

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2007

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A BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR PHYSICIANS, EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS FOCUSING ON THE HOSPITAL'S MISSION OF PROVIDING QUALITY CARE AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE TO THOSE WE SERVE

## **National award given to Bob Turner**



Last Thursday, Bob Turner, RN, from Med/Surg, was awarded the quarterly Daisy Award for being a truly extraordinary nurse. The Daisy Foundation recognizes nurses throughout the country for their service and dedication to the nursing profession. Bob was nominated by his peers and clearly, without a doubt, represents what it

means to be an extraordinary nurse. It is an honor and privilege to have Bob on the LMH team. Please congratulate Bob on his award and the significant contributions he has made in his career, (Judy Begley, ext. 7507).

## **Reception to be held for new docs**

On Wed., Oct. 17, from 5-7p, a reception for the physicians who have been credentialed at LMH this past year will be held in the Cellar Room at Wine and Roses. All hospital physicians are invited to attend, as are LMH board and the LMH Foundation board members. Please plan to attend and welcome LMH's new physicians, (Carol Farron, ext. 7535).

## **Flu vaccine is here**

LMH has received its shipment of flu vaccine and will make flu shots available for all LMH employees and volunteers. Because of past delivery delays, LMH will not provide flu shots to the community at large. LMH volunteers received letters in their homes to let them know the flu shots will be made available when they come in to complete their annual SAFE Day requirements at the end of this month. Employees can check with their supervisors regarding how to obtain their flu shots if they wish them, (Carol Farron, ext. 7535).

## **LMH goes smoke-free in November**

The countdown toward a smoke-free hospital continues. In-servicing on the smoke-free policy and employees' responsibilities in supporting and helping enforce this new policy is now taking place departmentally. Count-down signs are in place around the hospital, and more signs designating this hospital as a smoke-free hospital will be posted. Smokers who are interested in quitting can attend LMH's smoking-cessation classes. Also, LMH's medical insurance covers treatment with approved smoking-cessation aids, (Susan Henderson, ext. 7961).

## **Sign up for flexible spending**

Starting Jan. 1, 2008, LMH will offer the AFLAC flexible-spending account to employees. A flexible-spending program allows employees to deduct dollars from their paychecks on a pre-tax basis for items such as LMH insurance premiums, child-care expenses, un-reimbursed medical expense, etc. For example, those thinking about having major dental work performed who wait until after Jan. 1 can have amounts not covered by insurance taken out of paychecks on a pre-tax basis, thus saving the amount that would have been paid in taxes. LMH is paying the monthly fee for employees, and the AFLAC team will be at LMH during October to enroll interested employees. Please be available to them when they visit each department, (Mark Wallace, ext. 7444).

## **Cardiac-catheterization lab opens**

LMH's new cardiac-cath lab is up and running. The first patient procedure was completed Oct. 3. The first week of October will be applications training, with the lab opening for service the following week, (Mike Lindsey, ext. 7475).

## **Café focuses on healthy menus**

Watch for healthy changes in the Grapevine Café as LMH works toward featuring a low-fat, hot entrée each weekday, complete with nutritional information. Following soon will be daily healthy salads, sandwiches and grill items. Pamphlets full of good ideas on eating well can be found in the cafeteria. These changes reflect LMH's goal of improving community health. For more information contact Kathleen Jory or Susan Henderson in the Nutrition and Food Services Department, (Susan Henderson, ext. 7961).

## **Skills fair mandatory for RNs, LVNs**

A mandatory RN/LVN skills fair is set for Oct. 15-18, from 7-3p, in Classrooms F and G. Last session starts at 3p. Topics covered include ZOLL Defibrillator, StatLock, wound documentation, patient classification, OrthoPAT, computer ergonomics, medication errors, HIV, 2008 patient-safety goals, HICS/NIMS, blood-glucose monitoring, core measures, radiation safety and oxygen safety. Completion of all work stations will earn three hours of CE credit. Those with questions should call Education, ext. 7520 or 7316, (Donna Schulz, ext. 7609).

## **Silent witnesses speak volumes**

During October, the Women's Center of San Joaquin County will have on display in the hospital lobby three Silent Witnesses to bring attention to the devastating effects of family violence in our communities. Silent Witnesses are free-standing, life-sized, red, wooden figures. Each one represents and bears the name of a woman whose life ended violently at the hands of a husband, ex-husband, partner or acquaintance. The Silent-Witness Initiative is a traveling memorial and has been displayed throughout the county and state. Please take a moment to visit the Silent Witnesses while they are on display. They speak volumes and serve as a tragic reminder of the importance of remembering those who have lost their lives to domestic violence and the significance of finding ways to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, these tragedies in the future, (Melinda Sparks, ext. 7401).

