



# MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

25500 Point Lookout Road  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
www.stmaryshospitalmd.org

FIRST CLASS  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 2  
Zip Code 20650



## Then and Now

*As part of our hospital's 100-year anniversary, we are taking a look at Then and Now by highlighting a hospital associate marking a milestone year in his or her hospital career in each issue of The Pulse. It only seems fitting with the Santa photos on page 8 that the first associate selected is a former volunteer elf.*

Nicki Strickland has been present at almost all of the Santa breakfasts since first joining the hospital in 1997. Serving as Santa's sidekick for two years, Nicki later brought her own son Bruce and daughter Maura to the event for associates. She also served as a breakfast volunteer, working with the Special Activities Committee which sponsors the annual event. Since 2010, Nicki has volunteered her talents as photographer, capturing that perfect moment for families to cherish.

This 15-year veteran and former SPIRIT Award recipient started here with two part-time jobs. One job was in Marketing, which soon became full-time, and the other job was in the former Education & Training office. She was the "face of the hospital" for several years and could be found staffing the hospital display at the St. Mary's County Fair, the Oyster Festival and numerous other community events.

Today you'll find this family-oriented artist on a computer in the Marketing & PR Department, creating her vision for a host of marketing materials from in-house flyers to newspaper advertisements, and from annual reports and high-end Gala invitations to publications, including the award-winning *Healthy Living*. One of Nicki's favorite assignments is to photograph the first baby of the New Year. "It is such a special moment and I'm incredibly honored that I can share it with families," she said with that elf-like twinkle in her eye.