WHEN GIVING IS ALL WE HAVE
by Alberto Ríos

One river gives
Its journey to the next.

We give because someone gave to us.
We give because nobody gave to us.

We give because giving has changed us.
We give because giving could have changed us.

We have been better for it,
We have been wounded by it—

Giving has many faces: It is loud and quiet,
Big, though small, diamond in wood-nails.

Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,
But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand,
Mine to yours, yours to mine.

You gave me blue and I gave you yellow.
Together we are simple green. You gave me

What you did not have, and I gave you
What I had to give—together, we made

Something greater from the difference.

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My Dear Friends of PCPS,

As April and Poetry month come to a close, please enjoy the poem by Albert Ríos who penned, “When Giving IS All We Have.”

It makes me want to shout:

GIVING!! We receive, we give! Story of our lives, no matter what surrounds us, or tries to isolate us!

As I contemplate the plans for “re-opening our country again,” (and even though I am aware of the individual pains out there), I truly wonder how those affected by long years of WWII (and WWI and all others in this time of war) survived, needing “essentials such as food and medicine.”

I am glad that I am at The University of Scranton whose roots go deep to our founder, St. Ignatius of Loyola. It was he who coined the phrase, contemplation in action.

PCPS sees God in All Things (A.M.D.G.) We are still extremely lucky. We will give and we will continue to be “men and women for and with others.”

In deepest gratitude,
Debra Pellegrino, Dean of PCPS

A rainbow is just an upside down smile.

Please stay safe and well. We are praying for you and your friends at the Jewish Home.
Hugs, Kisses and Lots of Prayers,
Debra Pellegrino, Dean of PCPS
Remember: Tutto andrà bene
Ever since I was a little girl, my mom always told me that a rainbow was just an upside-down smile. Without a doubt, I still chase those rainbows and always have hope when I see one.

As the ugly Beast started to appear in Europe, we saw the Italian people singing from their balconies and posting banners, paintings and drawings with rainbows that included the message “Tutto andrà bene.” That translates to “Everything will turn out OK.” As COVID-19 began to make its way across Europe, we then started to notice those same rainbows appearing in people’s windows in Canada, and through the United States. Rainbows were everywhere and could be found in New York City and Philadelphia. Now, there is a call for rainbows to appear in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

In a recent article by Chaunie Brusie, she stated, “If there’s one thing that we always look for after a storm, it’s rainbows. Those unexpected color bursts through the sky never fail to bring us running outside to look up with a smile on our faces.”

In another article, Lee Ann Jones, an ICU nurse from Florida, told a Florida news station that she believed rainbows symbolize hope and we need it right now because we need hope because this virus COVID-19 is very scary. Jones told the news station that her sister in New York actually inspired her to start the Rainbow Hunt group—and the rest has been history. Now, her original 904 Rainbow Hunt group on Facebook has over 5,600 members, with new members joining every day, and many on social media are sharing their own #RainbowHunt finds too.

TO MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS
I wanted to let you know that the Jewish Home has started two initiatives. One is called the LOVE LETTER LINK. Essentially, they are asking that we send pictures and cards to our family members to “flood” their rooms and the home with cheer. If you are able, please send a card or note to my mom. I know she would enjoy it and I would be grateful for your help.

The home will share the cards and notes and use them to decorate the rooms of residents! This will surely boost their moods and help add joy for both the residents and the staff. There are some residents who may not have family, so cards and notes for them would be wonderful as well.

There are several options for safely sending/delivering these to the Jewish Home.

- Feel free to mail them through the US Postal Service. We are able to then receive them safely and deliver them safely.
- Address is: Mary Grace Barber C/O Jewish Home of Eastern, PA 1101 Vine Street, Scranton PA 18510
- Email your notes to: Nicole Lipinski @ nliplinski@jhep.org. She will print out letters and even pictures on a color printer, and then we’ll get them to my mom.

Please join the Rainbow Hunt or be creative and send a card to another friend in a Nursing Home or a Nursing Home in your very own town.

Remember: Tutto andrà bene!

JOIN THE RAINBOW HUNT

Would you like to join the Rainbow Hunt?