## **Save lids to save lives**

October is Breast-Cancer-Awareness Month – help make a difference. For 10 years Yoplait has lead the fight against breast cancer with their "Save-Lids-to-Save-Lives" campaign. From now until mid-December, please save pink lids from any Yoplait yogurt product, clean them and deposit them into the Yoplait box located in the cafeteria near the cash register. For every pink lid received, Yoplait will donate 10 cents to Susan G. Komen for the Cure, a national program that raises both funds and awareness for the fight against breast cancer. Yoplait will donate up to \$1.5 million with a guaranteed minimum donation of \$500,000. Those who can't make it to the cafeteria can interoffice-mail clean, pink lids to Melinda Sparks in LRHS Administration. Please be sure to clean lids prior to donating. Help in the fight against breast cancer one pink lid at a time, (Melinda Sparks, ext. 7401).

**Help “pay it forward”**

Please consider helping the MACU and GI Lab “pay it forward” by filling the Salvation Army’s food cupboards before the holidays. During October barrels are located in the main lobby and MACU. Items needed include canned vegetables, meats and fruits. Thanks in advance for helping spread holiday cheer, (Lynn McCarty, ext. 7628).

**Stroll down School Street**

Sample wines from 25 local wineries while enjoying downtown stores and boutiques along with hors d'oeuvres and shopping at the School Street Wine Stroll, on Fri., Oct. 19, from 6-9p. Cost is \$20 per ticket. Tickets are available in the Human Resources Department. Cash or check (made payable to the Lodi Chamber of Commerce) are accepted. For credit-card purchases, contact the Lodi Chamber of Commerce office, 367-7840, ext. 100, or visit the chamber’s website, www.lodichamber.com, (Judi Simon, ext. 7443).

**Two new RNs join Perinatal Dept.**

The Perinatal Department welcomes two new employees – Irene Carpenter, RN (full-time nights), and Jeannette Morefield, RN (part-time nights). Congratulations to Shelley Campbell, RN, who recently made the transition from night to day shift after waiting patiently for years, (Lesley Muscha, ext. 7554).

**New volunteers welcomed**

Three new volunteers joined LMH in the last few weeks. Sofia Khan is a student at Delta College who hopes to transfer to UOP. She is interested in becoming a pharmacist and will volunteer in the pharmacy at the west campus. Jeanetta Polenske has previously worked at Vienna Convalescent Hospital and Lodi Primary Care. She is currently pursuing a career in nursing and will be a great asset to the Salvation Army Clinic. Claudia Velez is a new Eucharistic Minister for LMH. Her fluency in Spanish will be a great help when delivering communion to Spanish-speaking patients, (Sarah Beasley, ext. 7616).

**Physician-of-the-Year nomination form**

Each day patients and family members comment on how blessed LMH is to have a medical staff that is dedicated to its patients, the community and the hospital. Lodi Memorial appreciates all its physicians and tries to recognize them in several ways. One way is by selecting an LMH Physician of the Year. A Physician-of-the-Year Selection Committee has set criteria for and is seeking nominations from the medical staff, hospital staff and volunteers for this year's Physician of the Year. The selection process is not intended to be a contest, but a way to recognize outstanding efforts. Nominations are evaluated based on the criteria established by the selection committee listed below:

**CRITERIA**

*The purpose of the physician-of-the-year program is to recognize exemplary physician leadership by those physicians who:*

- Are team players with peers and other care givers;
- Support process-improvement projects;
- Practice good bedside manner;
- Are good, thorough and timely documenters;
- Are timely responding to calls, requests, scheduled surgeries and other procedures;
- Regularly attend and positively participate in elective and departmental committee meetings; and volunteer for committees;
- Attend hospital-sponsored events for physicians (Christmas dinners, breakfast, receptions for new physicians, etc.);
- Attend and support foundation and hospital-related events (open houses, fundraisers, etc.);
- Are courteous on the phone and with hospital staff;
- Alert the hospital to good PR story possibilities and are timely in returning media calls when they are suggested as a story source; and
- Have not been selected as the Physician of the Year previously. (Doctors E. Freund, J. Hoff, D. Duncan, M. Ketelaar, D. Kobrin, N. Sorour, T. Odama, R. Nakata, R. Steele, J. Connolly, R. Ishii)

The selection committee meets following Oct. 15, to make its selection based on the criteria noted above. An announcement will be made shortly afterwards.

Nominators may nominate more than one physician. Please relate your nomination to the criteria listed above and/or other pertinent information.

Physician name: \_\_\_\_\_

Why he/she is nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

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YOUR NAME, (OPTIONAL): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fold and return via in-house mail to Community Development no later than Oct. 15, 2007**