

# Letters to the Editor, Saturday, March 24, 2018

## Celebrate physicians

Red carnations are thought to be a symbol of admiration and appreciation for a kindness. On March 30, 1933, the wife of a physician gave red carnations to honor the local physicians. The gesture continued and grew over the years. In 1991, Congress designated March 30 as National Doctors' Day.

The generosity we witness by our 250 volunteer physicians at the Neighborhood Health Clinic suggests bouquets of red carnations should be floating through the doors and windows.

Although receiving red carnations is a lovely gesture, the words expressed by our patients and families are most treasured. When a sick patient improves with the clinic's care, they show appreciation with smiles, hugs, handshakes and tears.

The Neighborhood Health Clinic is the medical and dental home to thousands of low-income, uninsured patients in Collier County. We are for those who are ill, be it episodic or chronic. Often the patient is sick with multiple diseases and the attention of multiple highly skilled professionals is needed.

On March 30, we encourage all who are reading this to wish a Happy Doctors' Day to the physician helping to improve and maintain the quality of your life.

*Leslie Lascheid, Naples*

*CEO, Neighborhood Health Clinic*

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