed analysis of very complex anatomy within seconds and helps us keep up with the requests for CT scans from our trauma and stroke services."

The scanner produces 256 slices of information during each rotation, in only 0.27 seconds. A scan from head to toe can be acquired in about 10 seconds.

"This speed can be extremely important for time-critical exams for small children, trauma and areas of the body that move, such as the beating heart," according to Wilcox. "And, faster scans mean a lower radiation dose and shorter breath-holds, making CT scanning easier for patients."



*The 6,000-pound CT gantry is maneuvered down the hallway at NorthBay Medical Center last week.*

The scanner can produce three-dimensional images of blood vessels within an organ, including the arteries that supply the heart, which have always been difficult to study because of the heart's motion. It can take pictures fast enough to follow an injected dye that can be seen by x-rays, as it travels through the blood vessels. It now takes about 5 seconds on the scanner, and less than one second of x-ray exposure, to get detailed images of the heart and its

coronary arteries. This scanner is fast enough to get motionless pictures of the heart despite heart rates of up to 100 beats per minute.

The system provides greater dimension and depth across a range of clinical areas such as head and neck angiography, full field-of-view lung studies, virtual colonoscopy, and abdominal and pelvic imaging. It is also a powerful tool in monitoring tumor size and response to treatment for cancer patients.



## Architect Earns Prestigious Scholarship

*Joelyn Gropp, NorthBay Healthcare's director of facilities development, has won a scholarship to the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Executive Program. The training is designed to equip the next generation of healthcare executives with the essential management and operational skills to move into senior leadership positions. Only 25 participants are accepted into the program nationwide. This year, Joelyn will attend training sessions in Chicago, San Diego and Orlando.*