Gerianne Barber, Director of our Counselor Training Center in the Department of Counseling and Human Services, sent this email out to her family and friends, inviting them to join the Rainbow and Love Letter Link Initiatives at the Jewish Home, where her Mom is a resident.

Create a rainbow (use your creativity), post it in your window facing out, so people walking by can see it, and share it with the hashtag #904RainbowHunt if you’re in Jones’ group or #RainbowHunt if not.

- If you want to add location information for local people to find your rainbow, you can add your street or neighborhood, but don’t post any specific address information, like your street number.
- Share the movement and invite your friends if you’re in the group.
- Follow all CDC guidelines when walking outside and continue practicing social distancing while out.
- Respect others’ privacy and property while hunting for rainbows.
- If you can’t leave your house, post your rainbow for others to enjoy.
- Have fun!

Cecily’s rainbow age 6
Anthony F. Carusotto, D.P.T., an instructor in the Physical Therapy department, invited all of our DPT Year 1 students to a Zoom Talent Show. He hosted the event, and at least a dozen of the students showed off some of their talents — cello playing, singing, guitar playing, and soccer ball dribbling, among other things. From his own home in Dallas, Pennsylvania, he created a tune on his guitar.

According to Dr. Renée Hakim, chairperson, they are now planning to have a bigger talent show on Cinco de Mayo for all DPT students (Years 1, 2 and 3), as well as the new incoming student group.

LONG HOURS ON THE FRONT LINES

Patrick Nancoz ’21, an Exercise Science major, is currently working as an EMT for the West Essex First Aid Squad in West Caldwell, NJ. “We are in a harder hit region due to COVID-19. With our call count tripled, several of our college members have been on call for large numbers of hours,” he says.

Patrick was on call for about 80 hours this past week, as was his Scranton housemate and partner on the squad, Thomas Salandra ’21. “Our main roles have been patient care and transport to area hospitals, with the majority of our calls being for elderly patients with either suspected or confirmed COVID-19.”
The University of Scranton has been busy making outreach calls to our students. As your dean, it brought a smile to my face and a prayer of thanksgiving. The PCPS faculty, staff and administration love our students. We are so proud of all of you for helping your families and helping each other. Ashley Alt, executive director of Alumni and Donor Engagement sent us this message:

“I’m helping with the student outreach calls and I was one of the lucky staff members who got a list of 40 PCPS seniors to call. I just had to reach out and tell you how awesome they are. I had a really successful contact rate and each of them was SO positive and grateful. Even in the midst of this trying time, they seem so well prepared and happy. I know it goes back to all you do to emphasize service and experiential learning. Our students in the helping professions are truly thriving and they were such a pleasure to speak with! Kudos to you and your whole team.”

– Ashley

Thanks to Dr. Sharon Hudacek, RN, ACNS-BC and the wonderful nursing faculty for taking hours of their valued time to design ten “Drop in Review” sessions for our nursing seniors. These sessions have been very well attended and received by our seniors who are preparing each week for the new, abbreviated form of NCLEX (through July 4).

The senior nursing students soon will finish Phase 1 of the Kaplan Study Recommendations. Thanks, also, to Dawn Mazurik for scheduling these valuable zoom meetings for our seniors – the future Royal RNs!

Gerianne Barber, Director of our Counselor Training Center in the Department of Counseling and Human Services, always thinks of others.

On a foggy Saturday morning, she sent an email to the PCPS Dean, whose husband is a sheep farmer (and professor of biology). “I came across this today and it made me think of you....illustrates the power of kindness and the joy of connection,” she wrote with a link to this article:

www.upworthy.com/animals-affection-hugs-and-kisses-montage

“The Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary Facebook page shared a video montage of animals hugging and kissing and dancing with their human friends, and it’s just the injection of pure joy we could all use right now.”

If you have a positive story about The Call To Care, please send your story in an email to:

debra.pellegrino@scranton.edu

The Dean and all of PCPS would like to send a shout out to our Nursing faculty and staff, as well as our alums and students. We celebrate Nurse’s Week and especially May 6th, Nurse’s Day (the same day as Annual Day of Giving).